

# COVID-19 Task Force, Meeting Notes

April 28, 2020

## **Situation Report (Mayor Steve Hagerty)**

- There was a definite advantage to establishing the taskforce early on in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- There is a value in having multiple responses to keep our community strong and viable
- Other neighboring areas are establishing similar committees

## **Spotlight on Recovery Effort: (Luke Stowe/Lara Biggs - City of Evanston)**

- The City has started to focus on a community-wide recovery plan, led by Lara Biggs and Luke Stowe. The plan will take several weeks to develop and will include members of the taskforce sectors, who will assist City staff with the development of the plan. This community effort will address needs for the coming weeks, months, and beyond.
- The City borrowing best practices from both the public and private sectors, and customizing the information for Evanston to address:
  - Health & Human Services
  - Economic Recovery
  - Housing
  - Natural & Cultural Resources
  - Infrastructure
- A consistent plan and voice are crucial in our efforts while we all continue to address various concerns and gaps for recovery.

## **Special Report on Community Video: (Annie Coakley, Downtown Evanston)**

- Hired a local media company to produce a 3-minute [video](#) for all the hard-working first responders and volunteers in our community.

## **Sector Updates**

### **Hospitals**

- St. Francis (Kenneth Jones)
  - 443 positive cases and 90 successful discharges for the hospital
  - PPE inventory is good
  - Continuing to maintain pharmacy medication for COVID-19 patient follow up
  - Gradually reopening over the next 3 weeks by the target date of May 11
  - Working with the City on healthcare disparities
- Northshore Evanston Hospital (Doug Silverstein)
  - PPE inventory is good

- Between 1,000 and 1,200 test performed daily
- Plans are underway for reopening operating rooms effective on May 11, and elective surgery plan for restarting underway

### **Senior Living (Mary Leary)**

- Challenges for long-term care facilities are:
  - There continues to be contradictions between the Governor and IDPH re: the use of full PPE if a provider does not have any confirmed cases
  - They continue to have PPE needs
  - Communicate with the respective Senior Care Facilities as soon as your team completes its contact tracing on each confirmed case. Additional note, when can communities expect contact tracing to begin once a community notifies the City of a confirmed case?

### **Private Nonprofit (Monique Jones)**

- Focused on subcommittee progress and will have an update
- Calls have begun regarding recovery efforts
- Focusing on providing advocacy for stimulus package funding

### **Northwestern University (Luke Figora)**

- Beginning recovery mode for return of students to the campus for the Fall
- Remote learning continues

### **Education (Eric Whitterspoon & Phil Ehrhardt)**

- Students should prepare for e-learning in the Fall and the possibility of blended learning.

**Next Meeting: Friday, May 1st at 1:30 p.m.**