1. Introduction: This is the 25th weekly call hosted by the Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless program. Calls will be every Wednesday from 2:00pm-3:00pm.

- The purpose of this call is to bring together countywide outreach providers to share updates, knowledge, practices, build supportive community, and develop effective responses to protect our health and the health of the persons living unsheltered in Alameda County.
- We’ll hear questions and take them to public health for response if we can’t answer them.
- If teams have specific issues or challenges with individuals who may be symptomatic, infected or at-risk of COVID-19, please email details to ACHCH at achch@acgov.org for follow up.
- To be added to the email list for additional updates contact Kathy Barron at kathryn.barron@acgov.org.

2. Situation Report:

David Modersbach, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless

- Refer to Alameda County COVID-19 Dashboards
  - Countywide totals as of August 26th: 17,275 confirmed cases, 240 deaths
  - 118 homeless people (shelters/encampments) COVID-19 positive
  - ACHCH has responded to 49 outbreaks in shelters and encampments, currently 5 active rapid response situations in shelters/sites.
  - Transmission continues to disproportionately impact communities of color
  - Highest rates of getting the infection in Hispanic/Latinx communities
  - ACHCH has a good supply of face shields, masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, etc. to be distributed; if you need supplies please contact David Modersbach.

- Heat Emergency: ACHCH has bottled water resources for distributing to unhoused people. The warehouse is located at 4450 Tidewater Avenue (near high street bridge in Oakland). Open:
Tuesday/Thursday: 10am-12pm and 2pm-4pm. Please review our ACHCH heat emergency page for updates on cooling centers.

- **Air quality:** Air quality is dangerous for unsheltered homeless. Cooling and clean air centers are open. ACHCH is distributing non-medical N95 masks to be handed out at encampments. Visit our website: [https://www.achch.org/air-quality-emergency-resources.html](https://www.achch.org/air-quality-emergency-resources.html). Or contact David Modersbach at David.modersbach@acgov.org
  - N95 Masks also distributed by city leads regionally:
    - Hayward: jessica.lobedan@hayward-ca.gov; Fremont: lflores@fremont.gov; Berkeley: JVasquez@cityofberkeley.info; Livermore: care@cityservecares.org;

- **Livermore/Fremont SCU Wildfire:** Abode, BACH, CityServe outreach teams partnered with HCH to ensure that unsheltered homeless were outreached and sheltered or accounted for over the space of a couple days when it looked like there would be widespread wildfire evacuations in South and East County. THANKS for great work, especially to Kate Dettmer at Abode.

- Native American Health Center in Fruitvale offering free COVID-19 testing to first responders and frontline workers; 3030 International Blvd, Mondays and Fridays.

- **Frontline Workers Counseling Project:** Free therapy, groups and counseling services for front line workers: CHECK IT OUT! [www.fwcp.org](http://www.fwcp.org)

We appreciate all of you and your creativity to support the unhoused community. Please continue to remind people to wear a mask, wash hands, and practice social distancing.

3. **City and County Updates:**

**Lucy Kasdin, Alameda County Health Care for the Homeless**
- Project Roomkey: Livermore Safer Ground opened on Monday, 8/24; Berkeley site will be full by end of this week; Oakland site has some space available – Oakland providers [reach out to us](mailto:reachouttous@achch.org) for help in referring people.

**Talia Rubin, City of Oakland**
- Thank you for stepping into another emergency response. I am in awe of everyone collaborating with each other.
- City of Oakland provided N95 masks to LavaMae, CAL-PEP and other partners.
- Porta-Potties: 38 curbside sites; new inventory and looking to expand
- World Central Kitchen/City of Oakland: secured funding through end of October to distribute meals.

**Dani Burnich-Line, LifeLong Berkeley Street Health**
• Referred a few people into Safer Ground
• Distributing masks

Emily Jimenez, Tiburcio Vasquez
• Continue to educating people about air quality and COVID-19

Dr. Williams, Roots Community Health Center
• People Health Briefing weekly call that consists of COVID data from walk up testing site (200-300 people/day) and dispelling myths.

Jessica Lobedan, City of Hayward
• Distributing 600-700 masks to homeless community. Reach out to Jessica to distribute masks in unincorporated areas (Jessica.lobedan@hayward-ca.gov)

Kate Dettmer, Abode Services
• Placing people into safe locations re: evacuation fire zones
• Mobile clinic still going out to distribution N95 masks
• Making referrals into new safer ground in Livermore; unincorporated area in mid-county

AshEL Eldridge III and Xochitl Moreno, Essential Food and Medicine
• What’s Your Medicine event at Wood Street Encampment on September 26th on 24th/Wood under freeway pass. Will have different healing modalities, big community feast, live music performances, COVID Testing, PPE supplies (partnership with LifeLong). Info and sign up

Andrea Zeppa, ACHCH Street Health
• Monday, August 31st, 2pm-4pm; Meth, Fentanyl & their Co-Use: A Bay Area Harm Reduction Panel Discussion by San Francisco AIDS Foundation. https://www.eventbrite.com/e/meth-fentanyl-their-co-use-a-bay-area-harm-reduction-panel-discussion-tickets-117085254147

4. PPE UPDATE: Use of Face Shields in Outreach Work
Dr. Harrison Alter, ACHCH Interim Medical Director
Face shields: If you are working closely with other people, it would beneficial to wear a face shield. There is emerging evidence from people working in settings with infected people showing reduction in infections among providers wearing face shields. They are reusable and easy to clean with an alcohol wipe. The face shields do create another barrier between you and the people you are communicating with. I recommend you wear one in situations where you are in ongoing contact (screening, intake, education) with people of unknown infectivity, and ACHCH is working on tips and may make use a policy for some of our teams.

5. Fire safety at encampments
David Modersbach, Health Care for the Homeless
Recent wildfires and threat of fires mean that we are working to develop better education and outreach around fire safety in camps. Areas of cooking, heat, lighting, personal safety all have to be addressed for fire safer practices.

- Thoughts/updates re: fire safety?
- Who might be interested to join in this collaboration?
- Want to develop concrete practical tools. What supplies do we need to help reduce fire risk in encampments? Potential resources: food, warmth, light

6. Highlights
- Continue to stay vigilant.
- Reach out to your community for resources you need.
- Fire safety at encampments
- Monday, August 31st, 2pm-4pm; Meth, Fentanyl & their Co-Use: A Bay Area Harm Reduction Panel Discussion by San Francisco AIDS Foundation
- ACHCH is still distributing supplies. Contact David Modersbach (David.modersbach@acgov.org) if supplies are needed.

Thank you all for the coordinated efforts being made to support persons living unsheltered!

Next Weekly Outreach Provider COVID Phone Call #26
Wednesday, September 2, 2020, 2:00pm-3:00pm
More information: achch.org