

# 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.**