



# COVID-19 HOMELESSNESS RESPONSE

## Weekly COVID-19 Situation Report

6.26.2020 | Issue # 9

### COVID-19 Testing Results

Reporting Period [3.23.2020 - 6.25.2020]

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

**793** Tests Conducted

**98** Total Positives (12%)

**669\*** Total Negatives

*\*Difference is a result of pending/invalid tests.*

Of the tests administered:

**8%** have been completed by **hospitals**

**13%** have been completed by **Wayne State University**

**79%** have been completed by the **Detroit Health Department**

As of June 26, 2020 - there are a total of **2 guests** at the Type 1 and 2 Alternative Shelter Sites [also referred to as Isolation Shelter Sites]. We have had a total of **188 total referrals** to these sites since the start of the program.

**66 (35%)** of the referrals to these Alternative Shelter Sites have come from **hospitals**

**98 (53%)** came from our **traditional shelters** and

**24 (12%)** came from **outreach providers**

### New Homelessness Response Actions Taken

#### COVID-19 Testing

This week two additional shelters were tested for COVID-19. The City of Detroit is continuing to work with the Detroit Health Department to test all emergency shelters and

congregate living facilities on an ongoing basis to help prevent an outbreak in our system.

## Code Blue Continuation

The City of Detroit is continuing to treat COVID-19 as a Code Blue situation. They are working to emphasize to providers that the pandemic is not over yet and shelters are to remain open 24/7. Following the inclusive and non-restrictive protocol of Code Blue is exceptionally important to help ensure that our highly vulnerable homeless population remain safe and healthy.

## PPE Distribution Updates

The City of Detroit has been working to distribute PPE to our shelter and congregate living providers on a regular basis. They want to remind all providers that there will NOT be a PPE pick up next week! They request that everyone stay tuned for information on when supplies will next be available - likely WEDNESDAY July 8th.

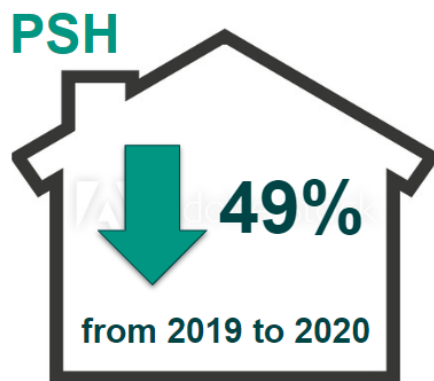
Down the road, with the crisis and shortage abating, they are hoping to begin the transition to agencies reaching out to vendors to meet their individual PPE supply needs. The city is tracking resources that we hear about [here](#).

# Housing Data

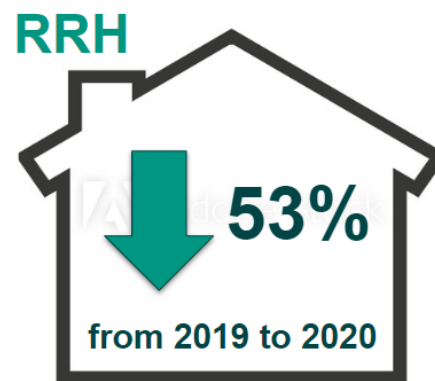
## Trends in Housing

In lieu of providing the standard weekly update on total referrals from CAM, we wanted to follow the theme from the past two weeks and provide a brief analysis of **trends related to housing** that we are seeing so far this year.

The graphic below compares the total number of clients who were housed in both Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) and Rapid Re-Housing from January 01 - May 31, 2019 with the total number housed from January 01 - May 31, 2020.



**\*160 Jan-May 2019 vs. 82 in Jan-May 2020**  
\*includes 60 new units in 2019

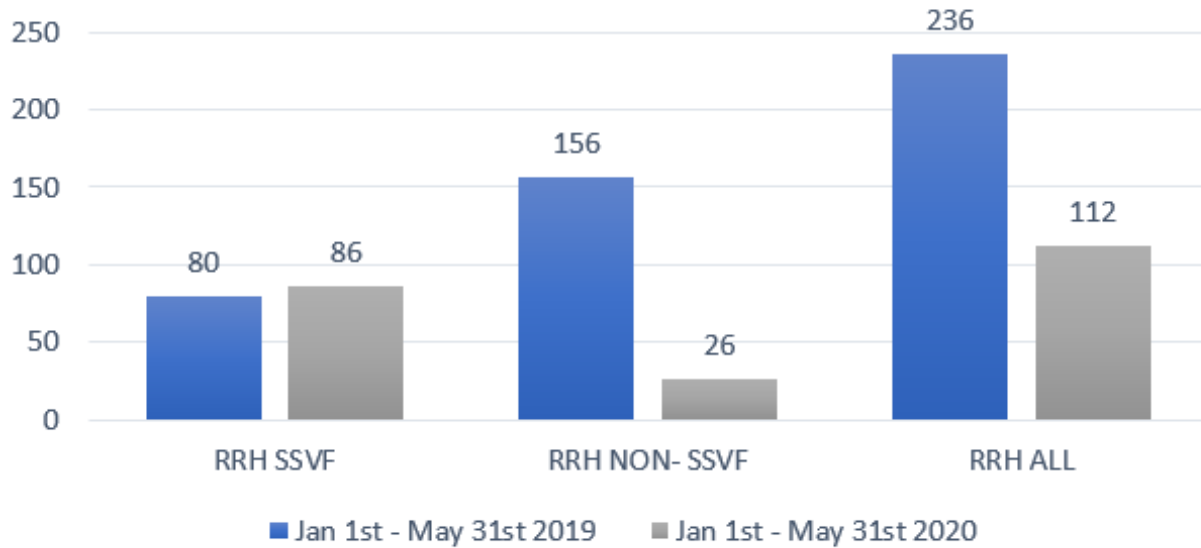


**236 Jan-May 2019 vs. 112 in Jan-May 2020**

As shown in the graphic, There was a significant rate of decrease in the total number of clients who were housed in 2020 as compared to 2019 for both PSH and RRH. There are a number of factors which may impact these numbers, particularly for PSH, but the fact remains that **we have work to do as a system to better move clients from the shelters and the streets into housing**. This is always important, but the urgency is heightened during a pandemic when we know that clients are much safer in their own housing than in a congregate facility.

The next graph zooms in on the housing data for our RRH providers and compares the housing outcomes for our Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) programs with our standard RRH

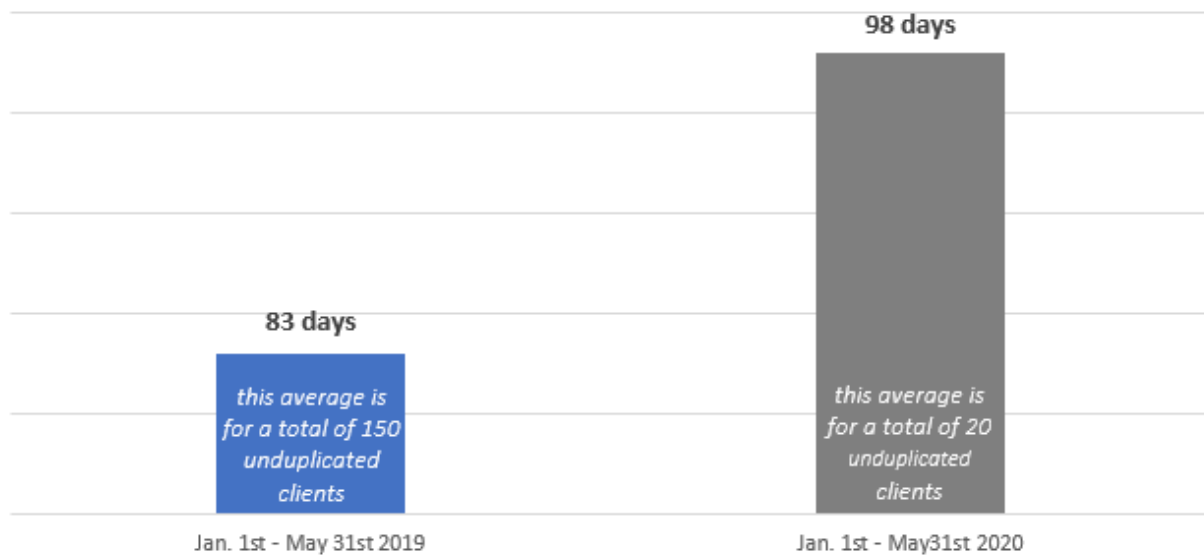
## Number Housed in SSVF RRH vs. Traditional RRH



The chart shows us that number of clients housed in SSVF RRH remained mostly constant between 2019 and 2020 (with a slight increase in 2020). On the other hand, the data revealed that there was a significant decrease in non-SSVF RRH clients housed between 2019 and 2020.

Beyond looking at the number of people we've been able to house in 2019 and 2020, we also wanted to look at how long it is taking us to move clients into housing once they had received a referral to a housing provider. First, let us look at Non-SSVF RRH clients.

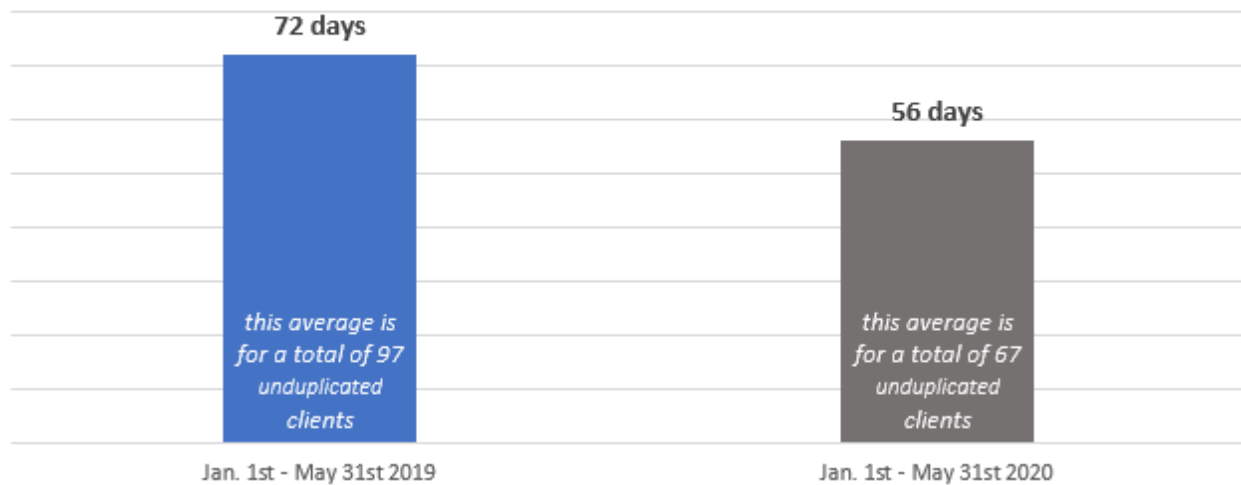
### Average Number of Days from CAM Referral to Housing Move-in Date for Non-SSVF RRH Clients



As you can see in the graphic above, the total length of time to housing from CAM referral to the housing move-in date for Non-SSVF RRH clients went up by 15 days when comparing between the 2019 and 2020 time frames.

Lastly, we will look at how long it is taking us to move our PSH clients into housing once they had received a referral to a housing provider.

## Average Number of Days from CAM Referral to Housing Move-in Date for PSH Clients



For our PSH clients, we can see that the total length of time to housing from CAM referral to the housing move-in date went down by 16 days when comparing between the 2019 and 2020 time frames. While we may have housed less clients in PSH in 2020, it is positive to see that we have shortened the length of time they must wait to be housed once referred to a provider.

We hope to continue to bring further analysis in future webinars and situational reports.

## Important Updates

### Reminder to Providers to Update HMIS for Client Referrals

PSH and RRH providers are reminded to update client records in HMIS when referrals are made to their PSH and RRH programs. Specifically, providers are reminded of the following expectations:

- Attempts to contact clients should occur with 48 hours of referral for PSH referrals and within 3 days for RRH referrals
- PSH and RRH providers need to update the Referral Outcome with Accepted, Declined, or Canceled to reflect the outcome of the referral
- Additionally, the PSH and RRH Match Status/Outcome needs to be updated for clients at least bi-weekly for PSH clients until the client is housed and at least month for RRH clients until the clients is housed.

Doing these updates is important so that we are able to understand where the clients are in the housing process and to ensure no clients “fall through the cracks” during the referral and housing process. Details on these expectations are given in the [PSH Policies and Procedures](#) and the [RRH Policies and Procedures](#)

### 2020 Census Changes and Resources

The 2020 Census is underway! The Census for those experiencing homelessness is referred to as **Service-Based Enumeration** and follows a slightly different process than the traditional Census. This week HUD released the updated date for this count to occur in 2020. It will now be held **between September 22 and 24th**. Area Census Offices will contact service-based locations in August and September to re-schedule the enumeration of the facilities. If you do not hear from someone by early September, please contact HAND and we will work to help link you to the Census staff.

As a reminder from what was stated last week - all housing providers should encourage their clients to fill out the traditional census during their regularly scheduled case management visit. Clients residing in their own units are able to complete the traditional Census form. For those

who haven't completed it yet, the Census can be filled out by [clicking here](#).

The Census Bureau has posted several resources to explain how they count people experiencing homelessness, how privacy and confidentiality are preserved, and how organizations can assist with the count. Additionally, the Census Bureau has published [contact information for its Regional Census Centers \(RCCs\)](#). Reach out to an RCC if you have questions about the count, about who is contacting you, or if you would like to be connected with your Area Census Office.

#### Operational Updates Due to COVID-19:

- [Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19 Webpage](#)
- [Operational Adjustments Due to COVID-19 Fact Sheet](#)

#### Persons Experiencing Homelessness, the Highly Mobile, and Renters:

- [How the 2020 Census Counts People Experiencing Homelessness Fact Sheet](#)
- [Homeless Audiences Fact Sheet](#)
- [Service-Based Enumeration Webpage](#)
- [Service-Based Enumeration Fact Sheet](#)
- [Service-Based Enumeration Brochure](#)
- [Group Quarters Enumeration Fact Sheet](#)
- [Group Housing Fact Sheet](#)
- [Civic Organizations Fact Sheet](#)
- [Counting College Students Fact Sheet](#)

#### Safety and Confidentiality:

- [2020 Census Safety and Security Fact Sheet](#)
- [2020 Census and Confidentiality Fact Sheet](#)
- [Confidentiality Half-Page Handout](#)
- [Confidentiality Awareness Poster](#)

## Reminder of Homeless Services Funding Opportunity

The City of Detroit released information on its Homeless Solutions and ESG-CV funding opportunity on June 10, 2020. This Request for Proposals (RFP) includes resources from the City's traditional yearly funding availability as well as the additional resources provided from the CARES Act (ESG-CV). Funding is available for the following service types: homelessness prevention, street outreach, emergency shelter, and rapid re-housing. The full text of the RFP can be accessed by clicking on the button below.

Some important dates to be aware of are as follows:

- **June 6th from 3pm - 4pm.**
  - The City will host a Q&A session about the RFP. This is an applicant's ONLY chance to ask questions about the RFP.
  - [Register by clicking here](#)
- **July 8th by 4pm**
  - All proposals must be submitted to the City of Detroit on or before this time

Notice of Funding Availability

## Shelter Type 3 at Marygrove will Close on June 30th

The Marygrove shelter site will close on June 30th. The Marygrove site was used as an emergency shelter for clients who were already matched with a housing resource and considered high risk for COVID-19. The goal was to move high risk clients out of congregate facilities to reduce their chances of coming in contact with COVID-19. A number of clients previously residing in this facility have been successfully housed. Those who are still waiting to secure housing will be moved to alternate accommodations over the weekend.

## Joint Statement from the City of Detroit HRD, HAND, and the CoC Board

The City of Detroit is receiving a historic influx of resources under the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Stimulus (CARES) Act for the homelessness response system to respond to the impact of COVID-19. **To date, the City of Detroit has received two allocations of a combined total of**

**\$19,582,301 in Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).** This is roughly five times more than the typical annual ESG allocation! The most recent [Request for Proposals](#) released by the City of Detroit includes the ESG CARES and the normal annual ESG/CDBG allocation (approximately \$4.6 million).

On behalf of the City of Detroit's Housing and Revitalization Department, Detroit Continuum of Care Board, and the Homeless Action Network of Detroit (HAND), we are writing to share priorities in responding to homelessness and housing instability during the COVID-19 pandemic for the current moment and months to come. We strongly encourage all agencies working on applications for renewal and new projects to look for opportunities to weave these priorities in your proposal and to think broadly and review your budget needs carefully with the impact of COVID-19 in mind. Please see the attached joint statement that outlines the Policy Priorities that have been identified.

### Joint Statement on Detroit's Priorities

## 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.

*Note: Beginning on 6/5, the webinars will alternate between focusing on shelter/outreach content and content for housing providers. **July 3rd's webinar is canceled due to the holiday.** We will resume the webinar series on July 10 with content focused on our CoC's shelter and outreach providers. We hope to see you there!*

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

You can register for the ongoing webinars [by clicking here](#).

If you would like to be added to the webinar invitations please email [kaitie@handetroit.org](mailto:kaitie@handetroit.org)

## Helpful Resources

### COVID-19 Testing

- All tri-county residents can now receive a free COVID-19 test without a prescription at the State Fairgrounds. You must have an appointment to be tested. To set up an appointment, **call 313-230-0505**.

### Sanitation and Hygiene Resources for Unsheltered Persons

- Linked is an [updated map](#) that shows known locations of showers, bathrooms, hand washing stations, and laundry resources for those experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Detroit. You can also find a PDF by clicking on the button below.

Sanitation and Hygiene Resource Map

## Resource Compilations

- Detroit-Based Food Resources
  - [LINK](#)
- City of Detroit COVID 313 Page
  - [LINK](#)
- Wayne State Resource Compilation
  - [LINK](#)
- CoC Resource Compilation
  - [LINK](#)
- CSH Supportive Housing Resource Platform
  - [LINK](#)

[Detroit CoC COVID-19 Webpage](#)

Jointly Created by the City of Detroit, HAND, CAM, and CSH