

COVID-19 Task Force, Meeting Notes

April 24, 2020

Situation Report (Mayor Hagerty)

- The State of Illinois will track Long Term Care facilities individually going forward
- The City's budget will be the focus for the City Council meeting on Monday, April 27, as it relates to the COVID-19 crisis.
- The City is entering the second full month of the Governor's Stay at Home Order. The Order was extended through May 30 with amendments which include face coverings for all performing essential tasks, several state parks reopened for recreation and a few non-essential businesses can open to allow for pick up, more details to follow.
- The seven day average for new COVID-19 cases is 10. There are over 900 people in self-isolation and this includes those being closely monitored by our Health Department.
- Personal Protective Equipment inventory is in good shape.
- Face coverings can include scarves or handkerchiefs. If someone is in need of assistance in obtaining a face covering, please call 847-448-4311 for supply availability.
- Hospital systems in Evanston are stable.
- The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) has set up specific long term care procedures and they are making appropriate adjustments to fit the need. Health Department staff is working closely with IDPH and there will be more information later.
- Police engagement shows decent compliance with the Governor's Stay at Home Order.

Spotlight on Domestic Violence: (Karen Singer - CEO YWCA)

- There has been a decline in calls because many agencies have discontinued their crisis line - not accepting new residents in the shelters.
- Calls to the statewide hotline have increased by 30%. The greatest need for callers is safety planning and shelter. Currently, shelters are at capacity.
- Decrease in the emergency order of protection due to restricted court access. However, the Skokie courthouse is still hearing requests for orders of protection. Also, YWCA will prepare orders electronically and virtually provide legal information to callers.
- The Evanston/Northshore YWCA crisis line is closed and referring callers to the state crisis line.
- IL statewide domestic violence hotline number is **877-863-6338** is currently in operation. They will have access to transportation and hotels.
- The YWCA's 24-hour crisis line will reopen on April 27. That number is **877-718-1868**. The crisis line is primarily focusing on safety planning.

Sector Updates

Hospitals

- St. Francis (Kenneth Jones)
 - 353 positive patients and 75 discharges
 - Antibody testing will be launching next week
 - PPE remains in good shape
- Evanston Hospital (Doug Silverstein)
 - 25K tests completed with 6K positive
 - E-visits are at 13K with a little over 3K drive-thrus
 - PPE remains in good shape

Legislators

- **Jan Schakowsky's Office (Ann Limjoco)**
 - Additional \$484 billion dollars signed into legislation from the White House for COVID-19 relief.
- **Senator Laura Fine's Office (Laura Fine)**
 - Secretary of State is continuing to extend the rule for renewal or expired driver's licenses. Once the Secretary of State Office reopened, drivers have an additional 90 days to renew.
- **Robyn Gabel's Office (Robyn Gabel)**
 - The State is continuing to work with long term care facilities to assist with staff training and IL healthcare volunteers.
- **Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz's Office (Karen)**
 - The Governor's team has new data on the COVID-19 state website for viewing.
- **Commissioner Larry Suffredin's Office (Adam)**
 - May 1 is still the deadline for property assessment appeals.

Senior Living (Mary Leary)

- Appreciate the City for follow up with IDPH webinar
- Providers are looking for more testing to be readily available
- Concern: more information on trace testing is needed
- Continuing to monitor PPE supplies, as it is still an issue.

Private Nonprofit (Dave Davis)

- This group will launch an online resource to assist the social network in navigating around specific resources available.
- Established subcommittees are focused on Long Term Care facilities, child care, food insecurities, and undocumented residents.
- Will determine goals and report back to the taskforce soon.

Mental Health (Christine Sommerville)

- May is mental health awareness month

Business (Roger Sosa)

- Monitoring the PPE funding bill for face coverings for businesses
- Continuing to work on fundraising

Northwestern University (Luke Figora)

- Summer quarter continuing remotely
- Will make a decision on June 1 concerning planning for the fall

Education (Eric Whitterspoon & Phil Ehrhardt)

- The spotlight celebration for the seniors last Friday was a success
- Lights will continue to be in effect each Friday until graduation to honor Seniors
- Will hold a virtual graduation ceremony on May 25
- Over 3K students are online daily
- Will be planning for summer school soon

Faith-Based (Rev. Dr. Micheal Nabors)

- Sent article to Houses of Worship from the Washington Post on how COVID-19 has impacted their community
- Grateful for mask donations and 5K hand sanitizers for been gifted for distribution
- Clergy will visit the food pantry distribution area next week
- Most Houses of Worship are on a social media platform to continue to communicate with parishioners

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 28 at 1:30 p.m.