Homeless Services Provider Call 10/22/20 – NOTES

- Welcome - Jessica
- Information and Updates:
  o Public Health Update - Matt
    - Total persons tested positive 2,853
    - Deaths – 25
      - Reminder that there are some populations that are particularly vulnerable
    - Reproductive number is dropping – below 1 and has been for awhile
      - Case rates will drop along as that happens
      - 3.8 cases per 100,000 in population; CA is 7
      - 1.6% positivity rate; CA at 3.3
    - CA has colored tier system
      - More activity if less spreading
      - if the county keeps up the low numbers, we can move to a lower tier
      - equity measure – look at the bringing down the parts of the community that have the most spread
    - Legislature passed law that employers are required to notify employees if people in the workplace test positive
    - All outdoor playgrounds and state parks are now open – still wear masks and maintain social distancing
    - State released information on how other households can spend time together
      - Pick 2 other households that you do things with
      - Gather outdoors and for 2 hours or less
    - Testing site at Ramsey Park is still open – working on increasing testing capacity there
    - Much more testing is available in the county – no longer feeling like we need to ration testing
    - HPHP looking at doing testing as they go to shelters for flu shots
    - Encourage people to get tested if they are interested
    - There have not been significant new cases in the homeless community
  o Outreach to unsheltered persons/HOSS+ – Joey
    - Growing encampments –
- Outreach has been going out to them
  - Additional discussions going to happen regarding providing supplies for the winter nights
  - Anticipated that the City of Santa Cruz will be clearing camps along the river by 11/15
  - Requesting additional hygiene and sanitary stations to provide where people will likely go
  - 5 overdoses just this week at encampments that HPHP knows about
    - Reassuring that lots of people have access to and are using Narcan and other life-saving measures
    - Decrease in opioid related deaths in Santa Cruz
      - Credit to outreach teams and harm reduction folks
  - Planning for winter and winter supplies
  - HPHP going out to larger shelters for flu shots and covid tests
    - Hard to get people to take flu shots
    - Able to 454-2080 – can get flu shot/COVID test at HPHP clinic or in car
  - Testing is available – HPHP can make it work!
    - Hoping to have capacity to do some proactive testing out on sites
  - Can expect more people congregating inside with winter months – more exposure risk for covid and other infectious diseases
    - Have good hygiene practices
- Isolation Shelter (motel) Update – Monica/Jen
  - The last motel is up and running. We have 12 guests and 9 available rooms. A few rooms are still being cleaned so that number of available rooms will go up.
  - The census at the other 4 IQV hotels is a total of 182 with 2 rooms available
- Supporting existing shelters update – Brooke
  - Sent out a request last week from HSD Director that all shelters complete their HMIS FEMA intake forms
    - If you are struggling with completing the forms – please reach out, we will figure out a way to help you
    - It is really important to get the FEMA reports to get funding in
  - Public Health is looking at updates to the shelter guidance
  - Next shelter meeting – discussions about winter planning at shelters
  - Working on de-escalation training
- Expanded Shelter update – Tom
• Training will be resuming soon for the staff at the expanded shelters
  • Will move to include the IQV motels
  o Benchlands - Adam
  o TAY shelter update – Meg
    ▪ 1 new person joined the site; another person joining this week
    ▪ Working on where the site will be moving
    ▪ Push for voting
  o Q & A – Jessica/all
    ▪ Sylvia
      • Voting – encourage people to vote
      • Providing programming at congregate shelters, financial awareness training
      • Winter holidays – donations for holiday gifts
    ▪ Tom
      • Holiday planning is going on at Vets Halls and motels
      • Vote-mobile – people are still hesitant
    ▪ Debbie
      • A couple of people denied housing because of credit history
        o Resources?
• Next call with be Thursday, November 4 at 10:00 am