

COVID-19 Task Force, Meeting Notes

April 10, 2020

Situation Report Objectives (Mayor Hagerty)

- Assisting Long Term Care facilities to serve the vulnerable and at-risk population
- Finalizing housing and transportation services
- Maintaining the supply chain of PPE
- Coordination with Hospitals to expand capacity and services as needed
- Protecting our City staff and residents by providing timely and specific information on COVID-19 information
- Tracking the spread of COVID-19 through daily analytics
- Continuing to maintain food accessibility
- Unified Command Incident Objectives
 - Confirmed cases rising, currently at 144
 - PPE at the state and county levels are good
- Evanston Emergency Food Pantry (Ald. Fleming)
 - Opening an Evanston emergency food pantry, located at James Park, starting next Wednesday, April 15 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 - In practice with social distancing, drive-ups are recommended
 - Eligibility will consist of proof of residency from the State ID or driver's license
 - Temporarily operating through the end of May, we assess the need as the landscape dictates
 - Providing items for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Fresh vegetables and produce. One box per household.
 - Flyers and email marketing is taking place, no volunteers needed, City staff will manage this effort
 - Donation button available for financial contributions. Link in press release
 - Also in the boxes will be general information regarding items like U.S. Census and other resources available to the community

Spotlight on Communicating in a Crisis (Patrick Deignan)

- Responsible for keeping the public informed with consistent communication through a number of channels
- COVID-19 webpage is the foremost avenue used to communicate information cityofevanston.org/covid19.
- The website is updated daily around 3 p.m. with vital information
- The data is always changing, with a few new subpages including an FAQ, information on general resources, and how to assist during this time
- Suggestions are welcome

- Video efforts include hosting weekly coronavirus Q&As on the City's Facebook page and broadcast station Channel 16

Hospitals

- **St. Francis (Kenneth Jones)**
 - Continuing to provide testing
 - Monitoring PPE supplies
 - Opened a respiratory clinic in Lincolnwood for patients who have respiratory concerns
- **Evanston Hospital (Doug Silverstein)**
 - 12K tests completed, 10K e-visits, and 1,500 drive-thrus
 - PPE supply is adequate

Legislators

- **Jan Schakowsky's Office (Ann Limjoco)**
 - Stimulus payments will begin to go out next week
 - Bank account information for direct deposit should be available on the IRS website to update your personal information
- **Senator Laura Fine's Office (Laura Fine)**
 - Secretary of State is issuing a 90-day extension on expired driver's licenses providing residents leeway to renew cards when state facilities re-open
- **Robyn Gabel's Office (Robyn Gabel)**
 - Participating in higher education and mental health workgroups
 - Will utilize connections to elevate local issues
- **Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz's Office (Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz)**
 - No update
- **Ald. Larry Suffredin's Office (Adam)**
 - No update

Education (Eric Whitterspoon & Phil Ehrhardt)

- Wrapping up spring break
- Continuing to work with local authorities on food distribution
- Remote learning will begin Monday, April 13
- Still emphasizing the Stay at Home Order for the protection of everyone

Senior Living (Mary Leary)

- PPE is still a very urgent need
- Working group calls are focused on community preparedness for hospital transfers from long-term care facilities

Business (Roger Sosa)

- Focused on clarifying the funding and loan process for businesses with the banking community

Northwestern University (Luke Figora)

- Classes will begin on Monday, April 6
- On-campus student healthcare facility available to operate as urgent care for students with immediate needs

Non Profit (Monique Jones)

- Focused on providing childcare for first responders. Applications are going live for nonprofits soon. Will provide link information as soon as possible

Mental Health (Christine Sommerville)

- Many NAMI resources available at nami.org
- There are programs available for families and individuals struggling with issues related to COVID-19
- Currently distributing resources for telehealth and online
- Additional hotline for resources is 847-716-2252

Faith-Based (Rev. Michael Nabors)

- Currently producing a second video with community faith leaders to encourage first responders
- As a reminder, the church bells will ring at 9 a.m. to continue to show support and encouragement for the community

Next Meeting: Tues., April 14 at 1:30 p.m.