COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Office Hours:
COVID-19 Planning and Response

October 16, 2020

Housekeeping

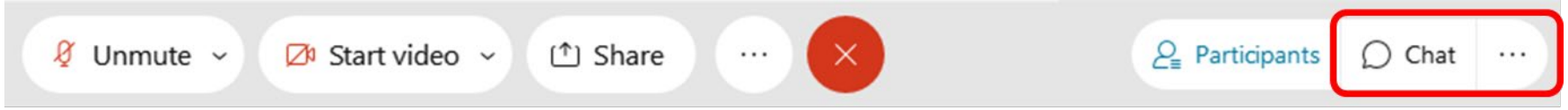
- A recording of today's session, along with the slide deck and a copy of the Chat and Q&A content will be posted to the HUD Exchange within 2-3 business days
- Event information for upcoming Office Hours, along with copies of all materials can be found here:

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

- To join the webinar via the phone, please call in using:

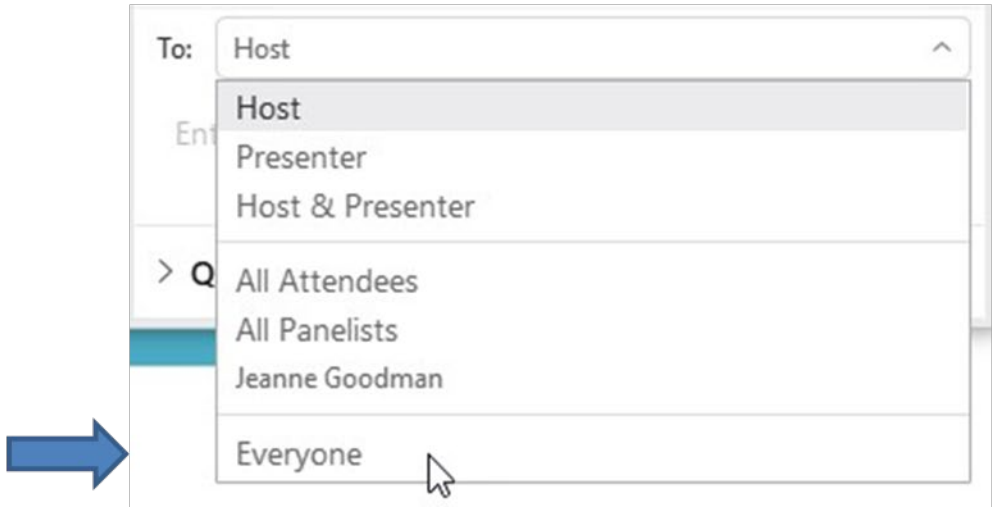
  1-855-797-9485 Access code: 171 898 8978

Chat Feature



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

Be certain the To field is set to **Everyone**



Speakers & Resource Advisors

Department of Housing and Urban Development

- Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs
  - Norm Suchar
  - Lisa Coffman
  - Brett Esders
  - Marlisa Grogan
  - Abby Miller
  - Ebony Rankin
  - William Snow
- Taylor Kiely, CPD Representative, Chicago Field Office
- Aaron Weaver, Senior CPD Representative, Chicago Field Office
- David Canavan, HUD TA, Canavan Associates

Speakers & Resource Advisors

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

- Lindsey Stillman Barranco, PhD, Homelessness Unit, Disproportionately Affected Populations Team

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

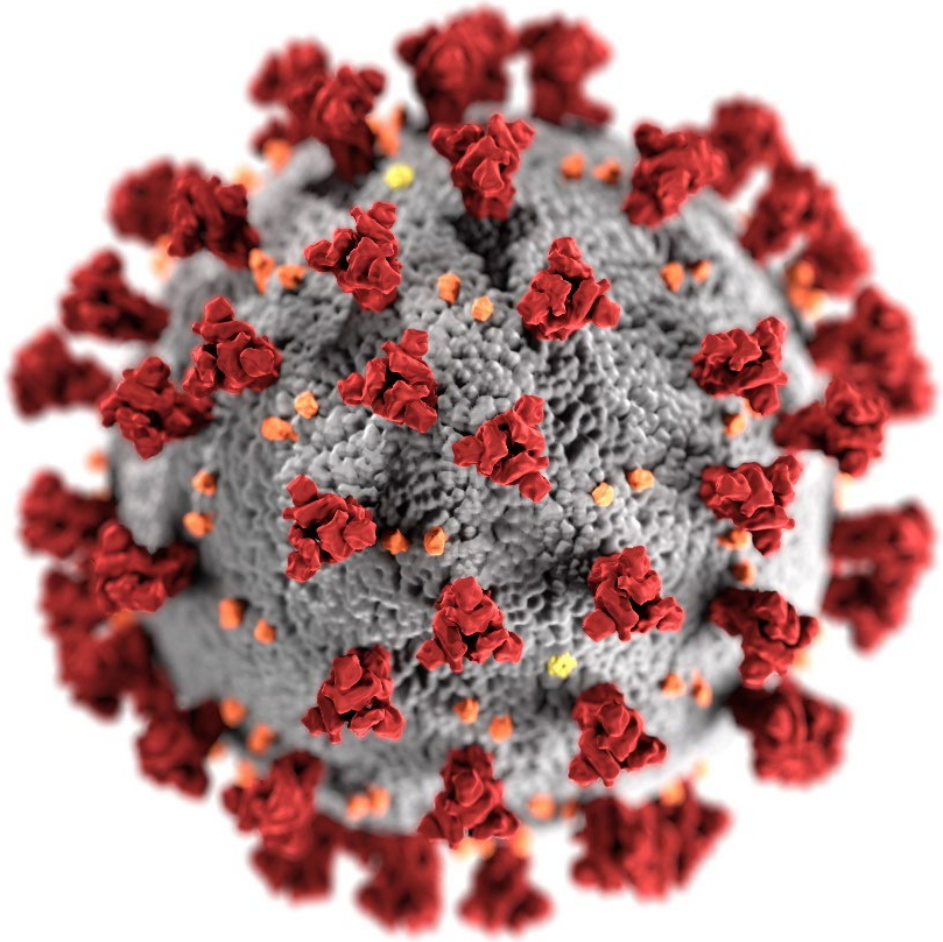
- Barbara DiPietro, PhD, Senior Director of Policy

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

COVID-19 and Homelessness

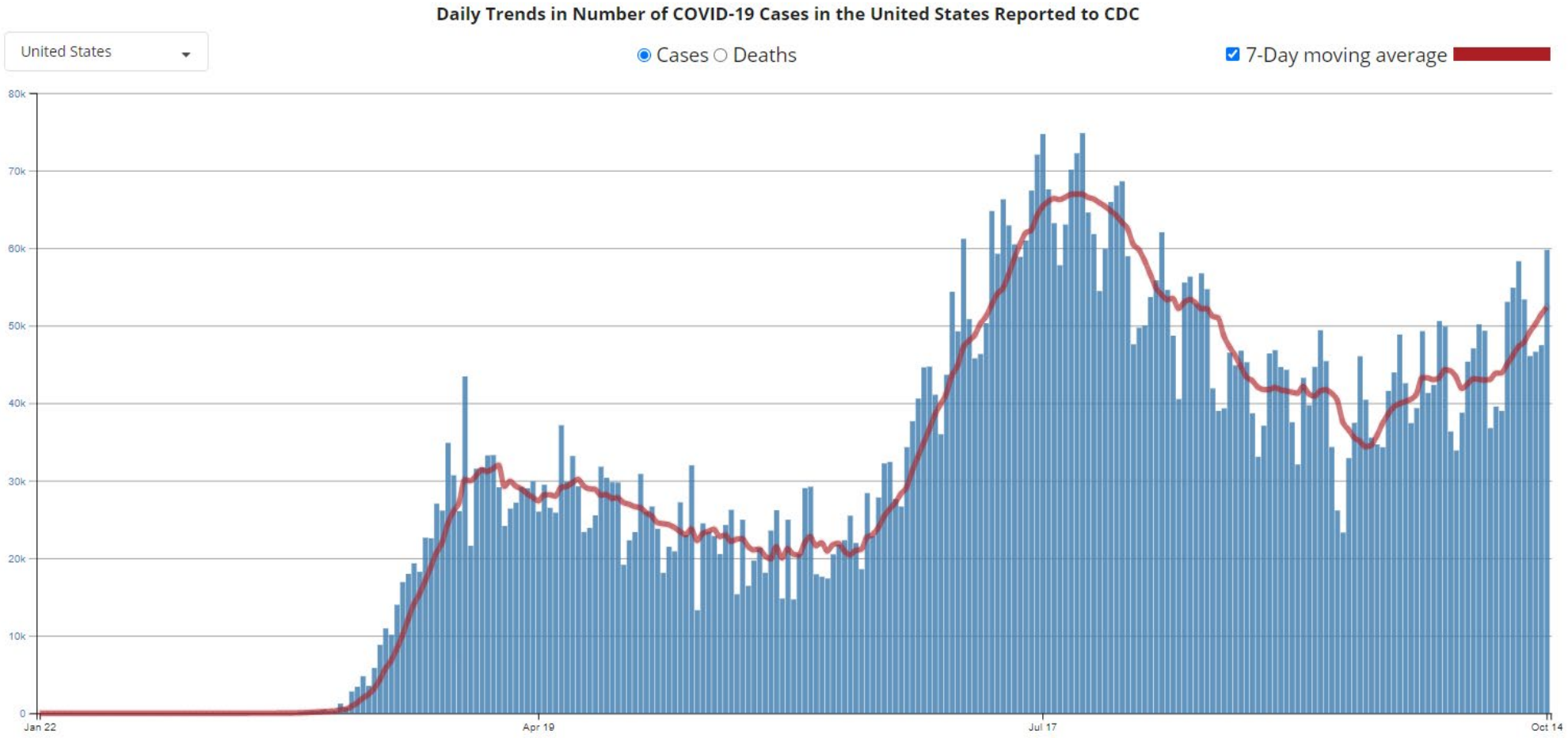
Updates



Homelessness Unit
Disproportionately Affected Populations Team
COVID-19 Response

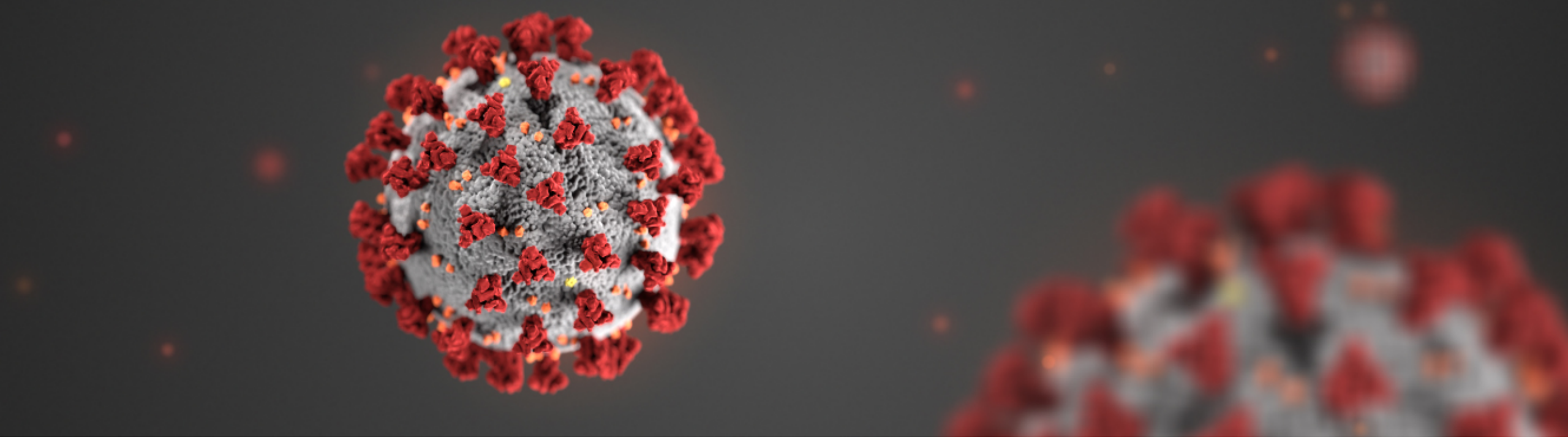
cdc.gov/coronavirus

7.9 million cases reported in the United States*



https://covid.cdc.gov/covid-data-tracker/#trends_dailytrends

*as of 10/15/20



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 TA RESOURCE SPOTLIGHT

- *WINTER PLANNING TEMPLATE*
- *ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES TO WINTER SHELTERING DURING COVID-19*
- *CREATIVE STAFFING SOLUTIONS*
- *WINTER RESPONSE ACTIVATION & COMMUNICATIONS PLAN*
- *COVID-19 PREPAREDNESS CHECKLISTS FOR SHELTERS*

Winter Emergency Planning During COVID-19

Communities are facing complex challenges this winter:

- Saving lives requires bringing people inside from the cold; if this is not done with infection control measures in place it could increase risk of COVID transmissions
- Many traditional winter sheltering sites are not available
- Beds lost due to physical distancing and increases in unsheltered homelessness could lead to greater winter shelter capacity needs
- Alternative sheltering sites must be equipped to mitigate for the spread of COVID-19

Winter Emergency Planning During COVID-19

HUD has developed a series of Winter Planning tools to support communities to design a Winter Emergency Response during the COVID pandemic, that focuses on these important steps:

1. Engaging Critical Partners
2. Designing a winter plan to meet cold weather sheltering needs
3. Putting infection control measures in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in winter shelters

1. Engaging Critical Partners

Extend the reach and effectiveness of the winter emergency response by ensuring planning tables are inclusive:

- representative of the racial makeup of the populations served by the homeless system and
- include people with lived experience of homelessness.

Partner	Role in Planning
Public Health	• Help review set up and operations at shelters to ensure public health standards are met • Determine occupancy requirements for alternative sheltering sites • Design testing strategies, set up flu clinics and coordinate PPE
Healthcare / Healthcare for the Homeless	• Create pathways to health care services for people with medical and behavioral health needs, including those living sheltered or unsheltered who need specialized services.
Emergency Management	• Can help to identify new spaces for sheltering, help plan for expansion of sites and identify alternative staffing strategies • Emergency response/outreach resources, skills and experience (local, state, or federal)
People with Lived Expertise	• Design and inform practical plans for effectively locating, engaging, and sheltering ALL PEOPLE experiencing homelessness this winter.
Outreach Providers and Behavioral Health	• Develop an approach to getting those experiencing more severe behavioral health challenges into winter shelter facilities

2. Winter Emergency Planning

Adopt a contingency planning approach, which drives collaboration with critical partners **PLAN A, B, and C**

A

Baseline Project Need

- Community can meet shelter needs with existing planning & homeless resources

B

Marginal Surge

- Demand exceeds traditional capacity
- Activation of govt and community partners to expand new spaces and staff

C

Substantial Surge

- Requires whole of government response

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Winter Planning Template

	Plan A Projected Need	Plan B Marginal Surge	Plan C Substantial Surge
Planning Assumptions	Projected needs		
Winter Overflow Beds Needed			
Facilities	Facilities designated to meet projected demand: • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* Site adaptations needed: Insurance needs:	Facilities designated to meet surge demand: • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* Site adaptations needed: Insurance needs:	Facilities designated to meet surge demand: • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* • *[Facility] [Max capacity]* Site adaptations needed: Insurance needs:
	Lead (Name/Contact):	Lead (Name/Contact):	Lead (Name/Contact):
Staffing	Operational staff plan for Plan A facilities: • *[Type] [Quantity]* • *[Type] [Quantity]* Security staff:	Operational staff plan for Plan B facilities: • *[Type] [Quantity]* • *[Type] [Quantity]* Security staff:	Operational staff plan for Plan C facilities: • *[Type] [Quantity]* • *[Type] [Quantity]* Security staff:
	Lead Name/Contact:	Lead Name/Contact:	Lead Name/Contact:
Transportation Strategy	• Vendor: • # of vehicles: • Pick-up locations and schedule: • Transport arranged through: • COVID mitigation measures needed:	• Vendor: • # of vehicles: • Pick-up locations and schedule: • Transport arranged through: • COVID mitigation measures needed:	• Vendor: • # of vehicles: • Pick-up locations and schedule: • Transport arranged through: • COVID mitigation measures needed:
	Lead Name/Contact:	Lead Name/Contact:	Lead Name/Contact:

Winter Planning Template

Facilities

- Identify alternative sheltering sites; work with public health to determine maximum capacity of each facility; prepare for site control

Staffing

- Determine client to staff ratio; consider lead operations person in charge of preparing and activating all sites

Transportation Strategy

- Develop safe transport options for moving people to/from shelters or from overcrowded shelters

Personal Protective Equipment

- Quantify needs for each facility; work with emergency management to identify sources for PPE for Plan A, B, and C.

Roles and Responsibilities

- Establish clear roles and a communications plan

Companion Resources

- Alternative Approaches to Winter Sheltering During COVID-19
- Creative Staffing Solutions
- Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Burn Rate Calculator
- Winter Response Activation and Communications Plan

Alternative Approaches to Winter Sheltering

1

COVID-19

Alternative Approaches to Winter Sheltering During COVID-19

Due to current community spread of COVID-19, local facilities normally available to prevent death from exposure for people experiencing homelessness are more limited. Houses of worship, recreation centers, and similar facilities heavily dependent on volunteers may not be options this upcoming winter season. The framework below provides a graduated approach to sheltering from life-threatening temperatures and regular seasonal weather. Coordination with local public health and emergency management partners is essential in design, resource investment, and staffing considerations:

FACILITIES/SPACES TO CONSIDER		
Good Approach Temporary or Converted Spaces	**Better Approach Semi/Congregate Shelter Spaces**	**Best Practice Approach Private Individual Rooms**
• Temporarily repurposed public spaces such as municipal service buildings, libraries, recreation centers • Community based private spaces such as faith-based sanctuaries or basements • Pop up structures such as military tents that can serve ten or more people	• Dedicated shelters such as Crisis Beds • **Medical Respite sites** • **Single Room Occupancy** (with shared bathrooms and eating areas) • Repurposed residential facilities not traditionally used for sheltering households experiencing homelessness • **Safe Havens**, private or semi-private spaces	• **Non congregate shelter** (NCS) such as hotels, motels, dorm rooms with individual bathrooms • **Isolation and Quarantine spaces** (I/Q) that offer separation for people who are sick or exposed to COVID-19

ATTRIBUTES OF THE SPACE		
Good Approach	**Better Approach**	**Best Practice Approach**
• Protects participants from inclement weather • Maintains CDC **social distancing** requirements • Cleaning regimen in place to reduce disease spread • Participants are provided a safe place to sleep and rest • Portable heating and cooling units • Primary focus is preventing death from life-threatening weather conditions	• Protects participants from inclement weather • Maintains CDC **social distancing** requirements • Cleaning regimen in place to reduce disease spread • Participants are provided a safe place to sleep, rest, and eat • Space is heated or cooled as appropriate • Overnight, daytime or 24-hour access • Provides access to sanitary, private, and operational toilets and handwashing	• Individual bedroom (walls on all sides, door) • Maintains CDC **social distancing** requirements by offering private spaces for each household • Cleaning regimen in place to reduce disease spread • Meal service/preparation can be congregate or within the room when possible • Units are heated or cooled as appropriate • Individual bathroom

resource is prepared by technical assistance providers and intended only to provide guidance. The contents of this document, except when based on statutory or regulatory authorit , do not have the force and effect of law and are not meant to bind the public in any way. This document is intended only to provide clarity to the public regarding existing requireme under the law or agency policies.

- Facilities/Spaces to Consider
- Attributes of the Space
- Programmatic Considerations
- COVID-19 Considerations
- Funding Considerations

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Temporary Emergency Shelter Funded with ESG

When unable to meet ESG habitability requirements for emergency shelter, structure or portion of a structure may be eligible or temporary emergency shelter if…	
☑	Used for response to a natural disaster or public health emergency
☑	Local public health official determined that temporary emergency shelter is necessary for community's coronavirus response
☑	In use only for the period of time needed for coronavirus response. Time limited to January 31, 2022 unless HUD grants an exception.
In general, a temporary emergency shelter must be able to meet a person's basic needs, including…	
☑	Protection from inclement weather that provides cover on all sides and overhead;
☑	Space to sleep and rest, which include sleeping accommodations (e.g., mat, cot, bed, etc.) for structures that provide overnight shelter.
☑	Access to sanitary facilities for hygiene and toileting

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

3. Preventing Spread of COVID-19

CoCs, providers, public health authorities, emergency management agencies, and local governments must work collaboratively to adhere to COVID-19 mitigation measures across all winter shelter sites by incorporating three primary strategies:

1. **Physical distancing**
2. **Mask wearing**
3. **Enhanced cleaning and disinfection**

COVID-19 Preparedness Checklists for Shelters

The Winter Planning Guide includes links to a series of checklists, which can be printed for staff or embedded in operational procedures and protocols.

- ❑ Physical Distancing, Face Coverings, and Ventilation
- ❑ Safe Sleeping Protocols
- ❑ Cleaning and Disinfecting
- ❑ Bathroom Cleaning Protocols
- ❑ Symptoms Screening for Staff and Clients
- ❑ Meal Management
- ❑ Testing

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

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

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT

COMMUNITY PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT

Q & A