Coordinated Entry Agency Updates – April 1, 2020

Coordinated Entry Administrator – Evan Caster, evan.caster@ppchp.org

All weekly CE Agency Updates and lists of resources will be posted and available on CHP’s website: https://www.ppchp.org/homelessness/covid-19/

NOTE: these are not official announcements from agencies, but notes I took during the meeting. If I misrepresented your agency or policies in anyway, please let me know and I will issue a correction.

Census 2020:
- United State Census 2020 is open for responses including our homeless neighbors. Please encourage everyone to fill out the Census 2020: https://2020census.gov/en/what-is-2020-census/focus/people-experiencing-homelessness.html

Updates sent to/from the Pikes Peak Continuum of Care:
- The Pikes Peak Workforce Center is holding their annual job fair virtually next week (4/8/20). Job fair will be open from 4/8-4/30, more details here: https://ppwfc.org/annual-spring-job-fair/
- Safety Net Clinics of Colorado Springs have updates being compiled on the CHP website, https://www.ppchp.org/homelessness/covid-19/
- Email from the Colorado Springs Health Foundation providing resources for small businesses and non-profits seeking financial support. Includes explained of the CARES ACT
- Colorado Springs is setting up an isolation center at the City Auditorium for the homeless population. Click to read the Gazette article. City of COS announcement on their Facebook page:
  - The City is partnering with the Springs Rescue Mission and other Continuum of Care providers to set up an isolation shelter for people who are experiencing homelessness and show symptoms of COVID-19. It will be located at the City Auditorium in downtown Colorado Springs.
  - The shelter will serve people who show symptoms of or test positive for COVID-19 but who do not need hospitalization. This is an important step in slowing the spread of the virus in our shelter systems and help flatten the curve in our community. This is especially important for people experiencing homelessness because they are a vulnerable community with higher rates of chronic health issues, which puts them at a higher risk of injury or death if they contract the virus.
  - Right now the isolation shelter will only take referrals from Memorial Central Hospital and shelter providers. The shelter opens at 4 p.m. April 1, 2020.

Peak Vista:
- Peak Vista medical support will be available in offices at Springs Rescue Mission, M-F
- The Peak Vista Medical Van will be posted at the City Auditorium helping with the isolation center, days of operation are likely Monday, Wednesday, and Friday
Southern Colorado Health Network:
- SCHN will be open Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday (9:00am-5:00pm). Case managers are working from home other days. Call for support

Catholic Charities of Central Colorado:
- Catholic Charities is not providing rent assistance at this time. Will let you know if that changes.

Message from El Paso County Public Health and Salvation Army:
“If you, or anyone you know, have lost wages or employment due to COVID-19 and need emergency assistance with mortgage/rent, utility bills, clothing, medication bills or other needs in order to keep families in their homes, please call 855-768-7977.

As a reminder this relief fund is only allocated for those who have been financially impacted by COVID-19. They ask that you be able to provide a letter from your employer or previous employer stating that your hours have been reduced or a letter stating that you have been laid off due to COVID-19 to determine eligibility when calling.

IN THESE TIMES OF UNCERTAINTY, THE SALVATION ARMY STANDS STRONG, PROVIDING HOPE AND HELP TO THOSE WHO NEED IT.

We know that it is not just those who test positive for the coronavirus who will be affected. The Salvation Army is prepared to offer long-term support to affected families and individuals as needed, including emergency assistance with rent and utility payments for workers who have lost wages or employment due to COVID-19 closures and cancellations. Army staff will also be available to offer emotional and spiritual care.

The Salvation Army provides emergency assistance to help with mortgage/rent, utility bills, clothing, medication bills, and other needs in order to keep families in their homes. For more information or support, find a location near you, or learn more online.

You can also visit their website at https://centralusa.salvationarmy.org/metro/coronavirus-disease/ for more information.”

Stay safe and stay well everyone!