

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 15, 2020

Welcome to the fifth 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 14th.

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 Centers (PQCC) # Rooms	3 motels 420 rooms
# Medically Supported Isolation Care Center (MICC) and PQCC # trailers	1 site 59 trailers

Served in Trailers and Motels	Week between 5/8 - 5/14	Total since 4/8
# Individuals served in Medically Supported Isolation Care Center (MICC-trailers)*	2 HH 2 individual	9 HH 9 individuals
# Individuals served in Preventative Quarantine Units (PQCC-motels and PQCC-trailers)	75 HH 86 individuals	362 HH 450 individuals
TOTAL Served**	77 HH 88 individuals	371 HH 459 individuals

** MICC-trailers are for COVID-19 positive or Persons Under Investigation, the low number of people being served in the MICC-trailers is a reflection of the low number of COVID-19 positive cases in the homeless population. The use of the MICC-trailers is being expanded, see bullets below for more information.*

***Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20 are: 367/455 individuals*

- As testing in our largest congregate shelters found no incidences of COVID-19, the Response Team has implemented a plan for mixed-use of the trailers.
 - 18 trailers will remain reserved for persons experiencing homelessness who have tested positive for COVID-19 and are in need of isolation, and 41 trailers are available for persons who are experiencing homelessness who are a prioritized, vulnerable population in need of quarantine.
- 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.

Ensuring Safety and Health for Persons Living Outdoors

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 5/8 - 5/14	Total since 4/8
# Meals served through Loaves and Fishes	1,000	5,600
# Meals served by Sacramento Covered	2,000	10,800
# Meals served by volunteer groups*	5,969	-

**This is the first 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	41
# Encampments Identified with < 20 individuals	38
TOTAL Encampments Identified	80

- A network of 28 volunteer group, 20 groups funded by Donate4Sacramento, have been delivering food and water to encampments. A total of 5,969 meals were delivered this last week. As the network grows, the number of meals provided per week will grow.
- The Response Team is focusing on increasing the amount of drinking water being distributed to people who are unsheltered. Distribution of 1-gallon water containers by a network of volunteers has begun and additional methods for providing water are being assessed now.
- Medical assistance has been provided to 29 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.
- 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.
 - As of May 15, this all-volunteer team of medical doctors and other healthcare professionals tested 34 persons outside of Sacramento City Hall and all results are negative.
- 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.

Keeping Existing Emergency Shelters Safe and Operational

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.

- County Public Health and Elica Health completed robust COVID testing at shelters with the goal of being able to do widespread testing to ensure the health and safety of shelter guests.
 - Tests were offered to 398 guests in 8 shelters, of those, 183 consented to testing.

- 183 test results have been received back from the Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory and all found negative for COVID-19.
- A number of tests will continue to be available and administered by Elica Health during their weekly primary care visits to congregate shelters.
- With the shift in the CMAST and medical model, the Nurse Advice Line for shelter staff to access real-time, health services support has changed its hours of operation to match the referral line: Monday-Friday 9-5PM and Saturday-Sunday 10AM-4PM.
- Held weekly calls with private and publicly funded shelters.

Access to Housing

Strategies to improve access into permanent housing include:

- The team is working on other strategies to maximize housing placements as persons exit Isolation/Quarantine units, that can include increasing access to existing market units, new acquisition/rehabilitation projects.

In addition, housing efforts continue more broadly:

- Since April 8, 25 families have moved into permanent housing from the City's Pathways and the County's Flexible Supportive Housing Program with a Housing Choice Voucher.

Acknowledging Our Partners

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 partner is Elica Health.

Part of Elica's Wellness Outside of Wall (WOW) initiative is the Health on Wheels (HOW) mobile medicine program, featuring state-of-the-art mobile health clinics with full exam rooms that provide services to two primary groups: hard to reach populations with barriers to accessing care and underserved students at select schools within Elica's service area. Thanks to a very generous donation from Bayside Church, Elica Health deployed its newest mobile to test congregate shelters and will continue to bring primary care and emergency dental services to our community's shelter guests. Thank you, Elica Health, for bringing peace of mind and compassionate care to our shelter partners, guests, and community.