

Weekly Virtual Meeting Purpose: To convene homeless service providers to discuss how All Chicago can partner with agencies during the COVID-19 response; to get information from providers about struggles and questions; and to provide a high-level summary of the guidance we've received thus far from various sources.

Webinar Take-Aways

- **CARES Act Overview Presented by Chicago Coalition for the Homeless**
 - \$12 billion for HUD programs nationally. See slides and recording for details of \$\$ amounts expected for Chicago, Cook County and/or Illinois, for ESG, CDBG and HOPWA.
 - **Medicaid Wavier:** Illinois has requested to use Medicaid funding to cover housing during the quarantine period for people experiencing homelessness. If wavier is approved, the state oversees implementation.
 - Audience question: could this funding be used by agencies that do not bill Medicaid?
 - Watch out on All Chicago's [FAQ](#) and [Slack channel](#) for information on this inquiry.
 - **Payback Protection Loan:** Nonprofits have the option of applying for a loan to apply for a paycheck protection loan. Loans are forgivable if criteria are met, including keeping staff on payroll from 4/1-6/30. Applications are open, agencies are encouraged to apply quickly.
 - More information is available from the [National Council of Nonprofits](#).
 - **The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (CCH)** proposes that the money the city receives for homelessness through the CARES Act gets spent largely on quarantine/isolation (Q/I) housing for the most vulnerable.
 - Rather than using hotels that will be temporary, that Q/I should be in the form of bridge/RRH units, with the goal of advocating to secure the funding to make that housing permanent.
 - CCH will advocate that this approach provides better protection against COVID-19, is more cost effective, and creates opportunities for longer term solutions for people experiencing homelessness.
- **Chicago COVID-19 Homeless System Agency Emergency Fund**
 - Go to the [webpage](#) for information on the Homeless System Agency Emergency Fund administered by All Chicago
 - Round 1 funding notifications will be sent during the week of April 13th with Round 2 information forthcoming.
 - Advisory committee assisting with guidelines to aid decision making.
- **DFSS Updates**
 - 311 is taking referrals, the majority of new referral will be routed to temporary shelter facilities. For shelter, call 311. Do not send clients to hospitals or police stations.
 - Transportation is provided but at a reduced capacity. Places to wait are at any DFSS Community Service Center.
 - An isolation facility has opened those who have tested positive for COVID-19 and have behavioral health needs. Referrals are from the hospitals.

- Asking shelters to report when they have two or more confirmed or suspected cases of COVID-19 among residents and/or staff using the [Case Report Form](#).
- Shelters received delivery of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) on Friday. PPE was prioritized for the crisis response system that delivers services in a congregate setting.
- **Chicago Housing Authority (CHA)**
 - CHA is not currently contemplating use of unoccupied CHA units for temporary or isolation housing. According to CHA statements, most unoccupied units are either reserved for applicants or redevelopment and are not habitable.
 - CHA has issued communication for rent deferral until the stay at home order is lifted. However, residents *will* be responsible for April and any subsequent month that the order is in place.
- **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)**
 - Some agencies providing COVID-19 emergency response services, such as day shelters, might be eligible for a FEMA administered Public Assistance Program. Expenses covered must not be duplicative of another federally funded program. Details at [this webpage](#).
- **All Chicago Updates**
 - DFSS and All Chicago are combining webinars. Beginning April 10th, the webinars are moving to Fridays at 1:00 pm.
 - All Chicago hosted a Q/A webinar about the HUD waivers released on April 1, 2020.
 - All Chicago hosted the Westside Homeless COVID-19 Response Group. [Click here for a recording of the webinar](#).
 - All Chicago made updates to the Chicago CoC Slack channel. [Click here to join](#) and see the changes.