HOMELESSNESS DURING
COVID-19 in San Diego County

Weekly Update

September 1, 2020

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Happy Tuesday!

Please see below for details on the telebriefing and important weekly updates. For more information regarding the Homeless Sector, visit our website.

TELEBRIEFING INFORMATION

When: 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month

September Telebriefings will be held on September 11th and September 25th.

Time: 11:30AM-12:30PM

Link: **https://zoom.us/j/698863520**

Call: 1 (669) 900-6833

Meeting ID: 698 863 520

Click here to submit your questions 24 hours before the telebriefing!

TELEBRIEFING RECAP

During our telebriefing on August 28th, we reflected on the [Results from the Feedback Form](#). Our Homeless Sector team members, Evan Hodges and Lori Jones, reviewed the results in hopes of informing our future actions. We heard your feedback - we will continue to send weekly Homeless Sector Update emails. Additionally, special thanks to Matt Heffernan who provided updates on the new Telehealth Provider to Access Temporary Lodging program.

Thank you to everyone who attended our August 28th telebriefing! We look forward to seeing you again on September 11th.

Last Week's Presentation and Resources

New Telehealth Provider to Access Temporary Lodging

A new contracted telehealth service has been developed that will make it easier for Homeless Outreach Workers to place individuals in isolation/quarantine, should they need it.

If a team on the ground runs into someone displaying symptoms, they just need to call the Temporary Lodging Line **(858-715-2350)** and from there, they will be connected with the telehealth provider for an assessment. This is for instances when our Public Health Nurses are not immediately available to the team, but when they are working with a Homeless Outreach Team, they can still refer to the Temporary Lodging Line following their assessment.

For any questions, please reach out to Matt Heffernan at [Matt.Heffernan@sdcounty.ca.gov.](mailto:Matt.Heffernan@sdcounty.ca.gov)

Temporary Lodging Program

The County of San Diego has a Temporary Lodging Program for individuals affected by COVID-19 who do not have a place to safely quarantine or isolate.

Individuals may qualify for the program if they:

- Need to isolate - have been confirmed or are suspected of having COVID-19, **OR**

- Need to quarantine - have been identified as a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19;

- **AND** are able to function independently.

Please **click here** for more information on the Temporary Lodging Program in English and Spanish.

Polling Question Responses

Polling Question 1: What is your preferred frequency for email updates?

Polling Question 2: What content is most important to your work in the email updates?

Polling Question 3: What is your preferred frequency for telebriefings?

Polling Question 4: What would be the most useful telebriefing focus topics for your work?

PUBLIC HEALTH GUIDANCE

Public Health Order Updates

View the latest guidance for COVID-19 the order of the Health Officer and emergency regulations. **(Effective September 1, 2020)**

- **Amended Section 8:**

  o Face coverings shall be worn as described and required in California Department of Public Health Face Covering Guidance issued on June 18, 2020, (available here).

- **Amended Section 11:**

  o **11a:** "Reopened business" is a business that is not an essential business as defined in section 10a, and has reopened in

conformance with the State of California's Plan for Reducing COVID-19 and Adjusting Permitted Sector Activities to Keep Californians Healthy and Safe (available here). Statewide Public Health Officer Order, issued by the California Department of Health Services on August 28, 2020, all portions of which are operative in San Diego County

Page 4 of 10 ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER AND EMERGENCY REGULATIONS effective immediately (available here).

- **11b:** The State of California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy establishes a four tier system for reopening business sectors. Those business sectors listed in the "Substantial/Tier2" column of the Activities and Business Tiers chart are allowed to reopen under the conditions set forth in the chart.

  - i. Every business in the following sectors listed in the Activities and Business Tiers shall require all customers who receive services indoors or use indoor facilities to sign in with their name and telephone number:

    - 1. Hair Salons & Barbershops

    - 2. Personal Care Services

    - 3. Gyms & Fitness Centers

    - 4. Restaurants, Wineries, Bars, Breweries, and Distilleries (where meal is provided) as required in section g below.

- **11g:** All restaurants, bars, wineries, distilleries and breweries which are allowed to provide indoor service pursuant to the State of California Dine-in Restaurant Guidance shall comply with the following additional requirements applicable only to persons dining indoors:

  - i. Limiting persons sitting at a table to members of the same household is strongly encouraged.

  - ii. The restaurant shall obtain the name of each guest seated at a table and the telephone number of at least one guest and shall maintain the list of names and telephone numbers for three weeks.

  - iii. Guests will be required to wear face coverings at all times while in the facility, including when seated at a table before the meal is served and after the meal is finished.

- **Amended Section 15:**

  - **15 iv:** A religious service or cultural ceremony including a wedding ceremony which is allowed provided the State Guidance on Places of Worship and Providers of Religious Services and Cultural

Ceremonies is followed. However a wedding reception is a gathering and is not allowed.

- o **15 v:** Outdoor protests in which participants maintain social distancing and wear face coverings at all times.

Reopening Webpage

On August 28th, the County of San Diego COVID-19 media briefing announced, per the governor of California, effective **August 31, 2020**: The following Businesses may operate with modifications & updated Safe Reopening Plan.

- **Indoors with modifications, max of 25% capacity or 100 people, whichever is less:**
  - o Restaurants - dine in
  - o Places of worship
  - o Movie theaters
  - o Museums

- **Indoors with modifications, max 10% capacity:**
  - o Gyms and fitness centers

- **Indoors with modifications:**
  - o Hair salons and barbershops
  - o Nail salons

Please visit the County of San Diego's Safe Reopening Webpage for information regarding businesses and activities.

The Blueprint for a Safer Economy

On August 28th, the Governor announced The Blueprint for a Safer Economy.

The blueprint replaces the State Monitoring list for reducing COVID-19 in the state with revised criteria for loosening & tightening restrictions on activities. The focus will now be on case rates and positive tests. County of San Diego is currently in Tier 2 (Substantial).

<u>Click here</u> for additional information on this new blueprint & for the status of activities in our county effective Aug. 31.

DATA

Updated Data on People Experiencing Homelessness

On Fridays, the County provides statistics specifically related to people who are experiencing homelessness.

<u>Click here</u> to view the data shared **August 28, 2020**.

Coronavirus Triggers Dashboard

Please visit the <u>County of San Diego's Dashboard Website</u> to see the 13 trigger points for modifying the Public Health Order.

Data can be visualized and tracked in real time on the <u>interactive web-based dashboard</u>.

The County of San Diego publishes a <u>Weekly Surveillance Report</u> on the <u>www.coronavirus-sd.com</u> website called "COVID-19 Watch". <u>Click here</u> to register and receive the weekly Tuesday updates.

RESOURCES

New Web Page on How to Select, Wear, and Clean Your Mask

The CDC has developed a new webpage on how to select, wear, and clear your mask. Making a decision about selecting a mask can be confusing. <u>This new web page</u> provides tips on how to choose your masks.

DO choose masks that

Have two or more layers of washable, breathable fabric

Completely cover your nose and mouth

Fit snugly against the sides of your face and don't have gaps

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COVID-19 e Toolkit

Help us reach our community broadly by sharing COVID-19 prevention messages with your family, friends, customers, networks, and constituents! The County of San Diego has prepared sample video and artwork assets for you to use.

Click here for more information on the COVID-19 eToolkit Resources webpage.

Homeless Specific Budget Updates

County of San Diego News Article:

San Diego County Adopts New Budget

- New funding sets aside $5.4 million to help the homeless at the San Diego Convention Center continue receiving on-site care after they move to new housing accommodations.

- Another $15 million will pay for technology needs to support behavioral health services, including: telehealth, electronic health record upgrades, outreach and engagement, workforce recruitment and retention.

- A $3 million increase will help address homelessness among youth up to the age of 24, with a focus on youth transitioning from foster care and young parents experiencing homelessness.

  - The Sheriff's Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART) will see a $2.6 million increase to expand its program.

- A $23.7 million increase will address homelessness in the unincorporated area and another $0.4 million will be used to develop a Flexible Housing Subsidy Pool in collaboration with the Regional Task Force on the Homeless to help move those experiencing homelessness into permanent housing.

Economic Impact Payment

In an effort to help as many low-income residents as possible, the IRS is doing outreach to non-filers of tax returns who may be eligible for $1200 or more.

Please click on the following links for more information:

- Non-Filers Tool Information - English

- Non-Filers Tool Information - Spanish

- Instructions to Help Register Individuals to Get Their Economic Impact Payment

    o Labels for Printing

The deadline to apply for an Economic Impact Payment (EIP) also known as *stimulus payment* is October 15th.

Universal COVID-19 Testing

National Health Care for the Homeless Council and its standing Research Committee have partnered with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to collect data from universal testing events at shelter or encampment-based service sites during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Click here for more information and to view the daily dashboard summary.

KN95 Face Mask

If you are a Homeless Outreach Worker and interested in a KN95 mask, please email COVID-Homeless@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Portable Power Banks

If you work with the unsheltered population and wish to assist in distributing power banks to the customers, please submit a request to us at COVID-Homeless@sdcounty.ca.gov.

Please note that supplies are limited and we will work with your individual agency to determine best allocation and prevent duplication of efforts.

Homelessness Webinars, Recordings, and Articles

View and download past recorded webinars:

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

National Alliance to End Homelessness

Articles:

Whole Person Care Lays Groundwork for Quick COVID-19 Response

EMPLOYER INFORMATION

Employer Playbook for Safe Reopening

The State has developed the COVID-19 Employer Playbook for Safe Reopening where businesses and organizations can learn about:

- How to open safely

- What to do if there is a case of COVID in the workplace

- Enforcement and Compliance

- Worker Education

New CDC guidance has determined that it is no longer recommended that employers require employees who tested positive for COVID-19 to be tested again before they can return to work.

What If an employee tests positive for COVID-19?

For information on what to do if an employee tests positive for COVID-19, please view this flowchart.

Click here for more information and resources on guidance.

Resources for Responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace

Please click here to view COVID-19 resources for employers and community sectors.

Click here to view information and resources from the California Department of Public Health for responding to COVID-19 in the Workplace.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Voting in San Diego County

Attention San Diego Residents:

Join @SanDiegoCounty Registrar of Voters and @AARPCalifornia for a **free** Telephone Town Hall on **September 3rd** from 10:05 AM – 11:05 AM PT to learn how you can vote safely in the Nov. 3, 2020 election! This is your opportunity to learn about voting safely, key deadlines and the voting process in San Diego County. You'll also have a chance to ask questions of the San Diego County Registrar of Voters.

Learn more and **click here to register**. Registering will ensure you are called on September 3rd during the call start time so you may participate.

Click here to view the recent Registrar of Voters Presentation.

Public Comment Period for Input on the Preliminary Framework for

Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine

From September 1 through September 4, the [National Academies](#) will invite public comments on a Discussion Draft of the Preliminary Framework for Equitable Allocation of COVID-19 Vaccine, part of a [study](#) commissioned by NIH and CDC. Input from the public, especially communities highly impacted by COVID-19, is essential to produce a final report that is objective, balanced, and inclusive.

Vizer

September is Hunger Action Month. You can take action to combat hunger by turning exercise into donated meals!

We are excited to team up with [Alliance Healthcare Foundation](#) and the [Jacobs and Cushman San Diego Food Bank](#) to convert your workouts into meal donations for local students. To participate simply download the Vizer app, and when you reach your workout goals, free meals will be given to San Diego County students.

Plasma Donations for Recovered COVID-19 Patients are Still Needed

Please [click here](#) to view more information on plasma donations (available in English and Spanish).

Individuals can donate convalescent plasma if they have a confirmed positive laboratory test and no symptoms for the last 28 days. People who test positive with a COVID-19 antibody test can also donate.

[Click here](#) to view the form that San Diego Blood Bank has created where people can submit their contact information to be qualified for convalescent plasma donation.

Please [click here to view FAQs](#) about donating plasma to the San Diego Blood Bank (in English and Spanish).

Cool Zones

A select number of County-operated Cool Zones are open to help residents beat the heat. For a list of locations (and to view the safety measures in place at each location to protect the health of Cool Zone visitors and staff during COVID-19), please click here.

Text COSD COVID19 to 468-311 to get text alert updates.

For local up-to-date information, please visit:

WWW.CORONAVIRUS-SD.COM

Local monitoring information is updated daily around 4:00pm.

Click here to view previous Homeless Sector Updates.

Thank you all, and please let us know how we can support you. Feel free to submit questions through: COVID-Homeless@sdcounty.ca.gov