

COVID-19 Emergency Housing Program Plan

County: Pierce County

Date: March 31, 2020

The purpose of the grant funding is to address the COVID-19 outbreak related public health needs of people experiencing homelessness or otherwise in need of quarantine or isolation housing due to the outbreak.

Grantees can complete this Plan template or transfer the information from the four sections into a narrative document.

1. Brief description of how the Grantee is consulting with and coordinating the use of funds with following entities:

The county government (if the Grantee is not the county government)	Pierce County Human Services (the grantee)
Largest city in the county	Tacoma
Consolidated Homeless Grant grantee	Pierce County Human Services
Local public health jurisdiction	Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department

2. Name and contact information of local public health officer that reviewed this Plan:

Dr. Anthony L-T Chen, MD, MPH

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3. Brief description of how the Grantee will use funds to develop the following:

Create isolation and quarantine and Isolation beds: describe actions to address quarantine and isolation housing needs of	Pierce County Human Services, City of Tacoma, and Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department are working together to identify isolation/quarantine sites that meet all requirements. Local hospitals have identified 236 available staffed beds. In addition, we have: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Site for 24 individuals is fully functioning;
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<p>people living unsheltered or in homeless housing or who cannot isolate or quarantine themselves in housing previously available to them.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site for 30 individuals is being outfitted and staffed; • Site for 124 individuals is in the final stages of public notification and contracting. • Three additional sites are being considered by the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department throughout the County <p>The Pierce County Department of Emergency Management in unified command with the Health Department has a list of sites they are working through. Unified Command has the lead on contacting locations and determining if the sites are eligible. Pierce County plans to prioritize the \$1.6 million for the services and needs for the homeless population, as funds are still available, for the Isolation/Quarantine county-wide for all populations. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department, Pierce County Human Services, and City of Tacoma will continue seeking reimbursement for the additional costs as warranted.</p>
<p>Increase sanitation and hygiene in existing homeless housing and encampments.</p>	<p>Pierce County, the City of Tacoma, and Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department have created a homeless taskforce to address sanitation and hygiene in homeless housing, emergency shelters, and encampments throughout the County. The City of Tacoma has deployed available hygiene and sanitation stations to four of the highest traffic areas at emergency shelters. These sites offer meals for persons experiencing homelessness as well. The Health Department deployed two handwashing stations, one at a high traffic area in Tacoma and one in Puyallup at a large encampment that has developed since COVID-19 began. Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department and Pierce County Human Services are working together to identify additional high traffic areas throughout the County and secure hygiene and sanitation resources at those locations. This includes working with the local YMCAs in 4 communities to potentially open for showers.</p>
<p>Create additional shelter capacity to replace shelter capacity lost when social distancing was increased.</p>	<p>We are working with all the shelter providers to increase capacity to allow for social distancing. This includes implementing a variety of options, from renting commercial property and/or schools, hotel/motels options for clients, to utilizing additional space at local non-profits. There is a COVID-19 Homeless Taskforce that is continuing to work on additional locations, staffing needs, supplies, and food for shelter providers. Pierce County Human Services will utilize available funding based on homeless population data for where in the County the population most in need of services and temporary emergency shelter is.</p>
<p>Other costs associated with addressing the public health needs of people experiencing homelessness or displaced from their former housing</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sanitation, hand washing stations, dumpster, and supervision/security, YMCA fees for shower usage • Emergency supplies such as PPE (gloves, masks, etc), cleaning materials, disposable food service and packaging, disinfectants, thermometers • Additional staffing: case management, behavioral

<p>due to the COVID-19 outbreak.</p>	<p>health, security, overtime, additional hiring, and volunteer support and supervision</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rental costs for isolation/quarantine location, expanded shelter space for social distancing, hotel/motel vouchers (including cleaning costs, damages, and clean-out fees) • Rental assistance, food/emergency supplies delivery, and supports to keep high risk individuals housed and out of the health care system • Transportation • Administrative costs • Cleaning of emergency shelters by professional cleaners • Other unexpected costs
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4. Process defined to determine unmet need for Isolation and Quarantine beds:

<p>Steps and timeline of the process the Grantee will implement to work with the local public health jurisdiction and other relevant stakeholders to estimate the unmet need for quarantine and isolated housing for people living unsheltered or living in homeless housing or who cannot isolate or quarantine themselves in housing previously available to them.</p>	<p>Pierce County Human Services, the City of Tacoma, and Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department have worked together for several weeks to implement the work outlined above. Two of the isolation/quarantine sites are up and running with additional sites expected by early April. Pierce County Department of Emergency Management in unified command with Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department has plans for additional temporary care centers to include Southeast Tacoma (Central Pierce County), East Pierce County, and West Pierce County.</p> <p>The additional shelter expansion for the two largest emergency shelters in Pierce County were fully functioning as of March 26th. These shelters expanded services at a local school and at a local hotel. All community partners are continuing to look for additional sites throughout the County for expanded emergency shelter options and day centers.</p>
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5. Completed estimate of the unmet need [count of needed beds] for quarantine and isolation housing for people living unsheltered or living in homeless housing or who cannot isolate or quarantine themselves in housing previously available to them.

<p>Assumptions used in the estimate, estimate can be reproduced with provided assumptions.</p>	<p>Assumptions used in creating the estimate for the homeless population was pulled from the homeless management information system. The assumption made was 40% of the population will be affected by COVID-19, and 40% of those will need to isolation/quarantine instead of local hospital support.</p>
<p>TOTAL need for # of beds</p>	<p>Homeless population= 736</p>