

## Homeless Service Network – Meeting Minutes, March 17, 2021

- Department of Health – Kathy
  - The county continues to get vaccine every week. There are vaccines available specifically for shelter clients and/or staff. These appointments will be at 111 Westfall. Send Kathy an email by the end of the day today with the person's name and contact information and their scheduling department will reach out to get these individuals vaccinated.
  - Katharine Hiltunen; [KathyHiltunen@monroecounty.gov](mailto:KathyHiltunen@monroecounty.gov)
  - Dome, hospitals and pop up site are available for vaccine.
  - For shelter residence who test positive and need to quarantine, are now going to the Riverside Hotel (this started about 2 weeks ago).
  - Quarantine guidelines are anticipated to loosen up starting April for those traveling into the state. Regulations will be released soon from the state level addressing quarantine guidelines for travelers who have been vaccinated.
  - County Timelines for Vaccination: about 83,000 already vaccinated in the county. The FEDs are stating we will have access to vaccinate all eligible folks by mid-June. The county is currently vaccinating those who are willing.

### Questions:

- What are some of the reasons folks are resistant to vaccines?
  - Long term effects
  - Not 100% effective
  - Ingredients – some folks believe there are live ingredients which is not true
  - Communities of color specifically have a distrust of the medical system in general
  - Symptoms and side effects (reactions after receiving the vaccine)
- If you have had COVID, do you need both shots of the vaccine?
  - It depends on the symptoms someone experiences when they had COVID. The recommendation is that everyone get vaccinated and get both doses. The recommendation is to take whatever vaccine type that is available.
- If someone has experienced loss of taste or smell, do these systems come back?
  - There have been folks who have experienced these systems reoccur.
- Updates – Becky
  - Email was sent to the shelters on Monday by Becky to schedule 20 or so folks for vaccinations with the county.
  - Shelter system update: shelters continued to experience low shelter census but increased numbers of folks at the Civic Center. SOP, PCHO, OMH are working together to get these folks housed. So far, 2 folks from the Civic Center have been housed.
  - The trend of positive COVID cases at shelter has declined.
- Project Homeless Connect – Leanne (<https://www.homelessconnectrochester.org/>)
  - Currently working on the Fall event which is going to be held at the Public Market. No date has been established yet, so stay tuned!
  - Coat Drive Event:
    - > Collection of coats has already begun – encourage folks to get involved

- > Support is needed to store coat items for PHC. If you have space that available that can be used for storing coats, contact Edgar Santa Cruz
- > If you want to be part of the coat drive team, reach out to Edgar (SantaCruz Edgar.SantaCruz@cameronministries.org)
- Coordinated Entry – Ryan
  - Housing Recruitment Specialist (Joe Navarra) has been hired and has been reaching out to programs to set up introduction meetings. Joe’s role is going to be to support all programs to help cultivate and maintain relationships with landlords in the community. The goal is not for Joe to take over current relationships programs have established with landlord, but to support these relationships that already exist.
  - Joe Navarra, [jnavarra@ccsi.org](mailto:jnavarra@ccsi.org)
- Partners Ending Homelessness – Charles
  - Local NOFA application has been releases for new grants
  - HUD NOFA will be releases at the end of May
  - New Grants will be posted at the beginning of June
  - Will support vaccine efforts by reaching out to CoC programs
- Presentation, Special Population: McKinney Vento – Homeless Youth – Greta
  - Objectives: Overview of the FIT Program (Families In Transition), What is McKinney Vento, Trends, Available Services
- Steering Committee Open Seats – Email name to Mike Rood and we will open this up for a vote
  - Social Justice/Equity
  - Treasurer
  - Emergency Housing
  - Veterans

**Other Announcements:**

- Spiritus Christi Update - Jim
  - Has acquired the property on Milbank Street (the old Sojourner House), the goal is June 1<sup>st</sup> for opening
- Positive Steps New York – Virutal Conference is being held April 28<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Conference will include sessions regarding innovative engagement, health disparities, cultural humility and clinical sessions related to mental health and addictions. You can email Sara Taylor at [sarataylorr@aol.com](mailto:sarataylorr@aol.com) or visit [positivestepsny.com](http://positivestepsny.com)
- Fidelis Care (Jayslynn Antonetti – 585-217-1067) has received approval to enter back into the community live and come set up supports within you locations. Please reach out to Jayslynn if you would like for her and/or her team offer support. [jantonetti@fideliscare.org](mailto:jantonetti@fideliscare.org)

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am

Notes respectfully submitted by Sara Volz-Rogers