

# 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 22, 2020

Welcome to the sixth 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 21st.

### 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 5/15 – 5/21	Total since 4/8
# Served in MICC Trailers*	1 HH/1 individual	10 HH/10 individuals
# Served in PQCC Trailers	3 HH/3 individuals	3 HH/3 individuals
# Served in PQCC Motels	89 HH 105 individuals	451 HH 555 individuals
TOTAL Served**	93 HH 109 individuals	464 HH 568 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. Referrals to PQCC-trailers began this week.

\*\*Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20 are: 454/558 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. Referrals to the PQCC trailers began mid-week, the number of people being served in the trailers is expected to increase as referrals to these units continue.
- 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.



Photos by: Hector Amezcua

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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 5/15 - 5/21	Total since 4/8
# Meals served through Loaves and Fishes	1,000	6,600
# Meals served by Sacramento Covered	2,000	12,800
# Meals served by volunteer groups*	5,969	11,938

*\*This is the second 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

- The Response Team is implementing a pilot expansion of water bottle delivery to six sites with satellite delivery services for one month. Additional methods for providing water continue to be assessed as well.
- A network of 28 volunteer group, 20 groups funded by Donate4Sacramento, have been delivering food and water to encampments.
- Medical assistance has been provided to 37 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.
- 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.



*Photos by: Hector Amezcua*

## 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.*

- 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.



*Photos by: Hector Amezcua*

## COVID Testing

*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	52	0	52	0
Isolation/Quarantine Care Centers	DHS Medical Staff	179	1	178	0

- COVID testing has been completed at large congregate shelters and the majority of family and youth shelters. Testing will continue at shelters that have not been tested.
- 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.

In addition, housing efforts continue more broadly:

- Since April 8, 30 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 Abe Janitorial Supply (Abe) and Performance Contracting Inc (PCI).

Healthcare providers across the world continue to struggle to access personal protective equipment (PPE) and sanitation supplies that are essential to keeping them healthy and safe in their important work. The care provided to our homeless community by the COVID-19 Medical Assistance and Supplies Team (CMAST) would not be possible without the Sacramento County Department of Health Services (DHS) unique partnerships with Abe and PCI. Abe is a family-owned company, meeting the janitorial supply needs of Sacramento and surrounding areas. With one of forty branches in Sacramento, PCI is one of the leading specialty contractors in the United States. From disinfectant, gloves, coveralls, gowns and masks, thank you to the teams at Abe and PCI for meeting our supply needs that allow us to remain safe in our caring of others.