

# Meeting Minutes

## COVID19 Homeless System Command Group

Friday, March 13, 2020

9:00am

### Participants

- CSB
- CSB Partner Key Management/Decision-Making Staff
- Public Health and Health Care Providers

### Group Purpose

- To provide facilitate ongoing communication, coordination, and decision-making concerning COVID-19 among homeless assistance and health care providers.
- Actively working with partners to determine appropriate responses to those that are homeless or utilizing homeless service to receive screening or health related assistance. We are currently working on a protocol but do not have something in place yet.
- County emergency management agency has activated their emergency center and we will be kept informed of what is happening there. We want to ensure we are all working together with a community wide response.

### Homeless System Preparation with Health Care Partners

- ***3/18/2020, 10:30a-12:30a: Homeless System COVID-19 Response Planning Meeting @ Columbus Public Health***
- Planning session next Wednesday. We want to keep this meeting to 35 attendees or less. ***Only 1-2 representatives from each agency that have decision making authority.*** This meeting will not only be about assisting those that are symptomatic but also de-concentrate people in shelters in create more space. We will need to look at system-wide protocols, operations, facilities, supplies, staffing, etc.

### Current Program Plans/Responses

- NetCare is screening everyone on crisis line (not homeless hotline yet) (i.e., have been out of the country, have been exposed, are symptomatic) but are still working on where to send callers that meet any of these criteria. The hospitals are not prepared to accept that volume of people. Hotline screening is on hold until community health screening, responses are in place.
- CSB will not mandate limits on visitors at PSH. However, it is suggested for each program to look at released guidance to see what is recommended for different types of settings.

### Highlights

- Faith Mission: screening protocol leveraging on site FQHC staff. Thoughtful facility cleaning checklist and schedule. CSB will share with partners per LSS approval.
- Maryhaven: Using a temporary staffing agency for contingent staff in case of staffing shortage

- YMCA: Distributing fanny packs for all shelter staff for universal precautions. Switching to paper products when serving food. Kits for PSH clients that might be self-quarantined.
- Creating rooms for isolating clients.

### Questions/Common Issues

- Reporting: State wide infectious disease reporting system for all suspected or confirmed COVID19 cases ([www.idrsinfo.org](http://www.idrsinfo.org)) Unsure if a call should be made to the Columbus Public Health reporting line as well. *If you are reporting to IDRS, CSB must also be provided a major/unusual incident report (send to Erin Maus).*
- Cleaning and sanitation: Encourage programs to review Faith Mission's cleaning protocol. High touch areas must be wiped down several times per day.
- Staffing and volunteer contingencies: Plan for situations if staff and/or volunteers are not available to keep the program running. Consider who are essential staff positions that must be covered.
- Supplies: For programs that are having difficulties obtaining supplies through normal distributors. Please notify CSB of any unmet needs.
- Medical response: Some partners have on site medical staff, other programs do not. We are hoping to be able to provide some additional options as community responses, health systems are ready. Please try to leverage your internal resources when possible. Mount Carmel medical team is mobile and willing to assist when needed. Can contact the medical team at 614-546-4240
- Meal distribution: Sanitation and food preparation services. Encourage each program to look at state wide guidance on food preparation when finalizing plans.

### Other Updates

- NetCare is ready to respond with crisis response services if needed to respond to the mental health needs of any associated trauma related to illness and deaths.
- CSB is considering the needs of non-shelter providers who typically go into shelter (i.e. RRH);
- Libraries and other community locations are closing. We need to consider policies related to individuals and families' requirements to leave shelter facilities during the day. However, we also want to be mindful of keeping a large number of people in close proximity.
- If you have questions or concerns or need additional guidance, please route questions through CSB as we are in close communication with the health department. We want to make sure we are not overwhelming them.