COVID19 Updates & Reports-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers

Monday, May 4, 2020 9:00 AM

Meeting Recording:

Topic: COVID19 Updates & Reports-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers (April 8-June 30 invite)
Date: May 4, 2020 09:00 AM Central Time (US and Canada)

https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/x5RMM4HN9XlIYK_1txvSxog6Rti7eaa80CMX_qILyxsMzvuzvOPgZM
pYngRPUwwf

Password: 3s%.?12a
Meeting Agenda

Austin/Travis County

COVID19 Updates & Report-outs w/ Homeless Service Providers
May 4th Agenda

City of Austin / Austin Public Health

Agency Updates

Wrap Up – Next Call: Wednesday, May 6th @ 9:00am

Meeting Notes:

COA/APH – Vela Karmen

- 1756 confirmed COVID-19; 516 recovered; and 52 deaths
- Demographic information on cases available at http://www.austintexas.gov/covid19
  - At least 38 individuals experiencing homelessness have tested positive, including 22 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
- 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,
Considering options for a 4th ProLodge

Integral Care behavioral health teams are providing services at IsoFac and ProLodge 1, 2, and 3

Front Steps staff are working on providing case management services at all 3 ProLedges

If other programs have capacity to work with people staying at ProLodge sites, please contact Vella Karmen, vella.karmen@austintexas.gov

- Downtown Efforts
  - 28 Downtown Ambassadors, 2 APD Officers, and 3 HOST members were on cite under I-35 providing trash removal and
  - Distributed water, masks, educational flyers, and other supplies for 2 hours
    - Thank you, Downtown Austin Alliance, for spearheading

- Communications
  - City has provided guidance on activities and information for businesses that have recently reopened or plan to open under Gov. Abbott's April 17th executive order GA18
    - Which supersedes some provisions of the stay-at-home work safe order
    - This helps defines some of the changes that went into effect Friday
    - Should provide an FAQ about specific items

- Downtown Community Court Update
  - Continue to offer walk in triage case management services 8am-5pm Monday through Friday
    - Provide flyers to all clients on COVID-19 and safety planning
  - Last week 105 individuals were served through triage case management,
  - and since March 16th they 634 individuals were served, an average of 18 individuals a day
    - Individuals also access basic hygiene resources
  - Distributed over 150 snack pack and hygiene bags to triage clients
    - First United Methodist Church donating another 16 packs to clients on Friday May 1st
  - Delivered 27 bags of food (including dog and cat food) to housed clients on Friday May 1st
    - from donations from the City Food Distribution Program at the Convention Center

- Austin Housing Finance Cooperation and The Housing Authority of the City of Austin (HACA)
  - Launching Austin’s Relief of Emergency Needs for Tenants (RENT) Program
    - Provides one-time emergency rental assistance to Austin households experiencing financial hardship as a result of COVID-19
    - Austin residents can apply through HACA’s rent website (application is online only) starting today May 4th at 9am till May 6th at 11:59pm
      - www.atxRentHelp.org
    - Applicants will be randomly selected from all applications received through these dates
Agency Updates:

- Audrey Kuang - Community Care Healthcare for the Homeless
  - Today-Monday May 4th mask surveillance testing in ARCH garage
    - Testing A-symptomatic and symptomatic individuals for clients and staff
  - Tentative- Wednesday May 6th surveillance at state camp
    - Surveillance of A-symptomatic and symptomatic individuals

ECHO Updates

- COVID Coordination meetings this week
  - Veteran Check in Monday May 4th at 10am
  - Emergency Shelter Task Group Wednesdays at noon
  - Street Outreach Coordination Wednesdays at 2:30
  - Permanent Housing Programs and COVID Coordination group
    - Email Andrew Willard for access or with questions at andrewwillard@austinech.org

Chat Box

From larafoss to Everyone: 09:03 AM
Good Monday morning all!
APH Public Testing Enrollment:
The enrollment form is available at AustinTexas.gov/COVID19. To access the form, click on the “Take Self-Assessment” button to create an account and complete a questionnaire listing your symptoms

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

http://austintexas.gov/sites/default/files/files/FAQs%20Regarding%20the%20City%20and%20Governor%20Orders__.pdf


Info on the Rent Program:
atxRentHelp.org

From Preston Petty to Everyone: 09:08 AM
Thanks Andrew!