

Situation Report/Updates:

- **REMINDER: We are encouraging shelters to NOT suspend intake and services (in line with federal, state, and local recommendations)**
- 4 known positive confirmations in homeless community (same as previous update)
- Several individuals at Grady may be positive, currently under investigation
- REMINDER: Data quality in HMIS is big concern, especially now that we are using it to communicate to providers and the healthcare system to find out where people have been and where they are going
 - Data quality should be better – Agencies must ensure that standards for data quality are in place
 - Data should be entered in real time
- Continuing efforts to stand up testing, isolation beds, and transportation system for individuals experiencing homelessness
 - **Transportation** plan is already in place and ready (at Grady). Waiting for other parts to come together (testing and isolation beds)
 - **Isolation beds:** working to solidify plan. Have several options available and are working on securing hotel rooms and dorm rooms for isolation purposes. All would also include food and cleaning supplies for individuals in isolation. Similar model is being deployed throughout the country
 - **Testing:** working on rolling out efforts. Would like to be concurrent with roll out of strategy for isolation beds.
 - Mercy Care is taking lead on testing
 - Grady is implementing own testing capabilities and will set up community-based testing site (likely at Mercy Care and at a shelter)
 - PFH will communicate process for testing
 - Testing site will provide a place for individuals to come and get tested, and also wait in isolation while their tests are processed. If found positive, would be transferred to isolation bed.
 - Currently takes 4-12 hours, but likely that there will be tests that can be processed in an hour.
- Surveys/ Supplies:
 - Links 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 can also be found on Pfh website (www.partnersforhome.org)
 - 41 surveys have been completed
 - PFH is working with providers to get supplies based on needs indicated in survey
 - Results are being compiled and will be reported to CoC Governing Council, posted on website, and shared with funders
 - Biggest asks were thermometers, face masks, cleaning products, and facial tissue

- Please let PFH know if there are any additional needs
- Need information around food activities
 - If you are providing food to the larger public and operations have changed we need to know
- Communication strategy with area hospitals
 - Working with Grady and other hospitals develop communication platform so we can receive notifications from all area hospitals when patients who are experiencing homelessness seek services.
- Mayor's Order and Impact on Homeless Services
 - Providers and volunteers are considered essential and are exempt from the City of Atlanta's Shelter in Place order.
 - Individuals experiencing homelessness are exempt, but encouraged to social distance

HMIS/DCA Update

- COCs can now pull reports via HMIS
- Screening tool now includes contact information for user
- 339 screenings completed so far, 233 in Metro Atlanta
 - only 1 person came back with a 'yes' for all symptoms
 - 49 people in Atlanta area noted 'underlying illness' - co-morbidity esp. diabetes, etc.
 - 63 in Atlanta were 55+
- Data shows what we already know: higher risk associated with many individuals experiencing homelessness

Outreach and Encampments

- Since Friday, 4-5 teams have been providing outreach to encampment
- Teams have been in high volume encampments, but we want to ensure we are reaching people all over the city
- First phase of outreach: providing education, handing out flyers, encouraging hand washing, social distancing, giving advice on how to arrange sleeping environments
- Second phase will involve symptom screening, testing on site, or transportation to testing site
- If you have capacity to help with this outreach, let PFH know.

Governor committee update/Mayor's next steps

- Committee is chaired by Mayor Bottoms
- Sub-committee approved recommendation to the Governor for funding in the amount of 10M for COVID response for individuals experiencing homelessness.
- City Council approved \$1M of the \$7M is set aside for homelessness. These funds will be managed through HomeFirst and PfH will provide administration of funds. These funds will be used in four areas: Testing, Transportation, Isolation Beds, and Supplies.

Questions/Comments

What about shelter staff who become ill?

- PFH is currently working on creating an infrastructure to develop an on-call workforce

- Looking for people to help with the process, specifically creating training materials
- Idea to hire hotel staff that are being laid off and train them
- Let PFH know if you are interested.

Who has suspended intake/services (more information will be available on the PFH website)?

- The Atlanta Mission has suspended intake and ended day services, encouraging people living there to not leave campus unless they are required to for work
- Gateway is still doing housing assessments and shelter intake
- Salvation Army - still doing intake, providing food through food pantry
- Clifton Sanctuary - suspended intake because not enough staff in the case that someone became symptomatic

What about the impact on evictions and how they could impact homelessness?

- A group in philanthropy is working to address this issue
- Federal funding bill will come with financial assistance that could help
- Local work going on
- City funding will be dedicated to eviction prevention
- United Way is talking about it around their recovery and relief fund - public access to dollars is forthcoming

What to do about outdoor food services and large gatherings?

- Residents have been complaining
- Ask to create a line, put markings on ground to space people apart

If you would like to connect as a smaller group to talk about staffing supports that are needed, reach out to PFH