

**Updates from the Shelter Task Force:
Week Ending June 12, 2020**

- The Shelter Provider Task Force continues to develop and refine strategies to respond to COVID-19 as the community continues to progress through the phases of re-opening. Current work includes:
 - Supporting shelters in continuing to ensure the health and safety of staff and guests
 - Focusing on securing permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness to ensure a reduction in hotel guests and to allow shelters to maintain their optimal capacity to allow for social distancing and other safety protocols to minimize exposure to COVID-19.
 - **If there are other issues or challenges related to community re-opening that would be important for the Task Force to address**, please contact Neilia Kelly (nkelly@ccsi.org) or Pam Ayers (payers@ccsi.org).
- **Landlord Engagement:** The Coordinated Entry Landlord Engagement Workgroup sent out communication to landlords this week to provide information about programs and services of the homeless services system and to highlight the expectations of working with these organizations during COVID-19. The communication supports the work of the Task Force around securing permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness.

A brief **survey** (approximately 5 minutes) was created to gather information about the number of units landlords have in Monroe County, the number of those units that are currently available, and the percentage of current tenants who are one, two, and three months behind on rent. The results will help the community appropriately plan the use of eviction prevention resources that are available to support tenants who are most at-risk of homelessness. **Please feel free to share this survey with your network or landlords.**

A new property listing website, Front Door NY, is being finalized that is designed specifically for providers within the homeless service system. The site will provide a platform for housing providers to more quickly identify appropriate units that are available to help individuals and families more quickly exit homelessness.

- The Task Force continues to plan for the release of an updated Guidance Manual in the coming weeks and is working to identify the resources and protocols that will be included in the release. In the meantime, the current version of the **Monroe County Shelter Bed Task Group Guidance Manual**, can be found on the Partners Ending Homelessness website: (https://letsendhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/formidable/31/MonroeCounty_COVID19_ShelterGuidance_v2_4.14.20.pdf)