COVID-19 Update 3/20/20

Situation Report:

- 4 known positive confirmations in homeless community, one released from hospital on Friday, now out of isolation and doing well. 3 remain hospitalized. 2 will be released soon.
- Working with Grady and other hospitals to create communication around all individuals experiencing homelessness who are reporting to any Atlanta hospital and being subsequently confirmed or symptomatic. Also sharing information about PUIs.
- Biggest issue is getting tests
  - Grady is going to start own testing and anticipates ability to test 250-300 per day beginning next week. Test results will take between 4-12 hours depending upon which of the two tests the individual is given.
  - Mercy Care will also begin testing next week.
  - CVS and Walgreens have signed agreement with Roche to begin testing next week.
  - CoC working on creating isolation beds for individuals who are symptomatic and for known positives
  - Implement social distancing, spreading out cots, head to foot, staggering mealtimes
  - Working to get access to thermometers, cleaning supplies, etc.
  - Mask people only if they have a temperature about 100.4
  - Important to create space for individuals showing symptoms but who do not need to go to hospital
  - Updating screening tool with symptoms – Grady reporting most common include cough, fever, shortness of breath and newly added: diarrhea
  - Philanthropic community is coming together to provide funding
  - Let Grady know if you are sending someone with serious symptoms so they can be prepared and can provide you with instructions.

HMIS & Data Sharing Updates

- Symptom Screening Tool is up in HMIS. All users have access. Screening tool was generalized to be used statewide. Urging providers to use this tool to assist in tracking data.
- Set up reporting for CoC- report on number of screenings done in community. Again, urging providers to use the screening tool to assist in tracking data.
- Technologically ready to handle any data requests that come in from CDC or DPH to assist with locating individuals that have tested positive.
- Next steps on data sharing- No updated data sharing agreement, legal team looking at appropriate way to do that- ready to work with DPH/CDC if they reach out.

Updates related to surveys

- Emergency Shelters- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WDQ2PJB
- Outreach and Navigation- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WWHNY7C
- Food Providers- https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/WRXNVX2
Please let us know if you didn’t receive the survey. Important that we get the feedback from all three areas. Link is can also be found on Pfh website ([www.partnersforhome.org](http://www.partnersforhome.org)). Survey results will be used to support you all and elevate your needs up to funding sources.

**Governor committee update/Mayor’s next steps**

- $1M of the $7M is set aside for homelessness
- Prioritize funding for: Testing; Transportation; Isolation Beds
- Testing - pay for specific testing for individuals experiencing homelessness – Grady to start testing in house soon (250-300 tests/day by next week). A specific clinical team to screen and test individuals experiencing homelessness in the field.
- Transportation – Grady will provide EMS truck and worker provide round the clock transportation for non-urgent cases. Phone number will be published once established.
- Isolation Beds – need two separate units: one for positives, one for symptom screening positives – hope to have ready by next week. Funds will also be used for staffing for isolation units.
- Working towards a partnership with two hotels to house healthy individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Create isolation dormitories at shelter location for those confirmed or symptomatic.
- Mayor’s subcommittee is meeting to make recommendations to governor’s office – prioritize funding at state level

**Outreach and encampment**

- Rolling out strategy
- 5 dedicated teams
- First phase is education – surveying people to understand what they know/don’t know, understand how they are accessing resources, encouraging social distancing – using PIT maps
- Second phase: symptom screening and testing- adding to symptom screening and adding positive exposure to symptom screening
- Resources are in short supply. Recommend that masks only be used for those who are presenting with fever of 100.4+. Not for those who are asymptomatic. Should see some relief soon through additional funding from philanthropic community. Funding will eventually not be an issue. In the meantime, please take survey so that your supply needs are documented.
Questions:

What about bringing in people that haven’t been tested?
- HUD recommending that providers continue intake and implement social distancing and hand washing.
- Utilize screening tool
- Not recommending isolating intakes for 14 days

What about increased costs for shelters?
- Put what’s needed in survey tool
- United Way and Community Foundation will likely have funding but need to know what the needs are.

Potential to limit number of people in jail
- Mercy Care working with jails to determine best course of action

What is being seen on the ground?
- Appears to be an increased need for food
- No increases for services from DV providers
- No other increases mentioned