

COVID-19 Shelter for Isolation & Quarantine (SIQ) for People Experiencing Homelessness

Shelter for Isolation & Quarantine (SIQ) facilities have been established by Community Shelter Board in partnership with the YMCA of Central Ohio and healthcare partners for people experiencing homelessness who are confirmed or presumed positive for COVID-19 or who have been exposed to someone confirmed positive for COVID-19. SIQ facilities provide for basic shelter, food, security, and wellness monitoring for individuals and families with COVID-19 or while being monitored for symptoms, and support individuals and families with successful next step placement upon discharge.

Screening & Referral Process

- Homeless assistance providers (e.g., shelters, street outreach) screen all individuals daily and refer those who are positive, symptomatic or exposed to a medical partner for further evaluation. Or, a medical provider (e.g., hospital ED, FQHC clinic, telehealth provider) may initially identify an individual in need of SIQ.
- Medical providers (e.g., hospitals, FQHCs) evaluate individuals to determine if positive or symptomatic for COVID-19 or if exposed to someone positive for COVID-19. Evaluation may be in-person or telephonic.

Criteria for medical provider referral for SIQ triage:

1. Homeless and without a safe, appropriate place to stay other than shelter, AND
2. Tested positive for COVID-19, OR
Has been tested for COVID-19 and is awaiting results, OR
Is symptomatic for COVID-19, OR
Has had close contact with someone who has tested positive for COVID-19, including living with or caring for someone with COVID-19, being within 6 feet for 10 minutes or longer, or being in direct contact with secretions from a person with COVID-19 (e.g., being coughed on).

- Medical providers call the Homeless Hotline on behalf of patients who meet the above criteria, with patient consent.

HOMELESS HOTLINE: 614-274-7000

- Homeless Hotline staff confirm need and eligibility for SIQ prior to SIQ referral.
- Medical providers share information confirming medical need for SIQ and other medical issues to inform SIQ triage or connection to other appropriate assistance.
- Ask patient to wait for next-step instructions.
- Patients may require review by the SIQ Triage Team staffed by OhioHealth medical advisors. Triage Team meets daily.
- Patient receives same-day instructions from Homeless Hotline.
- Homeless Hotline coordinates transportation to SIQ or provide other next step instructions.

For questions regarding this protocol, please contact Erin Maus, Community Shelter Board at emaus@csb.org.