

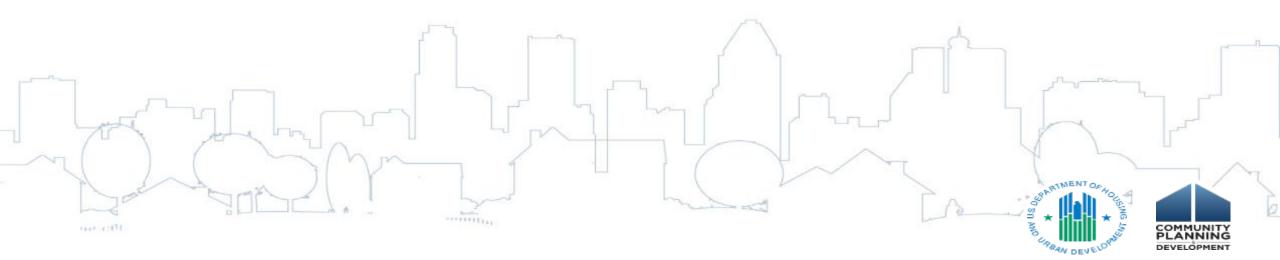
Office Hours: COVID-19 Planning and Response



Reminders

- 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

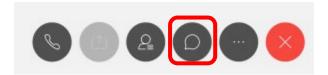


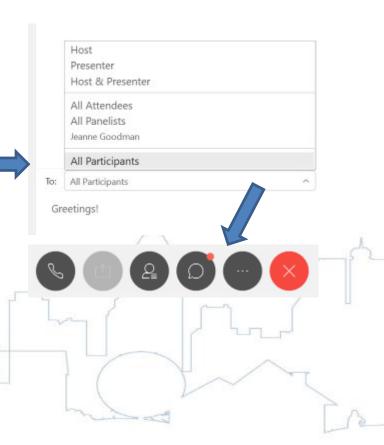
Chat Feature

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

Department of Housing and Urban Development

Norm Suchar, Director, Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS)

National Coalition for the Homeless

Donald H. Whitehead, Jr.

Baltimore City CoC Lived Experience Committee

- Shawn White
- Anthony Williams



Speakers (continued)

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

Barbara DePietro, PhD, Senior Director of Policy

City of Los Angeles, California

- Christina Miller, Deputy Mayor, City Homeless Initiatives
- Jamie Keene, Senior Homeless Policy Advisors



Agenda

- National Coalition for the Homeless
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
- National Healthcare for the Homeless Council
 - Issue Brief: Comprehensive Testing & Services For People Experiencing Homelessness
- City of Los Angeles COVID-19 Response
- Dept of Housing and Urban Development
- Dept of Veterans Affairs



Engaging Persons with Lived Experience

Donald H. Whitehead, Jr.



info@nationalhomeless.org



Engaging Persons with Lived Experience

Shawn White & Anthony Williams

Mayor's Office of Homeless Services (MOHS) Website:

https://human-services.baltimorecity.gov/

Journey Home Baltimore (Baltimore City's CoC) Website:

https://journeyhomebaltimore.org/contact-us/

MOHS and JH COVID-19 page:

- https://homeless.baltimorecity.gov/news/covid-19 information
- https://journeyhomebaltimore.org/covid-19-information/



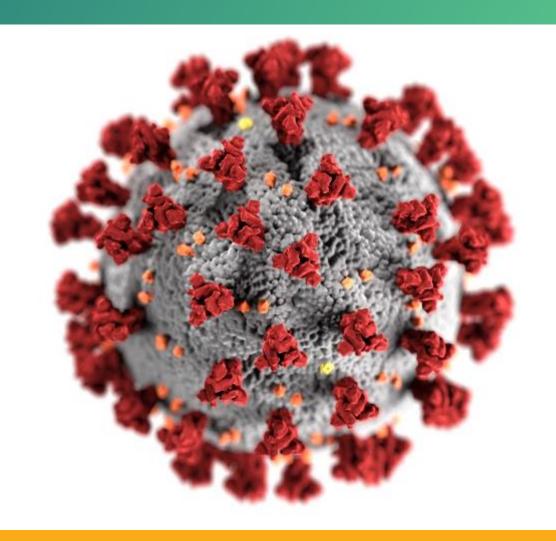




Emily Mosites, PhD MPH
COVID-19 Response
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

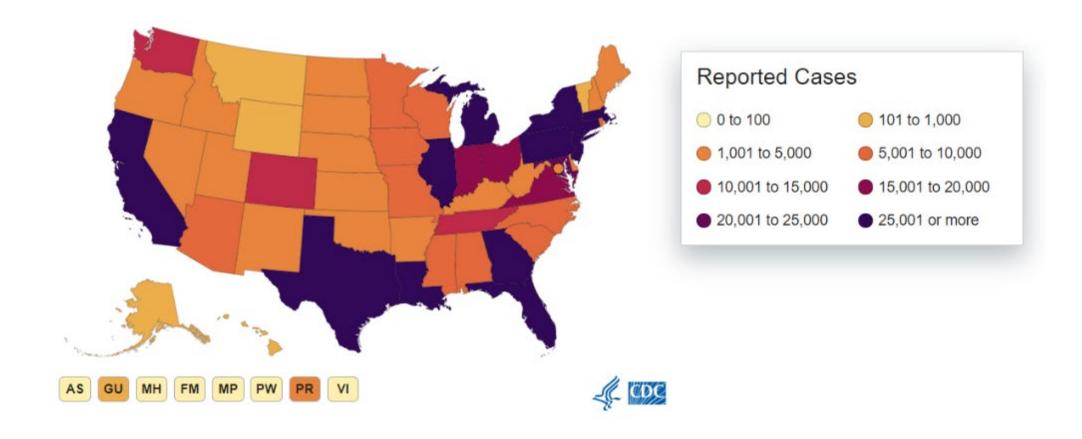
COVID-19 and Homelessness





For more information: www.cdc.gov/COVID19

Over 1 million cases reported in the United States





CDC guidance related to homelessness

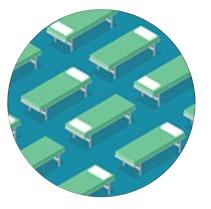
Under "Schools, workplaces, and community locations"

Shelters and other homeless service providers

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/plan-prepare-respond.html

Providers serving people experiencing unsheltered homelessness

https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html



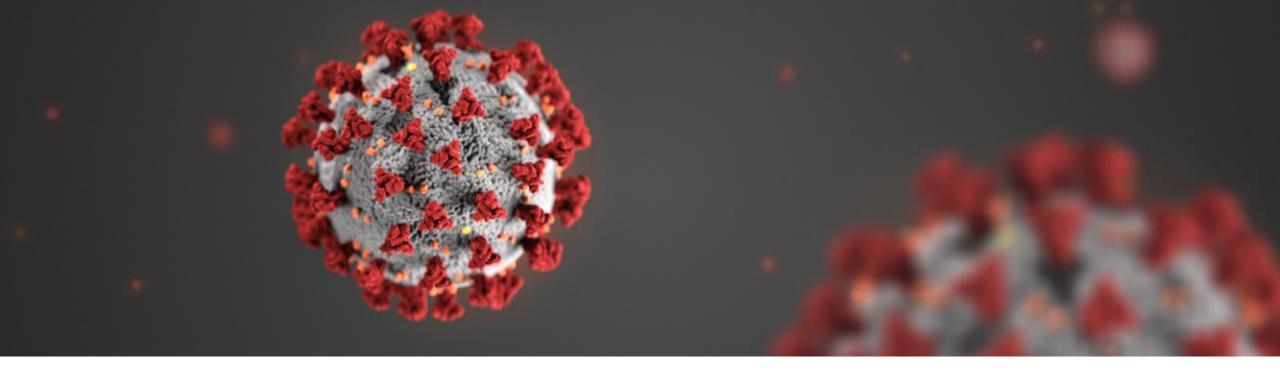


Other CDC Materials on Homelessness

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

- FAQs
- Communications materials for people experiencing homelessness
- Symptom screening tool





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.





COVID-19 AND THE HCH COMMUNITY

HUD OFFICE HOURS

Barbara DiPietro, Ph.D. Senior Director of Policy May 1, 2020



NEW ISSUE BRIEF: COMPREHENSIVE TESTING & SERVICES

- Addresses public health authorities and emergency response systems
- Re-iterates why this population is vulnerable & high-risk
- Highlights CDC reports & other city examples of testing initiatives





COVID-19 & the HCH Community:

Comprehensive Testing & Services For People Experiencing Homelessness

Issue Brief | April 2020

The collective understanding of the COVID-19 pandemic is changing rapidly. Recent research suggests that using only symptom screening to isolate people who are potentially infected could overlook large numbers of asymptomatic COVID-19-infected individuals.

This issue brief calls on public health authorities and emergency response systems in every community to conduct more comprehensive testing among people experiencing homelessness, and ensure appropriate follow-up accommodations and support services.

Vulnerable Populations, High-Risk Settings

People experiencing homelessness are at disproportionate risk of contracting COVID-19 and becoming seriously ill because of numerous factors:

- Poor health
- Congregate settings
- Advanced age & other vulnerabilities
- Limited ability to follow public health guidance
- Stigma & discrimination

New Findings, New Approaches

A recent <u>CDC report</u> found high proportions of positive test results upon universal testing in some shelters, illustrating the need for broader testing to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in these settings:

"Given the high proportion of positive tests in the shelters with identified clusters and evidence for presymptomatic and asymptomatic transmission of SARS-CoV-2, testing of all residents and staff members regardless of symptoms at shelters where clusters have been detected should be considered. If testing is easily accessible, regular testing in shelters before identifying clusters should also be considered. Testing all persons can facilitate isolation of those who are infected to minimize ongoing transmission in these settings."

When testing followed identification of a cluster, public health teams found high proportions of residents and staff members also had positive test results: Seattle: 17% clients/17% staff, Boston: 36% clients/30% staff, and San Francisco: 66% clients/16% staff.

Tellingly, when testing was conducted in other Seattle shelters where only one previous case had been identified in each shelter, there was a low prevalence of infection (5% clients/1% staff). Similarly, when shelters in Atlanta conducted testing where no cases had been reported, a low prevalence of infection was also identified (4% clients/2% staff).

Recently, news media reported on other cities, such as <u>Salt Lake City</u>, <u>Utah</u>; <u>Baltimore</u>, <u>MD</u>; and <u>Los Angeles</u>, <u>CA</u>, that conducted testing in homeless shelters and found high rates of positive, asymptomatic cases.

National Health Care for the Homeless Council

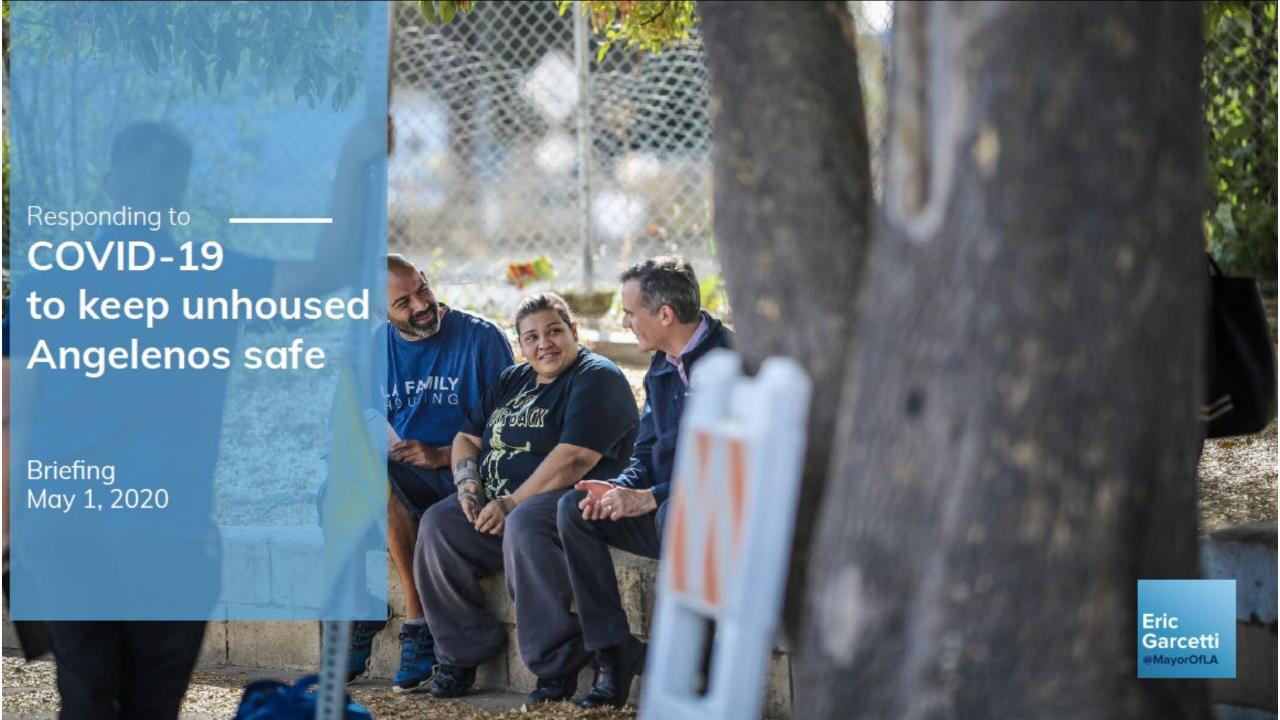
www.nhchc.org

^{*} SARS-CoV-2 is the virus strain that causes the illness more commonly known as COVID-19.

NEW ISSUE BRIEF: COMPREHENSIVE TESTING & SERVICES

FIVE ACTIONS

- Prioritize testing in homeless populations
- 2. Conduct comprehensive testing
- 3. Expand both congregate and noncongregate programs
- 4. Arrange appropriate staffing at all programs
- 5. Expedite permanent housing placements



HOMELESSNESS IN

LOS ANGELES



HOMELESSNESS INCREASE

12% 1

L.A. COUNTY

59K

16% 1

L.A.

36K



3 IN 4 HOMELESS ANGELENOS ARE UNSHELTERED

14,722 sheltered

44,214 unsheltered



COVID-19 RESPONSE FOR HOMELESS

ANGELENOS



3 GOALS

SAVE LIVES BY BRINGING THE MOST VULNERABLE HOMELESS ANGELENOS INDOORS

2 UNIFIED COMMAND STRUCTURE TO COORDINATE CITY, COUNTY, AND PHILANTHROPIC RESOURCES

PREVENT COMMUNITY SPREAD WITH PROACTIVE TESTING AND A CLINICALLY ENRICHED STREET SURGE





MEDICAL STREET SURGE PARTNERSHIP

L.A. FIRE DEPARTMENT

L.A. HOMELESS SERVICES
AUTHORITY OUTREACH TEAMS

L.A. POLICE DEPARTMENT

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES
MULTI-DISCIPLINARY TEAMS

UNIFIED HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE CENTER



MEDICAL STREET SURGE AT HIGH-DENSITY ENCAMPMENTS

5,400+

CONTACTS AND COVID-19 SCREENINGS

245+

SHELTER-IN-PLACE KITS DISTRIBUTED

60+

TRANSPORTS TO ISOLATION PROGRAMS AND HOSPITALS



STREET SURGE DEPLOYMENT PATTERN



COORDINATED DEPLOYMENT WITH POLICE AND FIRE INCIDENT COMMAND TEAM



CLINICALLY ENRICHED TEAMS CONDUCT WELFARE VISITS AND COVID-19 SCREENS



FIRE MOBILE TESTING TEAM DEPLOYS TO LARGEST SITES WITH GREATEST NEED



DIRECT REFERRALS AND TRANSPORT TO QUARANTINE, PROJECT ROOM KEY, OR SHELTER



FOLLOW UP VISITS TO SHARE TEST RESULTS AND ONGOING SYMPTOM MONITORING



4 TESTING STRATEGIES

SKID ROW POP-UP
TESTING SITES

MOBILE TESTING IN ENCAMPMENTS

SHELTERS & INTERIM HOUSING PROGRAMS

CLINICS SERVING
PEOPLE EXPERIENCING
HOMELESSNESS











KEY LESSONS



BRING FIRST RESPONDERS TO THE TABLE

ADOPT A LIFE SAFETY MISSION

LEVERAGE OPERATIONAL CAPACITY FROM POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENTS

ENSURE OUTREACH LEADS ENGAGEMENT

TRANSLATE THE MISSION



TESTING MUST DRIVE CARE MANAGEMENT

TESTING MUST BE CONNECTED TO QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION OPTIONS

DEPLOY CLINICAL RESOURCES STRATEGICALLY



TAILOR RESULTS REPORTING

CREATE AN INTEGRATED RESULTS MANAGEMENT PLATFORM WITH OUTREACH PARTNERS

CONNECT RESULTS WITH RAPID CONTACT TRACING

COLLECT THE RIGHT INFORMATION WHEN TESTS ARE REGISTERED



TEST EARLY & TEST OFTEN

TESTING ONLY AFTER CASES ARE DETECTED IS NOT EFFECTIVE

TESTING IN CONGREGATE SETTINGS (INCLUDING ENCAMPMENTS) SHOULD BE PROACTIVE





Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs

DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT



CARES Act: Re-Housing Strategies

- To prevent the further spread of COVID-19 among people experiencing homelessness, start housing people from unsheltered locations and shelters with shared sleeping areas
- For communities that have non-congregate shelter, start housing people as they exit so they don't return to unsheltered or congregate settings
- Start planning prevention activities and focus on coordinating with the many other CARES Act resources
- Engage property owners and landlords



CARES Act: Re-Housing Strategies

- Focus resources on addressing inequities in COVID-19 response
- Make sure you have providers who are experts in underserved populations
- Track housing placement rates



Prioritize Your COVID-19 Response

- SNAPS understands your #1 priority right now is responding to COVID-19
- Don't stress about performance metrics, subrecipient monitoring, governance;
- HUD will take this extraordinary time into strong consideration for future monitoring, and the competition.
- CoCs are encouraged to be as flexible as possible when thinking through their local competition metrics.



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



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:
 - vhahcigenerall@va.gov



Q & A

