COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Monday May 18, 2020 9:00 AM

Meeting Recording:

Topic: COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers (April 8-June 30 invite)
Date: May 18, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/_tB5dlngr3JJeHhP4UP6fLBwHcO_aaa8gCFM_PEEyU1RVjbl
d_yJLoGOUR1-M8
Password: 1k.$214%
Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers
May 18th Agenda

City of Austin / Austin Public Health

Agency Updates

Wrap Up – Next Call: Wednesday, May 20th @ 9:00am

Meeting Notes:

COA – Vela Carmen

- 2459 confirmed COVID-29 cases in Travis County; 892 recovered; and 77 deaths
- Demographic information on cases available at http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19
  - At least 43 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 24 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.
  - 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 referral
    - http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19
      - Click “self-assessment” button to create an account and complete the questionnaire listing your symptoms
- Austin Public Health published a Color-Coded Chart
  - To help residents understand the stages of risk during pandemic, and
To provide recommendations on what people should do to stay safe

- New Risk based guidelines
  - 5 distinct stages of risk
    - 1=Lowest threat stage to
    - 5=Most serious threat stage
- With recommended behaviors for each stage of risk

- Order from Austin/Travis County Health Authority stating **masks when outside the home or in public are recommended**
- Physical distancing of at least 6 feet between individuals in still recommended

- Quarantine and Alternate Facilities
  - ProLodges 1-3 are operational and at full capacity,
  - ProLodge 4 operational by the end of the day,
  - Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing services at IsoFac and all 4 ProLodges
  - Front Steps staff are providing on cite case management at ProLodges 1-3
  - If other programs have capacity to work with people staying at ProLodge sites, please contact Vella Karmen, vella.karmen@austintexas.gov

- Eating Apart Together (EAT); Food access for people experiencing homelessness
  - Central Texas Food Bank utilizing City of Austin RAISE funds to provide 4 additional weeks of shelf stable meal bags
    - These remaining shipments are May 21st, May 28th, June 4th, and June 11th
  - Continuing to investigate food access needs for those experiencing homelessness
    - To determine the scope and length of need as a response to COVID19
  - Austin Resource Recover
    - Increased trash picking to every day at Violet bag location to accommodate trash needs associated with EAT initiative
  - The EAT 123 survey
    - Include information on encampment trash pickup needs
      - EAT has the hopes of providing or increasing trash pickup in the identified locations
    - Or send information to Michelle.miles@austintexas.gov
  - If you want to participate in any aspect of Eating Apart Together Initiative Zach Shlachter at zack.shlachter@austintexas.gov

- Joint Information System Team (JIST)
  - Launched new version of COVID19 dashboard
    - APH worked closely with IT and other stakeholders to make dashboard more intuitive and user friendly
    - Confirmed case counts, death totals, and hospitalizations numbers updated daily
- Hospitalizations and death demographic data updated weekly
- Both a desktop and Mobil version
  - Access them here [http://austintexas.gov/covid19](http://austintexas.gov/covid19)
- Hygiene Update
  - The additional shower trailers are now operational
    - Locations reflected on the interactive resource map
  - Contracting with Family Elder Care and The Other Ones Foundation to operate at different locations in Austin
- Downtown Austin Community Court Update (DACC)
  - Continue to offer walk-in triage case management services 8am-5pm Monday through Friday
    - Triage case manager provides flyers to all clients with information on COVID-19 and safety planning
  - Last week May 11th-15th 106 people served through triage case management
  - And since March 16th they have served 856 individuals, an average of 19 individuals a day
    - Individuals accessing basic hygiene resources or client’s case managers reach remotely are not factored into this number
  - On Friday the 15th DACC obtained 24 food kits from the Austin Convention Center
    - To provide to the housed case managed clients
- Housing First Request for Qualifications Statements (RFQS) Solicitation
  - Extended for 2 weeks
    - To establish a contract with one or more qualified nonprofit or governmental agencies to provide operation management and support services for converted motels
    - Will close on May 28th by 2 PM to Central Purchasing
    - More information on the solicitation and how to apply can be found here [https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134322](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134322)
- COVID19 Response Funding Implementation Team
  - Has been charged with developing a plan on how best to align the various funding sources for COVID19 response
  - Looking for feedback from local homelessness service providers
    - 11 question survey
    - Should take less then 20 minutes to complete
    - To access follow this link [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8JTWHJM](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8JTWHJM)
      - Please forward the link to help spread the word to other local service providers who may want to be involved
• Travis County Update
  o Seeking applications from Agencies for the use of Travis County’s Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
    ▪ Approximately $700,000 to respond to COVID19 in Travis County
    ▪ Application can be accessed here
      https://www.traviscountytx.gov/health-human-services/cdbg

Agency Updates
Dylan Shubitz-HACA (via the chat)
  • Local Policy and Practice Committee will meet this Wednesday at 9:30am
    o If you want an invite please contact DylanS@hacanet.org

ECHO Updates:
  • This Week’s Meeting Schedule:
    o VAWA Housing Protections: C-19 Support and Resource Training 2-3 PM
      ▪ Collaboration between ECHO and SAFE Alliance
      ▪ Email lauraevanoff@austinecho.org if you’re interested or have questions or
      ▪ Follow the link outlined here Join Zoom Meeting:
        https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81433095325
        • Meeting ID: 814 3309 5325
        • One tap mobile +13462487799,,81433095325# US (Houston)
    o Virtual Feedback session: Austin Public Health and ECHO COVID19 Response Funding Team Meeting
      ▪ Tuesday 1-2 PM and
      ▪ Friday 2-3 PM
      ▪ If you need more information or want to be included email
        andrewwillard@austinecho.org
    o Emergency Shelter Task Group Wednesday at 12-1 PM
    o Street Outreach COVID19 Coordination Wednesday at 2:30-3:30 PM
    o COVID19 Criminal Justice and Homeless Response Coordination Friday at 10:30-11:30 AM
      ▪ If you need more information or want to be included email
        andrewwillard@austinecho.org

Chat Box
  From Laura Evanoff to Everyone:  09:00 AM
  SAFE and ECHO are hosting a virtual training today at 2:00. Join Zoom Meeting:
  https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81433095325
  Meeting ID: 814 3309 5325
  One tap mobile +13462487799,,81433095325# US (Houston)
Happy Monday morning everybody.

For demographic breakdowns and more information on COVID-19, you can visit the [http://austintexas.gov/covid19](http://austintexas.gov/covid19)


If any programs have capacity to serve clients at these Pro-lodge sites, please contact Vella Karman at Vella.Karman@austintexas.gov

Please include information regarding trash pickup needs for encampments in the EAT Initiative 1,2,3 survey when food is distributed in the community or send this information to michelle.myles@austintexas.gov

If you are interested in participating in any aspect of Eating Apart Together please contact Zach Shlachter (zach.shlachter@austintexas.gov).

New COVID-19 dashboard - both a desktop and mobile version, you can access them at [http://austintexas.gov/covid19](http://austintexas.gov/covid19)

Sorry Zack!!!!


More information about the RFQS solicitation and how to apply can be found at the following link: [https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134322](https://www.austintexas.gov/financeonline/account_services/solicitation/solicitation_details.cfm?sid=134322)

The COVID 19 Response Funding Implementation Team is looking for feedback from our local Homelessness Service providers. [https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8JTWHJM](https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8JTWHJM)

Travis County application opportunity [https://www.traviscountytx.gov/health-human-services/cdbg](https://www.traviscountytx.gov/health-human-services/cdbg)
From Dylan Shubitz to Everyone: 09:11 AM
Loca Policy and Practice Committee will meet this Wednesday at 930. if anyone wants an invite please let me know. DylanS@hacanet.org thanks Andrew!

From Andrew Willard to Everyone: 09:11 AM
Welcome!