COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Monday, April 27, 2020 9:00 AM

Meeting Recording:

Topic: COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers (April 8-June 30 invite)

Date: Apr 27, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/3NNJPqib0zhIcoX19XP4W4EMEt-4aaa82nAW-fsLnx4f7Sag95vWHI6rAT3SrD0

Access code: OR^E?a&4
Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers
April 27th Agenda

- City of Austin / Austin Public Health
- ECHO – Local Operations
- Agency Updates
- Wrap Up – Next Call: Wednesday, April 29th @ 9:00am

Meeting Notes:

COA/ APH – Vella Karmen


- 1412 COVID-19 cases in Travis County, 39 deaths and 398 people recovered
  - At least 37 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 10 that have recovered
    - The count of cases among people experiencing homelessness is likely an undercount due to private labs and providers not necessarily recording each person’s housing status when they test
  - Demographic information on cases available at http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19
- Austin Public Health launched an online enrollment form for COVID-19 testing
  - Form will allow people to take self-assessment to determine eligibility and schedule a test without a medical provider
    - Click “take self-assessment” button to create an account and complete the questionnaire
  - http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19
- A group is working to facilitate transportation to COVID-19 testing sites. More info coming soon. Will include individuals experiencing homelessness and other populations
- Order from Austin/Travis County Health Authority stating everyone must wear a fabric mask when outside the home or in public
• Physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals in still in affect

• Quarantine/Isolation accommodations
  o ProLodges 1 and 2 are operational and at capacity
  o ProLodge 3 will be fully operational tomorrow and will likely be nearly half full
  o Looking into setting up ProLodge 4
  o Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing services at IsoFac and ProLodge 1 and 2
  o Front Steps is providing on site case managed for people in ProLodge 2. Working to begin to provide services at ProLodge 1 as well
  o If other programs have capacity to work with people staying at ProLodge sites, please contact Vella Karmen, vella.karmen@austintexas.gov

• City departments are working with Downtown Austin Alliance’s Downtown Ambassadors to promote safety, distribute supplies, and cleaning high traffic areas.

• Food access for people experiencing homelessness; Eating Apart Together (EAT)
  o Launched a survey to collect information on the number of food bags distributed from which locations
  o Zach Shlachter is acting as the volunteer coordinator for people who would like to help with food distribution
    ▪ Zach can be reached at zack.shlachter@austintexas.gov
    ▪ City is looking for community partners/volunteers to assist with distributing prepared meals on the weekends
  o Wes Bickham is the contact at to access the shelf-stable food bags being distributed out of the convention center
    ▪ For information on availability and how to access food bags, call Wes at 512-492-5826

• Communications
  o City will be sending out new informational flyers to partners soon for distribution
  o Emergency Operations Center approved creating street signs to identify locations where people can access basic needs services (hygiene, food, etc.)
  o Contact Lara Foss to have updates added to the City’s COVID-19 homelessness information page
    ▪ lara.foss@austintexas.gov

• DACC
  o Continues to offer walk in case management triage services, 8am – 5pm, Monday – Friday
  o Served 529 individuals total

ECHO Updates –Laura Evanoff

• Permanent Housing Resource Guide and guidance for CoC-funded agencies who have applied and been approved for HUD waivers
  o https://www.austinecho.org/covid19-service-providers/

• Schedule for Coordination Groups
  o Emergency Shelter Task Group
    ▪ Wednesdays at noon
    ▪ Contact Preston Petty, prestonpetty@austinecho.org
  o Street Outreach Coordination
    ▪ Wednesdays at 2:30
    ▪ Contact Katie Rose, katierose@austinecho.org
  o Homeless Response Coordination
    ▪ Fridays at 10:30
    ▪ Contact Niki Kozak, nikikozak@austinecho.org
Agency Updates

- No Updates

Chat Box

From Laura Evanoff to Everyone: 08:59 AM
Happy Monday! Please type any question in the group chat. If we aren't able to answer them during the call, we will carry them over to the Wednesday morning call.

From larafoss to Everyone: 09:02 AM
Good morning.
For demographic breakdowns and more information you can visit the http://austintexas.gov/covid19 web site

From Jennifer Long to Everyone: 09:04 AM
What is the criteria for getting a hotel room?

From larafoss to Everyone: 09:09 AM
If any programs have capacity to serve clients at these Pro-lodge sites, please contact me at Vella.Karman@austintexas.gov
If you are interested in participating in any aspect of Eating Apart Together please contact Zach Shlachter (zach.shlachter@austintexas.gov). We are particularly interested in recruiting for weekend delivery of prepared meals
Thanks all!

From Preston Petty to Everyone: 09:09 AM
Thanks Laura!