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The webinar will begin shortly

COVID-19 Update

Homeless Services Division & Continuum of Care

Presented by All Chicago, DFSS and CDPH

Connecting our Partners with Information to Stay Healthy

Housekeeping

- Everyone is muted.
- Please submit questions via the questions tool.
- Please use the questions pane to notify us of any technical issues.
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Agenda

- CDPH & DFSS COVID-19 Status and Response Updates
- Point-in-Time (PIT) Count and Housing Inventory Count (HIC)
- Expedited Housing Initiative (EHI) Updates
- **CoC Announcements**

Webinar Schedule

- The next COVID-19 Webinar is **Friday, February 5, 2021.**
- For updates on the next monthly joint webinar make sure to register here:
<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/3043654203873786891>

COVID-19 Chicago CoC Webinar

This webinar meets 5 times.

Fri, Aug 21, 2020 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM CDT

Add to Calendar ▾

At the time above, [join the webinar.](#)

Before joining, be sure to [check system requirements](#) to avoid a

A confirmation email with information on how to join the webinar

Questions or Comments? Contact: hmis@allchicago.org

To Cancel this Registration

You may [cancel your registration](#) at any time.

COVID-19 STATUS AND RESPONSE UPDATES

Vaccines are coming soon!

- COVID-19 vaccines are likely to be available to shelter staff and residents in the coming weeks and months
- Vaccines will be available free of charge, and many will be delivered on site at your facility. The COVID-19 vaccine is a quick, simple, small injection into the arm. Everyone needs two doses of a COVID-19 vaccine to be fully protected.
- The vaccines are safe, effective, and have been approved by the FDA and CDC. Healthcare workers like doctors and nurses are already receiving the COVID-19 vaccine.
- The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines, which are currently being used in Chicago, are 95% effective at preventing illness from COVID-19
- Getting vaccinated (as well as staying 6 feet from others where possible, wearing a mask and washing your hands) is a key step in getting shelters "back to normal".

Vaccine Distribution Plans

- **There is not a specific date or set number of vaccines to share at this time.**
 - Vaccine supply is dictated at the federal level
 - IDPH/CDPH will announce vaccine updates via the HAN alerts, [sign up here](#).
- Your shelter will be asked for information about your current census in the days leading up to vaccine administration; this can help streamline documentation
- DFSS will also be gathering contact info from outreach teams
- Dates and details on when your shelter will be receiving the vaccine are forthcoming.

Please be patient as CDPH awaits guidance at the federal and state level to determine next steps.

Filling Out the Congregate Settings Survey

- Please fill out the CDPH survey for Congregate Settings if you have not already.
 - <https://redcap.link/CongregateFacilitiesSurvey>
- Complete one survey for EACH site
- Our plan is to vaccinate shelter staff (this includes contractors, or non-agency staff who come into regular contact with shelter guests) and GUESTS at the same time
- This information helps CDPH plan vaccination education and administration efforts
- If you have questions about completing this, please email Mary.Schroeter@cityofchicago.org

Vaccine Education Efforts

- Lawndale and Heartland are available to help with education in shelters on the importance of getting the COVID-19 vaccine and answering questions from staff and residents
- Additionally, CDPH has made materials publicly available.
 - <https://www.chicago.gov/city/en/sites/covid19-vaccine/home/downloads.html>
 - Facebook Live Q&As - https://www.facebook.com/ChicagoMayorsOffice/live_videos

Vaccine Q&A with CDPH

- Dr. Jessica Herrick from CDPH will be answering your questions on the COVID-19 vaccine
 - When can we expect guidance on whether a pregnant person should be vaccinated?
 - Will shelter staff and clients be able to be vaccinated on-site?
 - Will there be several opportunities for vaccination, since shelter clientele turns over in just a few days/weeks? And for people who decide later they're willing to be vaccinated?
 - Is there a difference between the Pfizer and the Moderna vaccine (such that people with certain sensitivities should get the one rather than the other)?
 - If someone "misses" the second dose, for how long should they be encouraged to try to get it--2 months later, six months later, as long as it takes?
 - I saw that shelter staff are in 1B. Are people experiencing homelessness also in 1B?
 - Will people be required to show identification when getting the vaccine, and if so, what type? Also, will undocumented immigrants be at any risk by providing that information or going to medical facilities to get the vaccine?
 - Once I have gotten vaccinated, what impact will that have on my / my clients' ability to travel to hot spots and quarantine when I / they return?
 - How will semi-congregate settings like transitional housing be considered alongside more traditional, barracks-style congregate shelters?

Shelter Based Service Team (SBST) Reminder

- The COVID-19 pandemic has shed a brighter light on the inequities in health resources for people experiencing homelessness, though these inequities predated COVID-19 and contributed to unacceptably disparate health outcomes.
- SBSTs are meant to create the infrastructure to deliver much-needed primary care, behavioral health, and infection control services in shelters.
- You should be connected to your Lead Coordinating Organization that oversees the SBSTs: Lawndale Christian Health Center or Heartland Health Alliance

Heartland Alliance Health

Email: sheltercare@heartlandalliance.org

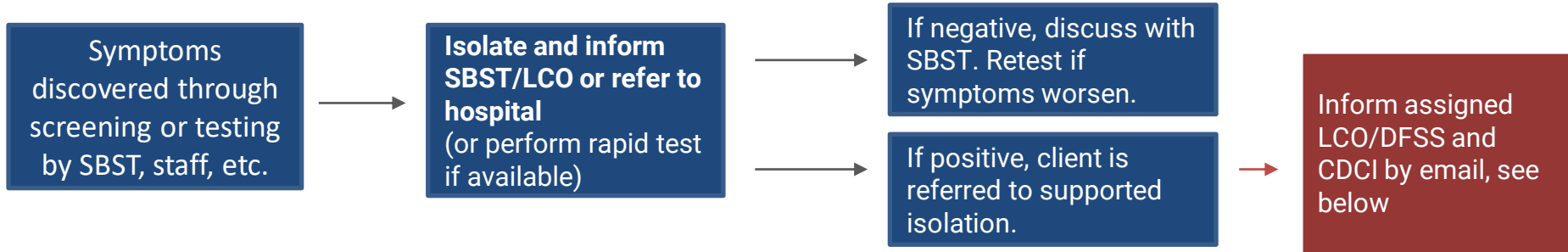
Phone: 312-735-9080

Lawndale Christian Health Center

Email: sheltercare@lawndale.org

Phone: 872-588-3306

What happens when a shelter guest or staff member is symptomatic?



Org	Contact Information	
LCO (SBSTs)	Heartland Alliance Health sheltercare@heartlandalliance.org	Lawndale Christian Health Center sheltercare@lawndale.org
CDCI (CDPH)	Divya Ramachandran divya.ramachandran@cityofchicago.org	Andrew Weidemiller andrew.weidemiller@cityofchicago.org
DFSS	dfss-homeless@cityofchicago.org	

Supported Isolation Update

An advertisement for A Safe Haven. The background is a photograph of a family of four (two adults and two children) standing in a grassy park with large trees, their arms raised in a celebratory gesture. The image has a greenish-yellow tint. In the top left corner is the A Safe Haven logo, which consists of a house icon inside a circle, followed by the text "ASAFEHAVEN®" and "Housing is Healthcare®" below it. In the top right corner is the website address "www.ASafeHaven.org". In the bottom left corner, the text "Covid-19 Positive?" is written in a large, bold, white font, with "GET HELP!" in a smaller, bold, white font below it. At the bottom of the advertisement, there is a red banner with white text that reads: "Are you or your family diagnosed Covid-19 positive and concerned about infecting others? WE CAN HELP! CALL (847) 773-7931".

ASAFEHAVEN®
Housing is Healthcare®

www.ASafeHaven.org

Covid-19 Positive?
GET HELP!

Are you or your family diagnosed Covid-19 positive and concerned about infecting others?
WE CAN HELP! CALL (847) 773-7931

We will continue to provide supported isolation through our partnership with A Safe Haven.

Currently, the City does not have plans to move supported isolation to a new location.

DFSS Led Comprehensive Outreach Response

- **Testing support with outreach teams**
 - Rapid testing available for symptomatic residents encountered on the street through The Night Ministry.
 - The DFSS mobile unit with Heartland Alliance Health medical services continues to offer COVID testing at encampment sites across the city on a recurring basis.
 - Widespread testing to be coordinated in response to any outbreaks in coordination with CDPH, UI Health, and Rush University.
- **Continued city-wide canvassing and outreach, including on the CTA**
 - Screening for COVID-19 symptoms/risk factors and providing face masks, hand sanitizer, water and food
 - Expedited procedure for outreach teams to connect clients to shelter through Catholic Charities
 - Maintaining hand-washing stations and Porta-Potties at encampments
 - Outreach during day and overnight hours
- Building on the success on the first **Accelerated Moving Event** for unsheltered individuals, the DFSS HOP team and outreach partners are working with the Expedited Housing Initiative team on a second AME for the people experiencing unsheltered homelessness.

DFSS Continues to Support a Decompressed Shelter System

- Shelters will continue to operate at reduced bed capacity to allow for social distancing.
 - The City and partners continue operation of 400 beds through alternate shelters at Calumet High School and Young Women's Leadership Academy through March 2021
- Overnight shelters serving adults and youth continue to operate 24/7

Shelter Bed Capacity Update

Update on strategies to restore bed capacity:

- DFSS is working with shelters to identify and support opportunities to safely restore bed capacity lost due to decompression either on site or at alternate facilities:
 - Lincoln Park Community Services – 16 beds for men and women
 - Sarah's Circle – 20 beds for women
 - North Side – 22 beds for men
 - Two domestic violence shelter partners – up to 64 beds through hotel vouchers for survivors of domestic violence
- DFSS is funding the **Expedited Housing Initiative** to rapidly move clients to housing and speed flow through the shelter system

Reminder: Our shelter system is operating close to capacity. It is critical that shelters clearly communicate shelter bed availability to The Salvation Army and communicate any anticipated changes to bed capacity to DFSS well in advance.

Shelter Placement Announcement



- Management of shelter referral and transportation transitioned from Catholic Charities to The Salvation Army on January 1, 2021.
- Key points step shelters can take to ensure efficient shelter placement
 - Make sure all shelter staff answering the phones are informed of bed occupancy and can articulate bed availability clearly.
 - Shelters are expected to accept referrals 24/7, including weekends. Please make sure someone is available to answer the phone and accept intakes at all times.
 - Reminder for Family Shelters: The number of family members needing to be placed does not have to fit exactly the number of beds you have available. For example, a family of 4 can be placed in a room that has 5 beds.

POINT-IN-TIME COUNT AND HOUSING INVENTORY COUNT

2021 Point-in-Time (PIT) Count

- The Point-in-Time (PIT) Count is an annual "snapshot" of people experiencing homelessness on one night of the year. The PIT Count is used to inform service and resource planning, seek funds to assist people experiencing homelessness, build public awareness of homelessness, and track trends over time.
- Completing this annual census remains a priority. Our approach has changed this year to:
 - Reduce risk of spread of COVID-19
 - Adjust for limited capacity of the CoC community and City agencies
 - Reflect updated guidance from HUD
- 2021 PIT Count Approach
 - **Sheltered count** – All Chicagoans residing in shelter on the night of **January 26, 2021** will be counted in the sheltered count. Data will be collected online.
 - **Unsheltered Count** – Will be conducted by trained outreach staff only, cover a sampling of areas, and take place over several days from January 27-29, 2021.
 - **Supplemental Youth Count** – Will be included in the above methodology for the unsheltered count.

The Sheltered PIT Count Training webinar is coming up on Tuesday, January 19! Please email dfss-homeless@cityofchicago.org if your shelter program did not receive an email to register.

Housing Inventory Count → Deadline: Feb 2, 2021

- The HIC gathers important information to reflect Chicago's system of beds and units available for homeless individuals and families within the City of Chicago. The HIC counts all beds and units dedicated to homelessness in each program, regardless of the funding source.
- Your participation is vital for Chicago to receive an accurate count of its housing inventory, which determines funding for the city!
- A recording of the 2021 Pre-HIC and HIC processes webinar is [available for review here](#) and you can [view the slides here](#).
- Questions can be emailed to cocprograms@allchicago.org.

Housing Inventory Count → Deadline: Feb 2, 2021

The HIC has two phases. Each project in the system must participate in both phases, regardless of funding source.

- Phase 1: The Pre-HIC opened December 23, 2020. Providers can confirm information about their projects at their convenience until the process closes. The Pre-HIC focuses on HUD type, funding, the number of beds, units, and dedicated beds, and several other data elements including HMIS participation.
- Phase 2: The HIC will open on January 26, 2021. Your agency will provide occupancy information on your projects on the night of January 26.

Both processes close on February 2, 2021.

EXPEDITED HOUSING INITIATIVE (EHI) UPDATES

EHI Goals

- EHI is a CoC response to COVID-19 that aims to house more people more quickly than ever before.
- The City of Chicago and private funders have invested over \$35 million to support the effort to house 2,550 people.
- EHI uses various components and partner agencies throughout the CoC to achieve this goal, including:
 - Accelerated Moving Events
 - Chicago Rents (Centralized Landlord Outreach and Engagement)
 - Connection to Housing and Services

EHI Numbers

AME Location (Date of AME)	Engaged in AME*	Applied for Unit	Moved in
YWLA (10/20)	67	61	44
Franciscan (11/4)	39	32	20
Calumet (11/17)	83	69	38
Encampments (12/2)	45	36	15
Matthew House (12/15-12/17)	59	58	8
The Night Ministry (1/5-1/9)	21	21	0
Cornerstone (1/11-1/13)			
Total to date	314	277	125

*Households are connected to housing through Accelerated Moving Events (AMEs) which are held at shelters, drop-in centers, or encampments prioritized to house those at highest risk from COVID-19.

AME Schedule

Start of Week	AME Location Type	AME Location
18-Jan	Shelter	The Boulevard
18-Jan	Shelter	Olive Branch
25-Jan	Shelter	Calumet
8-Feb	Encampment	DFSS Outreach
8-Feb	Drop-In/Shelter	Northside Housing
8-Feb	Drop-In/Shelter	Sarah's Circle

View the updated AME schedule and AME selection criteria on our website: <https://allchicago.org/ehi>

EHI System Wide Accountability

- April 15, 2020 – CoC Board passed a policy requiring providers to continue to house people and eliminate barriers to housing.
- All Chicago developed an accountability plan with community input to set expectation of providers to adhere to the policy and the framework to hold them accountable. This accountability plan began on Monday, May 4.

EHI System Wide Accountability

- The following data is being used to monitor adherence to expedited housing expectations and verify that projects are taking all possible measures to place participants into permanent and transitional housing:
 - Bed utilization rates
 - Need status timeliness standard (see Housing Provider Interim Contact Protocols)
 - Time from match to housing
 - Openings without match requests

EHI Guide to Data Monitoring and HMIS Reports

- This guide is posted on All Chicago's Website.
- ATAs at Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Re-housing and Youth Transitional Housing projects receive reports under this plan. These reports are to assist in self-monitoring.
- Project should notify All Chicago regarding errors in these reports through the HMIS Help Desk → helpdesk@allchicago.org.
- Please note that any incorrect data will be updated with the correct data in the records All Chicago collects for system level monitoring.

Upcoming Webinar on Accountability Plan

- All Chicago has scheduled a webinar to train agency staff on how to look at project-level data and compare it to system level performance and expectations.
- [Registration required](#) for the “Accountability Plan Data Monitoring” webinar on January 27, 10:00-11:00am.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HMIS Vendor Change Coming in April, 2021

- In December 2021, the CoC Board unanimously passed a motion to direct All Chicago to select a new vendor for HMIS effective May 1, 2021.
- All Chicago is working on finalizing the contract with the new vendor, Bit Focus, and will then begin sharing with the community the timeline for roll out including design sessions by project type (e.g., shelters coming together, versus PSH).
- The transition will occur by the end of April 2021, which is when the current contract ends.

HUD CoC NOFA Update

- The Emergency COVID-19 Relief Package that was signed into law on December 27, 2020 includes an important provision regarding Continuum of Care funding under the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Under this law, HUD CoC projects expiring during calendar year 2021 will renew for one 12-month period without a competition.
- There may be an opportunity for new funding as well. As soon as we know more, we will share with the CoC via email.

CoC Draft Research Agenda

- All Chicago is seeking input from the community on the draft [Chicago CoC Research Agenda](#), which describes the research topics most important to our CoC and the values and expectations the CoC will apply when selecting research partners.
- To provide your feedback on the draft Research Agenda, please fill out [this survey](#) by **5:00 pm on Monday, January 25, 2021**.

2021 CoC IS Update

- The CoC Implementation Structure (or CoC IS) brings together the CoC Membership, Lines of Action, Affinity Groups and People with Lived Homeless Experience to work together toward 5 key system goals.
- The CoC Board will be voting on the 2021 CoC IS at their February meeting.
- Read the draft 2021 CoC IS guide [here](#).
- A draft of the transition plan can be found [here](#) and responses to the public comments about the proposed 2021 CoC IS are [here](#).

Chicago CoC Slack Channel

Join the [Chicago CoC Slack](#) Channel!

- The webinar summary, slides, and recording of this webinar will be available on the **Chicago CoC Slack Channel** on Monday
- The materials are posted to the #webinar-summaries channel
- Explore other channels
 - CoC Board Summaries
 - Provider Q&A
 - Resources and more!
- All Chicago will be communicating important updates on slack in 2021

Chicago Rents

As we call on our community to connect with property owners and collaborate within the homeless system, we are asking our Continuum to continue identifying improvements to house people more quickly than ever before.

- Join Chicago Rents by [completing this survey and sharing your unit availability](#), or send the survey to your contacts that may have available units in Chicago.
- Contact Chicago Rents at ChicagoRents@allchicago.org with any questions.

Questions?

- Please make sure these **communications are circulated to all relevant staff** in your organization, so they have the latest information.
- The webinar slides and recording of this webinar will be available on the All Chicago [coronavirus resource page](#) on Monday.
- Please **keep DFSS informed** about any staffing shortages, changes in bed availability, and suspected or confirmed COVID cases, and issues/concerns via the DFSS-Homeless@cityofchicago.org email.
- For questions on the CoC or All Chicago please contact CoCprograms@allchicago.org.

Share quick feedback!

[Please share feedback on today's webinar!](#)

THANK YOU!