



Office Hours: COVID-19 Planning and Response

June 19, 2020



Housekeeping

- A recording of today's session, along with the slide deck and a copy of the Chat and Q&A content will be posted to the HUD Exchange within 2-3 business days
- Event information for upcoming Office Hours, along with copies of all materials can be found here:

<https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/#covid-19-webinars-and-office-hours>

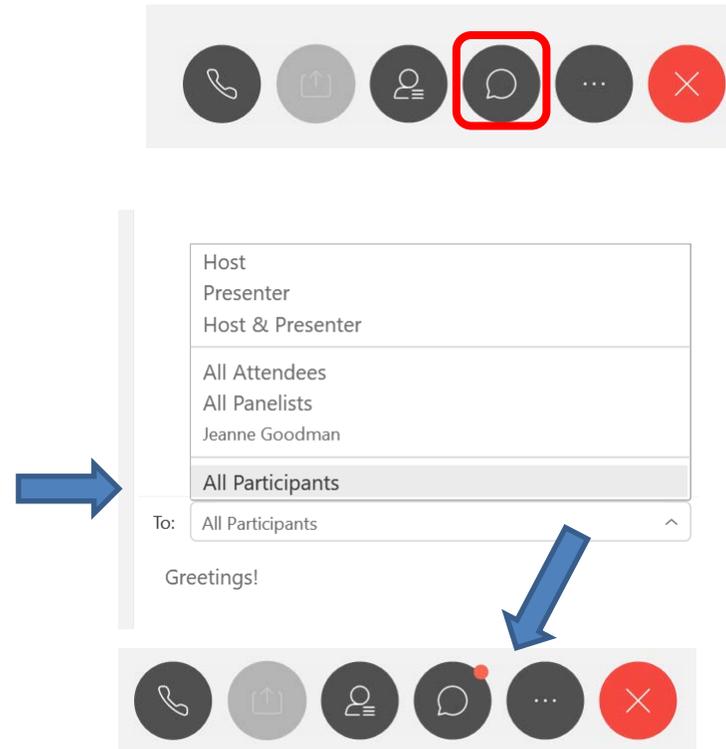
- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:
1-855-797-9485 Access code: 610 976 677

Chat Feature

Select the Chat icon to make a comment or ask a question.

Be certain the To field is set to **All Participants**

An orange dot on the Chat icon indicates that you have unread messages.



Speakers & Resource Advisors

Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
 - Norm Suchar
 - Brett Esders
 - Marlisa Grogan
 - Abby Miller
 - Ebony Rankin
 - Nili Soni
- Aaron Weaver, Senior CPD Representative, Chicago Field Office

Speakers & Resource Advisors

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Emily Mosites, PhD MPH- COVID-19 At-Risk Population Task Force, Senior Advisor on Health and Homelessness

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

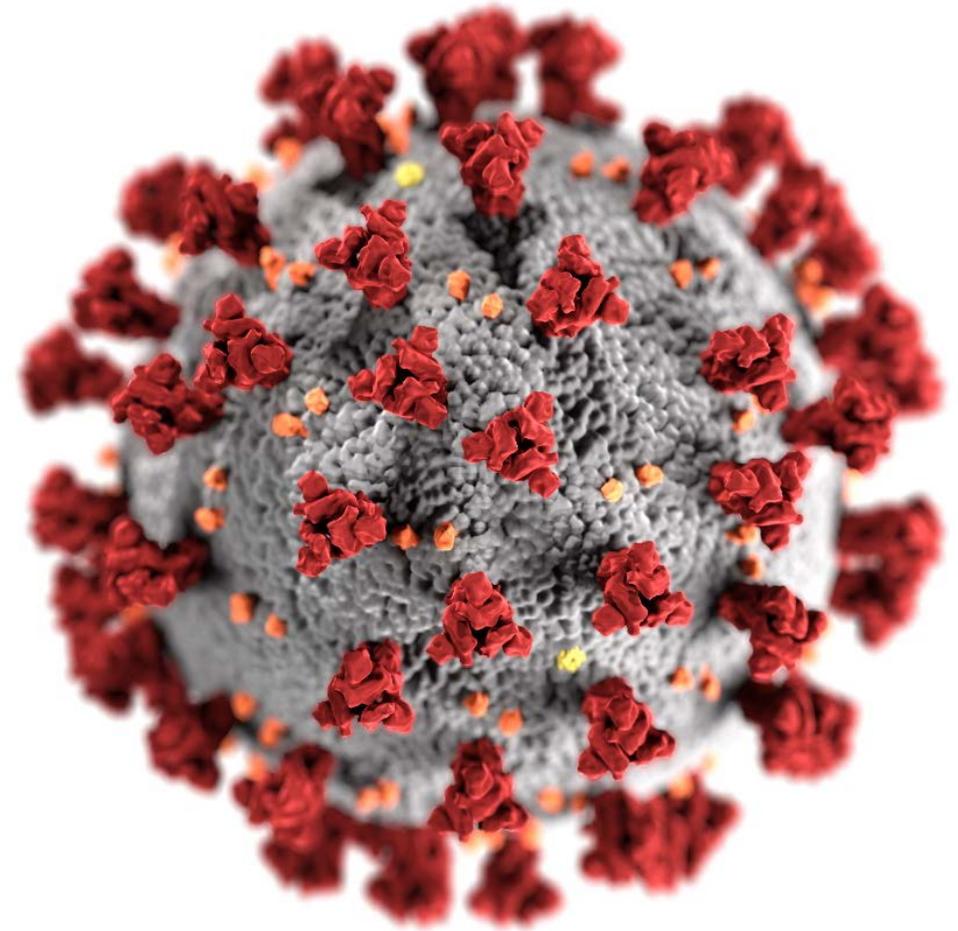
- Barbara DiPietro, PhD, Senior Director of Policy

Department of Veterans Affairs

- Dina Hooshyar, MD, MPH, Director, National Center on Homelessness Among Veterans (the Center), VHA Homeless Program Office
- Jillian Weber, PhD, RN, CNL, Homeless-PACT National Program Manager, VHA Homeless Program Office

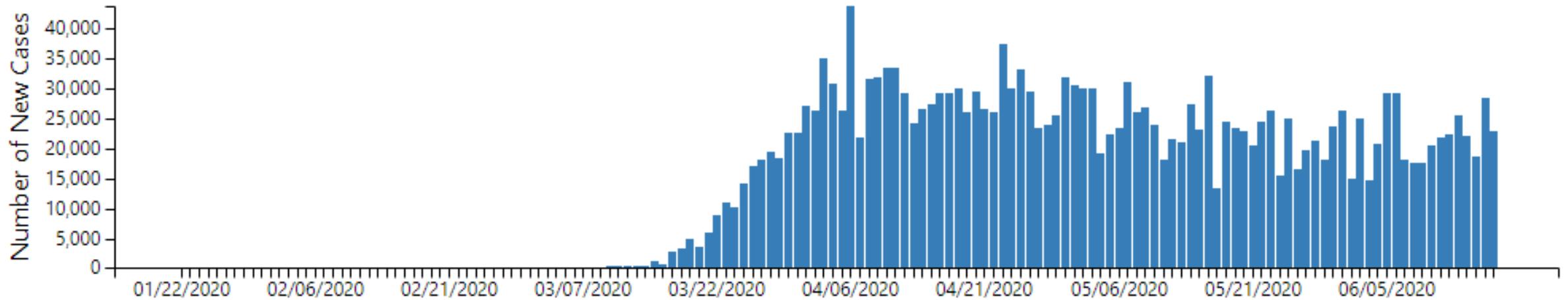
Emily Mosites, PhD MPH
COVID-19 Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

COVID-19 and Homelessness



For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Over 2.1 million cases reported in the United States*



*as of 6/18/20



CDC Materials on Homelessness

Resources landing page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-nCoV/community/homeless-shelters/index.html>

- Homeless Shelter Worker Training
- Infection Control Inventory and Planning (ICIP) Tool
- FAQs
- Communications materials for people experiencing homelessness
- Symptom screening tool
- Youth-focused information

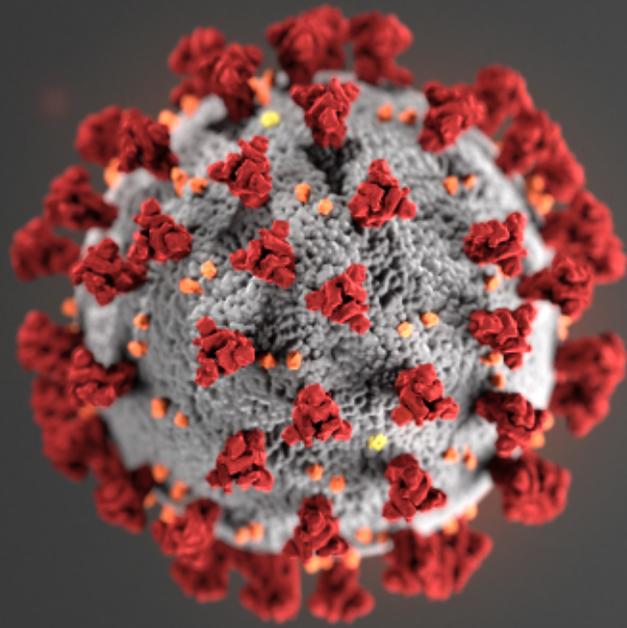


Two Opportunities for Participation

- What are the risks for COVID-19 among homeless shelter staff?
 - Quick online survey to assess risks
 - Email lw7@cdc.gov if staff have been tested at your facility and at least one tested positive

- Universal Testing Event Data Collection
 - Collaboration with National Health Care for the Homeless Council
 - <https://airc.cdc.gov/surveys/index.php?s=M3WPXD7AJ9>



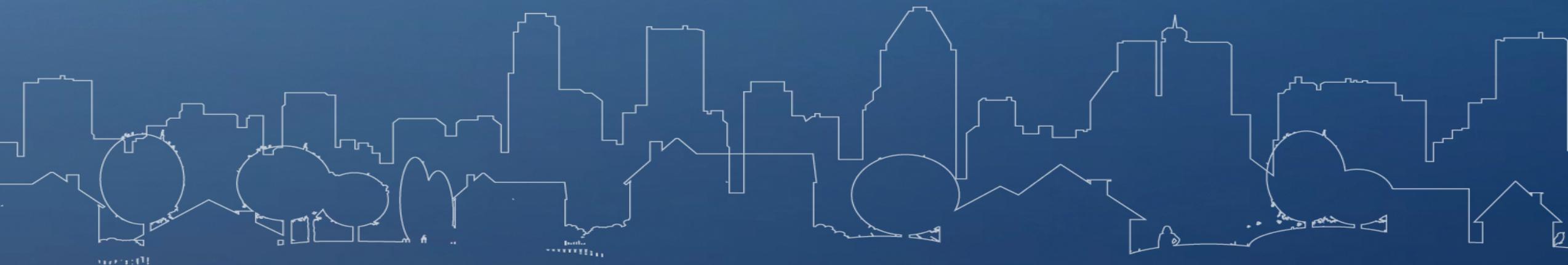


For more information, contact CDC
1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636)
TTY: 1-888-232-6348 www.cdc.gov

The findings and conclusions in this report are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



HUD UPDATES



Use ESG-CV for Rapid Rehousing

- We strongly encourage ESG recipients to use ESG-CV resources for RRH.
- Moving people from crowded indoor shelters and homelessness encampments into housing prevents COVID spread.
- RRH is an essential tool for reducing homelessness.

ESG Maintenance of Effort Requirements

- Applicable to ESG-CV: ESG-CV cannot replace or reduce the amount of non-Federal funding local governments must maintain and use for Street Outreach and Emergency Shelter services
- If a local government cannot maintain its non-Federal funding of SO and ES activities at the same level during the last 12 months, recipient can:
 - Request HUD to determine the local government is in a severe financial deficit; or
 - Request HUD to waive the MOE requirements

**ESG Regulations:
24 CFR 576.101(c)
and 102(d)**

ESG Maintenance of Effort Requirements

- CARES Act provides that ESG-CV funds can cover or reimburse allowable costs to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID that are incurred by a State or locality.
- This does not allow local governments to replace or reduce the amount of non-Federal funding that must be used for SO and ES.
- When local funds are used to incur eligible ESG ES and SO costs that exceed the non-Federal funding level of ES and SO activities during the last 12 months, ESG-CV can pay for those costs, so long as they are allowable under the CARES Act, ESG regulations, and any waivers or alternative requirements HUD may issue as provided by the CARES Act

New Resources: Racial Equity

- **Part 1: Equity as the Foundation**

- COVID-19 has amplified racial biases and discrimination embedded in our systems, processes and practice
- Dramatic mortality disparities is replicated in homelessness numbers
- Use a Racial Equity Impact Assessment (REIA) to examine how racial and ethnic groups will likely be affected by proposed funding decisions, processes, programs, and policies. Components are:
 - 1) Inclusion
 - 2) Data
 - 3) The Story Behind the Data
 - 4) Strategies
 - 5) Impact
 - 6) Evaluation
 - 7) Refine

- **Untapped Expertise: Strategies for Inclusive Stakeholder Engagement When Developing Your Coordinated Investment Plan**

- Partner with a diverse range of local stakeholders to root your investment plan in equity-based decisions
- People in population groups disproportionately impacted by COVID are well positioned to lead communities in assessing the impact of COVID on marginalized groups and devising culturally responsive housing solutions.
 - 1) Use Local Expertise
 - 2) Amplify Voices of those with Lived Experience
 - 3) Center Intersectionality in Your Analysis
 - 4) Pay People for their Expertise
 - 5) Develop a Mission Statement Rooted in Racial Justice

New Resources: Racial Equity

- **Equity-Driven Changes to Coordinated Entry Prioritization**

Implement changes to CE policies to protect those most vulnerable to COVID's severe effects. Use CE system grants to adapt workflow, intake, and service approaches

Why? CE assessment and prioritization processes should actively address health and housing disparities that contribute to high vulnerabilities

How? Identify the prioritization impact of shifts to NCS, and diversion or release efforts of jails, prisons, hospitals, and other institutions. Identify who is likely to shift to a lower priority as a result of CE prioritization changes and determine alternative supports and resources available for help.

When? CE access and assessment providers, current or former participants with lived experience, working groups, CoC and HMIS Lead agencies, and ESG recipients should evaluate, update, and implement changes to the CE prioritization strategy with urgency. Communities have accomplished convening, updating, and implementing in as little as 10 days.

New Resources: Landlord Engagement

- **COVID-19 Landlord Engagement Homeless System Response Fact Sheet**
 - Immediate and Proactive Communication
 - ❑ Planning: Address disparities that people of color face in accessing and maintaining housing; Understand any moratoriums on evictions; Connect to legal services
 - ❑ Action: Let landlords know about operational changes, Be responsive to landlord inquiries and prioritize proactive communication; Let landlords know how they will benefit; Activate local groups who work with marginalized populations
 - Recruitment and Retention
 - ❑ Planning: Map out your assets; Look at data/think outside of the (red)lines; Establish a LL advisory group
 - ❑ Action: Specify needs and simplify the ask; Network; Update inspection standards; Train staff; Standardize through tenancy and landlord tools (guidelines for home visits, how to respond to a landlord complaint, how to read a lease, etc.)

New Resources: Landlord Engagement

- **COVID-19 Landlord Engagement: Reset your Community's Critical Partnerships During COVID Response**
 - Proactive landlord engagement system is one of the most efficient means of increasing supply of available rental units in your community
 - Landlord engagement needs to function at a system level across your community
 - 1) Avoid duplicated engagement efforts
 - 2) Avoid competition between providers and direct staff for limited resources
 - 3) Communicate clear message about need to community members and landlords
 - Detailed steps for Communication Planning & Action
 - Detailed steps for Recruitment & Retention Planning & Action
 - Tools and Templates

New Resources: Landlord Engagement

- **COVID-19 Homeless System Response: Landlord Engagement Strategies in the Time of COVID-19**
 - Tips for engaging landlords in win-win relationships:
 - 1) Save money on turnover costs
 - 2) Rent is paid on time
 - 3) Someone to call to resolve concerns
 - 4) A constantly high standard of service
 - 5) Tie agency efforts to broader community efforts
 - Incentivize landlord participation
 - Contactless lease up
 - Provide consistency during inconsistent times
 - Target vacant units

New Resources: Landlord Engagement

- **Planning a Housing Surge to Accelerate Rehousing Efforts in Response to COVID-19**
 - Describes how to use a housing surge to quickly move people into housing
 - Details the key components of a housing surge
 - Outlines the steps and best practices for operationalizing a housing surge in the context of COVID-19
 - 1) Convene partners
 - 2) Identify Resources
 - 3) Define parameters of Housing Surge
 - 4) Create Pool of Units and Landlord Relationships
 - 5) Expedite and Streamline Rehousing Process
 - 6) Track Outcomes and Engage in Continuous Quality Improvement
 - Provides examples of housing surges implemented in communities in different situations
 - Provides equity tips in each section

Other New Resources Posted

- [Supporting Individuals Exiting Isolation or Quarantine](#) (June 16, 2020)
- [Homeless Prevention Framework and Effective and Efficient Programs](#) (June 16, 2020)
- [Five Things to Consider When Investing ESG in Homelessness Prevention](#) (June 10, 2020)
- [Rehousing Activation: Planning and Implementation Tips](#) (June 3, 2020)
- [When to Use Personal Protective Equipment](#) (May 26, 2020)
- [Changes to Coordinated Entry Prioritization to Support and Respond to COVID-19](#) (May 8, 2020)

Key Websites

HUD: <https://www.hudexchange.info/homelessness-assistance/diseases/infectious-disease-prevention-response/>

CDC: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/index.html>

NHCHC: <https://nhchc.org/clinical-practice/diseases-and-conditions/influenza/>

USICH: <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>

VA: <https://www.publichealth.va.gov/n-coronavirus/index.asp>

HRSA: <https://bphc.hrsa.gov/emergency-response/coronavirus-frequently-asked-questions.html>

Federal Partner Contacts

For additional information or assistance, contact:

- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention:
www.cdc.gov/COVID19; 1-800-CDC-INFO (232-4636); TTY: 1-888-232-6348
- Department of Housing and Urban Development:
[HUD Exchange Ask-A-Question \(AAQ\) Portal](#)
- Department of Veterans Affairs High Consequence Infection (HCI) Preparedness Program:
vhahcigeneral@va.gov



Q & A

