

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 8, 2020

Welcome to the fourth 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 7th.

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 Operating # Rooms	3 motels 420 rooms
# Medically Supported Isolation Care Centers # trailers	1 site 59 trailers

Served in Trailers and Motels	Week between 5/1 - 5/7	Total since 4/8
# Individuals served in Medically Supported Isolation Care Center (MICC-trailers)*	3 HH 3 individual	7 HH 7 individuals
# Individuals served in Preventative Quarantine Units (PQCC-motels)	75 HH 94 individuals	287 HH 364 individuals
TOTAL Served**	78 HH 97 individuals	294 HH 371 individuals

* MICC-trailers are for COVID-19 positive or Persons Under Investigation, at this time 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. As testing capacity expands throughout the community, we anticipate additional referrals.

**Total unduplicated served since 4/8/20 are: 290 households/367 individuals

- A third PQCC-motel opened this week adding 157 rooms.
- Per County Public Health following CDC guidelines, symptoms of COVID-19 for eligibility into the isolation/quarantine program are now: cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing **OR** any combination of at least two of the following symptoms: fever, headache, chills, sore throat, repeated shaking with chills, new loss of taste or smell, muscle pain.
- 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 5/1 - 5/7	Total since 4/8
# Meals served through Loaves and Fishes	1,100	4,500
# Meals served by Sacramento Covered	2,000	8,800

Encampments and Outreach	Total
# Designated Outreach Navigators	37
# Encampments Identified with 20+ individuals	40
# Encampments Identified with < 20 individuals	38
TOTAL Encampments Identified	78

- Medical assistance has been provided to 21 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 Response Team is excited to announce a new partnership with the Joan Viteri Memorial Clinic (JVMC). Starting on May 8th, the Department of Health Services will provide 200 tests to the JVMC team to test people experiencing homelessness in encampments.
- 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 are doing robust COVID testing at shelters with the goal of being able to do widespread testing to ensure the health and safety of shelter guests.
 - COVID testing was completed at congregate shelters on May 7. In the second week, testing was completed at family and youth shelters.
 - To date, tests were offered to 398 guests in 8 shelters, of those, 183 consented to testing.
 - 171 test results have been received back from the Sacramento County Public Health Laboratory and all found negative for COVID-19. There are 12 pending tests.
- Nurse Advice Line for shelter staff to access real-time, health services support available 7-days per week, 7 am to 7 pm.
- 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, 23 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 the Encampment Med Team.

The Encampment Med Team is a group of local medical and pharmacy students from California Northstate University and UC Davis who have mobilized to deliver health care to unhoused encampment communities in Sacramento County. Sworn in as disaster relief workers by the Sacramento County Department of Public Health, their services include COVID-19 screening and triage, low acuity medical care, healthcare navigation, and public health assessments and interventions, all while bringing people up to date information about the virus. This volunteer group has been able to perform wound care and health screenings, provide some COVID-19 tests, all while bringing folks up to date information about the virus. Visit the Encampment Med Team [website](#) to meet their team and learn more about their contributions. Thank you Encampment Med Team for your service!