COVID-19 Task Force, Meeting Notes
May 22, 2020

Situation Report (Mayor Hagerty)
● The City continues to meet the major milestones and metrics to safely move into the 3rd Phase of Recovery

Spotlight on a Great Evanstonian - Hecky Powell (Community members)
● Speaking tributes to Mr. Hecky Powell, business owner and life-long Evanstonian.

Hospitals
● St. Francis Amita (Kenneth Jones)
  ○ 41 confirmed cases, 12 PUIs, and 10 ventilated patients
  ○ 109 hospitalized and 21 in ICU

● Evanston Hospital (Dr. Matt Plofsky)
  ○ Northshore continues to see a decline in confirmed cases
  ○ 172 patients from two weeks ago to 97 current confirmed cases
  ○ 42 patients in ICU to 21 patients in ICU
  ○ Launched antibody testing this week. Scheduling and test information will be distributed soon.

Legislators
● Jan Schakowsky’s Office (Ann Limjoco)
  ○ Federal government approved the IL plan to enable $1.8 million for SNAP recipients to purchase food from participating grocery stores
  ○ Access will be provided to all existing Link card holders on June 2
  ○ https://www.fns.usda.gov/snap/online-purchasing-pilot

● Senator Laura Fine’s Office (Laura Fine)
  ○ Vote-by-mail expansion passes the State Senate, goes to Pritzker’s desk (updated after the call)
  ○ Working on expanding telehealth for constituents
  ○ Continuing to work on budget issues

● Robyn Gabel’s Office (Robyn Gabel)
  ○ Working on funding for local health departments and community care centers
• Jennifer Gong-Gershowitz’s Office
  ○ No report

• Commissioner Larry Suffredin’s Office (Adam Newman)
  ○ Cook County Board passed the bill on penalties for late property tax payments from August 3 to October 1

Senior Living (Mary Leary)
• Task Force meeting discussed recommendations for IL Department of Public Health’s guidance regarding transitioning to the next phase for congregate providers
• Need confirmation from the Evanston Health Department allowing tests from IDPH to be used to test residents and employees in independent living

Business (Roger Sosa)
• Received feedback from the Task Force group on incorporating guidelines for customers when the soft reopening begins
• Finding PPE sourcing for restaurant employees
• Continuing to work on programming course for Recovery University

Mental Health (Christine Sommerville)
• Held first meeting for the mental health task force. The primary objectives were:
  ○ Create mental health metrics to track local progression
  ○ Create a local educational campaign on mental health awareness
  ○ Share self help and care for a public service announcement
  ○ Distribute and provide resource lists for community members

Faith-Based (Rabbi London)
• Houses of worship are compiling a document to have consistent uniformity around keeping people safe
• Working together to review different policies
• Drafting letter to be signed by clergy regarding values and goals and would like the mayor to review it

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 26 at 1:30 p.m.