



COVID-19 HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

Weekly COVID-19 Situation Report

4.24.2020 | Issue #1

COVID-19 Testing Results

Reporting Period [3.23 - 4.23]

Below is data on the COVID-19 test results for homeless persons in the city of Detroit.

Tests Conducted	Pending Results	Negative	Confirmed Positive
128*	18	32	78

**49 tests conducted by hospitals*

Testing completed by:

36% have been tested by **hospitals**

27% have been tested by **Wayne State University**

27% have been tested by the **Detroit Health Department**

As of 4.22.2020 - there are a total of **50 guests** at the Alternative Shelter Sites [defined below]

39% of referrals to the Alternative Shelter Sites have come from **hospitals**

61% from our **traditional shelters**

Homelessness Response Actions Taken

Symptom Screening

The Detroit Health Department (DHD) issued guidance and screening protocol for shelter staff to routinely check shelter guests for symptoms of COVID-19. Additionally, DHD nurses conduct temperature screenings at least three times per week at 24 shelters. 10,881 temperature screenings have been conducted and 15 fevers detected.

Alternative Shelter Sites

Two alternative shelter sites have been set up for any person experiencing homelessness who is symptomatic, pending test results, or confirmed positive. These shelters are set-up to follow recommended isolation and physical distancing. Guests receive essential services and health monitoring.

Testing

- All guests transferred to the alternative shelter sites receive a test for COVID-19.
- For any guest that tests positive, the shelter they were transferred from is notified and tests are conducted for all guests at that shelter.
- Some guests are tested at hospitals prior to discharge.
- DHD targeted rapid testing for shelters with a client that had tested positive. This has allowed clients and staff at those shelters to be tested and receive results more quickly.

Shelter Access

Emergency shelters remain open. CAM coordinates access to shelter through a phone line, 313-484-4449, seven days per week 7am-8:30pm

Triage Line and Transportation Coordination

CAM coordinates transportation to the alternative shelter sites for clients who are symptomatic, pending test results at emergency shelters, who are unsheltered, or who are discharging from a hospital without a place to go.

CAM Data

384 total Shelter Referrals

296 single adults

42 youth

46 families

25 total Housing Program Referrals

Transitional Housing: 7 families

Rapid Re-Housing: 5 families

Permanent Supportive Housing: 13 single adults

Reporting Period [3.23 - 4.23]

The Coordinated Assessment Model (CAM) is Detroit's coordinated entry system to homeless services. During the COVID-19 pandemic, CAM is operating a phone-based model. Any individual or family without a safe place to stay for the night can contact CAM at 313-484-4449, seven days a week from 7am-8:30pm for assistance.

Additionally, CAM is coordinating transportation to alternative shelters from emergency shelters and hospitals for people who are homeless and also are 1) experiencing COVID-19 symptoms; 2) awaiting COVID-19 test results; or 3) have tested positive for COVID-19.

[Visit CAM's website here.](#)

Important Updates

CoC Renewal Projects & FY2020 Competition

- The deadline for submission of renewal application materials for the FY2020 CoC competition has been **extended** from May 7 to **May 29**. This information was provided via email to all CoC providers on 4/20.
- In addition to extending the deadline, further **modifications are being made to the renewal applications, including changes to scoring criteria and items that will need to be submitted by May 29**. The purpose of these modifications is to reduce the burden on CoC grantees. These details will be provided in writing to all current CoC providers later today. Information will also be posted to HAND's website: <https://www.handetroit.org/continuum-of-care-funding>

Expedited Grant Amendments Through HUD

HUD has recently provided guidance on expediting grant amendments for FY2018 CoC grants.

Details are here: <https://www.hudexchange.info/programs/coc/covid-19-grant-agreement-amendments/>.

The expedited changes you can make to your grant to enable you to meet immediate client health and safety needs are as follows:

- Add eligible activities not originally part of your grant, such as Supportive Services.
- Move funding between budget line items, including from Rental Assistance.
- Extend the operating year of your current grant to fully utilize all awarded funding; the latest extended operating end date allowed for 2018 grants is December 31, 2020.
 - **IMPORTANT:** This change **will impact** future renewals by permanently changing the grant's operating start date.

Please review the materials on the website posted above for easy-to-fill grant amendment templates provided by HUD to help you with requesting the grant amendments.

Homeless Service Provider Webinar

The City of Detroit, CAM, CSH and HAND are jointly hosting weekly webinars **every Friday at 9am** for homeless service providers. The goal of these webinars remains to bring stakeholders together to provide up-to-date information regarding COVID-19, respond to questions, and allow for targeted learning opportunities.

You can access shared resources for providers as well as past webinar recording and materials [by clicking here](#).

If you would like to be added to the webinar invitations please email kaitie@handetroit.org

Helpful Resources

Economic Impact Payment (Stimulus Checks)

- Poverty Solutions has developed a website resource with information on how to get the Stimulus Checks. Information is available in English, Spanish and Arabic. <https://poverty.umich.edu/stimulus-checks>
- A resource has been developed to provide bank accounts to persons who do not have one to help expedite their receipt of their stimulus checks.

Frontline Energy Program

- The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) recently announced that it has developed and launched a dedicated utility relief program for essential workers that began on April 22, 2020. Individuals can apply online at www.thawfund.org or via mail. A signed complete application as well as ID, proof of income, proof of household/family members, and a copy of the utility bill/bills to be paid will be required. Upon approval, THAW will make the payment directly to the utility. Qualifying utilities include electric, heat and water.

[Downloadable Document - Utilities Info 2020 Front Line Energy Program](#)

Supportive Housing COVID-19 Platform

- CSH has developed a collaborative platform for supportive housing providers. It provides resources, information, and opportunities to consult your peers.
<https://www.csh.org/csh-solutions/training-professional-development-2/>

Resource Compilations

- City of Detroit COVID 313 Page
 - [LINK](#)
- Wayne State Resource Compilation
 - [LINK](#)
- CoC Resource Compilation
 - [LINK](#)

[Detroit CoC COVID-19 Webpage](#)