

# Sacramento Homelessness COVID-19 RESPONSE TEAM

## Weekly Progress Report

Brought to you in partnership by Sacramento County, City of Sacramento, Sacramento Steps Forward and the Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency

May 29, 2020

Welcome to the seventh weekly report highlighting progress and highlights of the COVID-19 Homeless Response Team’s work to implement the **Sacramento COVID-19 Homelessness Response Plan**. This report includes actions to date through Thursday, May 28th.

### Isolation/Quarantine Units for Persons Experiencing Homelessness

*As an emergency response to COVID-19, medically supported isolation care centers, and preventative quarantine care centers have been temporarily funded to provide safe places for people experiencing homelessness who are COVID+, symptomatic or otherwise highly vulnerable.*

Total Care Centers Open	Total Since 4/8
# Preventative Quarantine Care Center (PQCC) Motels	3 motels
# motel rooms	420 rooms
# Medically Supported Isolation Care Center (MICC) Trailers	18 trailers
# Preventative Quarantine Care Center (PQCC) Trailers	41 trailers

Served in Trailers and Motels	Week between 5/22 – 5/28	Total since 4/8
# Served in MICC Trailers	1 HH/1 individual	11 HH/11 individuals
# Served in PQCC Trailers	14 HH/14 individuals	17 HH/17 individuals
# Served in PQCC Motels	46 HH 52 individuals	497 HH 607 individuals
TOTAL Served*	61 HH 67 individuals	525 HH 635 individuals

*\*Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20 are: 507 HH/617 individuals*

- A small number of Registered Nurses from the COVID-19 Medical Assistance and Supply Team (CMAST) will remain onsite to support the MICC-trailers and another number have been diverted to PQCC-motels and will provide onsite support to guests 7-days per week.
- Designated referral partners who are referring into the program include hospitals, Federally Qualified Health Clinics (FQHCs), outreach teams, correctional health, emergency shelters, law enforcement and other homeless service providers.

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## Ensuring Safety and Health for Persons Living Outdoors

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*This strategy is focused around providing coordinated support to people who are unsheltered to remain safely in place per CDC guidance to slow the spread of COVID-19.*

Sanitation Stations	Total since 4/8
Handwashing Stations	56
Toilets	49
Locations	36

*\*Placement of stations is dynamic, and equipment may be moved*

Encampment Activities	Week between 5/22 - 5/28	Total since 4/8
# Meals served through Loaves and Fishes	1,000	7,600
# Meals served by Sacramento Covered	2,000	14,800
# Meals served by volunteer groups*	5,969	17,907

*\*This is the third week of tracking for meals served by volunteer groups, which includes organizations funded by Donate4Sacramento. We will continue to report on this number.*

Encampments and Outreach	Total
# Designated Outreach Navigators	37
# Encampments Identified with 20+ individuals	43
# Encampments Identified with < 20 individuals	39
TOTAL Encampments Identified	82

- The Response Team pilot expansion of water bottle delivery to six sites with satellite delivery services for one month will begin on Monday. Additional methods for providing water continue to be assessed as well.
- A network of 28 volunteer groups, 20 groups funded by Donate4Sacramento, have been delivering food and water to encampments.

- Medical assistance has been provided to 47 encampment areas to date by volunteer medical students from UC Davis Medical School and California Northstate University, local health care providers and a Medical Integrated Health Unit, and by the WellSpace Health Street Nursing program.
- A private provider of trash removal services has been contracted for clean-up near sanitation station locations and in areas where food is distributed. This COVID related service augments clean-up occurring by the City and County.
- Servicing of sanitation stations is included with the deployment of the stations and will continue.



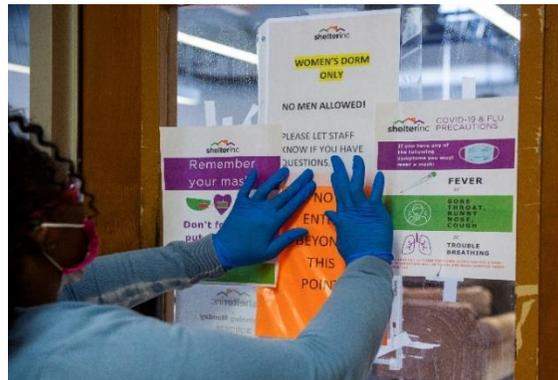

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## Keeping Existing Emergency Shelters Safe and Operational

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*This strategy ensures that existing shelters can safely remain open following CDC guidelines, moving vulnerable guests into COVID prevention care centers, and continuing to serve the general homeless populations.*

- Elica Health’s Health on Wheels mobile clinic continues to visit eight congregate shelters per week to provide primary care, emergency dental services and testing for COVID-19.
- The Nurse Advice Line for shelter staff to access real-time, health services support is as follows: Monday-Friday 9-5PM and Saturday-Sunday 10AM-4PM.
- Held weekly calls with private and publicly funded shelters.



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## COVID Testing

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County Public Health with medical partners are completing robust COVID testing at shelters, encampments and isolation/quarantine care centers with the goal of being able to do widespread testing to ensure the health and safety of people experiencing homelessness.

Testing Locations	Testing Partner	# Tests Administered	Positive Results	Negative Results	Pending Tests
Shelters	Elica Health	183	0	183	0
Encampments	Joan Viteri Memorial Clinic	70	0	70	0
Isolation/Quarantine Care Centers	DHS Medical Staff	179	1	178	0

- Our COVID testing effort in shelters has concluded. Testing kits will continue to be available to shelters.
- The Department of Health Services provides 200 tests per week to the Joan Viteri Memorial Clinic (JVMC) medical team to test unsheltered people experiencing homelessness. Testing will continue in encampments.
- Testing is a condition of referral into the isolation/quarantine care centers. DHS medical staff will continue to administer tests at those locations to guests.



*Photos by: Hector Amezcua*

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## Access to Housing

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Strategies to improve access into permanent housing include:

- The Response Team is accelerating work on strategies to maximize housing placements as persons exit Isolation/Quarantine units, that can include increasing access to existing market units, new acquisition/rehabilitation projects. A Re-Housing Strategy is anticipated to be brought before the City and County governing bodies in June.
- Sacramento is one of eight communities in the State to receive technical assistance from HUD on Re-Housing.
- The Response Team is working with veteran homeless service providers on connecting isolation/quarantine guests to VA programs including Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) and HUD-VASH.

In addition, housing efforts continue more broadly:

- Since April 8, 31 families have moved into permanent housing from the City's Pathways and the County's Flexible Supportive Housing Program with a Housing Choice Voucher.

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## Acknowledging Our Partners

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We wish to acknowledge all the public, private, and community partners whose efforts are helping keep people experiencing homelessness safe and slow the spread of the COVID-19 virus. This week's featured partners are providers of existing emergency shelters.

Thanks and appreciation to all of our community's shelter providers who continue to serve the most needy in our community. When the COVID-19 pandemic began, there was uncertainty as to the full impact it would have on our entire community, both our homed and unhomed residents. Each day, shelter workers put our community first and have been a consistent presence in so many lives, offering safety, stability, and hope during such challenging and uncertain times. By not giving up and being responsive and flexible to changes in program operations, our shelters were willing to risk their own health to serve those who would otherwise not have a safe space to shelter in place. They are the often overlooked and unsung heroes of our community. This week, and as always, we give thanks and gratitude for their continued passion, hard work, and dedication!