


COVID-19


Ohio Balance of State Continuum of Care

Monday, March 16, 2020




Coalition on Homelessness and Housing in Ohio | 175 S. Third St. Suite 580 Columbus, OH 43215


Webinar Information




All participants lines are muted.



Use the questions feature in the GoToWebinar control panel to submit questions.



This webinar will be posted to COHHIO's website.



This webinar is being recorded.

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Agenda

- What is COVID-19?
- Common Practice Reminders
- CDC and HUD Guidance
- What Ohio BoSCoC is Doing
- What COHHIO is Doing
- Resources

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COVID-19

COVID-19 is the disease caused by the new coronavirus. symptoms include cough, fever, and shortness of breath.



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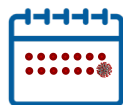
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COVID-19

The new coronavirus can be spread from person to person.



Symptoms tend to show up in people within 14 days of exposure to the virus.



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Common Practice Reminders

1. Wash your hands
2. Avoid close contact
3. Don't shake hands
4. Stay home if you're sick
5. Cover coughs and sneezes
6. Wear a facemask if you're sick
7. Clean and disinfect regularly



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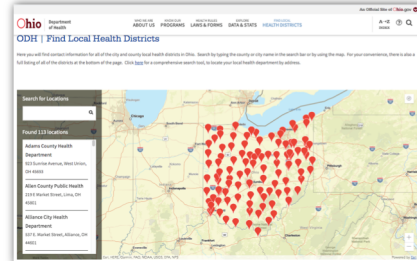
HUD and CDC Guidance

1. Communicate with local public health department

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HUD and CDC Guidance



<https://odh.ohio.gov/wps/portal/gov/odh/find-local-health-districts>

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HUD and CDC Guidance

1. Communicate with local public health department
2. Connect to community wide planning
3. Develop or update your emergency operations plan
4. Address key prevention strategies in your emergency operations plan
5. Communicate about COVID-19 and everyday preventative actions
6. Get input and support for your emergency operations and communications plan

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HUD and CDC Guidance

1. Put emergency operations and communication plans into action
2. Ensure that clients receive assistance in preventing disease spread and accessing care, as needed

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Detailed Recommendations

Connect with local public health department

- Determine what to do if someone with symptoms consistent with COVID-19 is in your project
- Determine local isolation/quarantine plan
- Seek out sanitation supplies, masks, etc, if needed

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Detailed Recommendations

Prepare Your Space

1. Stock-up on Sanitation Supplies
 - Follow CDC guidelines for making disinfecting solutions as needed
2. Provide handwashing supplies in bathrooms, kitchens, etc
3. Communicate and implement prevention strategies
 - Post signs about hand washing and how to do it
 - Staff wash hands hourly in addition to after using restroom, before meals, etc.
 - Post signs about no handshaking
4. Staff use disposable gloves if handling resident/client property

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Detailed Recommendations

Prepare Your Space – Congregate Facilities

1. Beds in sleeping areas should be at least 3 feet apart
2. Residents sleep head-to-toe or toe-to-toe
3. Identify possible area(s) for isolation or quarantine
 - Partner with local public health to identify other options, as needed, such as hotels

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Detailed Recommendations

Prepare Your Space – Congregate Facilities

1. Day-time operations
 - Respond to needs of homeless families now that schools are closed

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Detailed Recommendations

Managing Staffing and Service Provision

1. Develop plans for staff shortages
2. Train staff on prevention strategies and all new operations protocol
 - Require hourly handwashing
 - Require disposable gloves when handling resident possessions, including things like IDs taken during intake
3. Require staff who are ill to stay home
4. All non-essential staff work from home
5. Meetings with clients are not in-person, where possible
6. When meetings must be in-person, practice social distancing (at least 3 feet apart), or strive to have barriers in place

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Detailed Recommendations

Managing Staffing and Service Provision

1. Cancel public meetings/services in your buildings

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Detailed Recommendations

Managing Entries into Congregate Facilities

1. Screen prospective residents for symptoms and possible interaction with people with the infection
2. If a possible COVID-19 case is identified, follow the plan you already established with local public health
 - Report it as appropriate
 - Refer to hospital, if that is the local plan
 - Connect person to isolation/quarantine space
 - Do NOT simply deny assistance to someone you suspect may have COVID-19

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Detailed Recommendations

Additional Considerations for Congregate Facilities

1. Develop responses to keep vulnerable residents safe, if COVID-19 cases are occurring locally
 - Eg, Move elderly residents, those with underlying medical conditions to hotels temporarily
 - Temporarily prioritize RRH assistance for vulnerable shelter residents regardless of past homeless history
2. Consider staggering meal times to allow for more social distancing between residents

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Detailed Recommendations

Additional Considerations for Scattered-Site Projects

1. Conduct case management meetings via phone, not in-person
2. Check in with elderly and medically vulnerable clients – past and present – to ensure they have sufficient supplies of food and hygiene products

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What Ohio BoSCoC is Doing

- Developing formal communication chains
 - POCs identified for each Homeless Planning Region
 - Will post those on CoC webpage as confirmed
 - CoC will communicate via BoSCoC listserv
- Providing guidance and support
 - All materials posted online
 - <https://copenhio.org/boscoc/covid19/>
- Collecting information about your local community/provider needs, to share with state leadership and inform COHHIO advocacy

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What COHHIO is Doing

- Advocacy on behalf of homeless systems and providers to the State
- Provide resources and training regarding COVID preparedness to providers and systems
- Collect information about needs of providers and system leads

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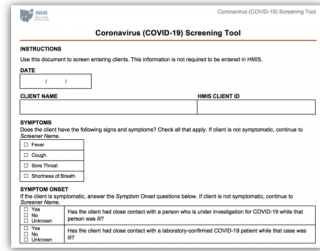
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Screening Tool

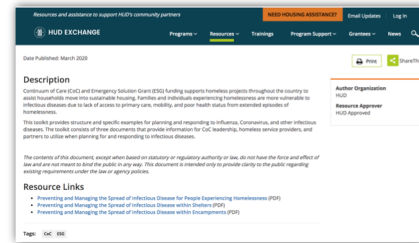


<https://cohho.org/boscoc/covid19/>

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HUD: Infectious Disease Toolkit for CoCs



<https://www.hudexchange.info/resource/5985/infectious-disease-toolkit-for-cocs/>

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HUD SNAPS

Infectious Disease Preparedness Guidance for Homeless Assistance Providers



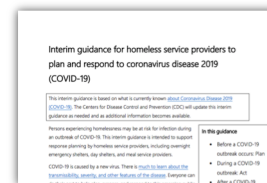
<https://www.hudexchange.info/trainings/courses/infectious-disease-preparedness-for-homeless-assistance-providers-and-their-partners>

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CDC

Interim guidance for homeless service providers to plan and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)



<https://files.hudexchange.info/resources/documents/Interim-Guidance-for-Homeless-Service-Providers-to-Plan-and-Respond-to-COVID-19.pdf>

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USICH

Guidance for homeless service providers to plan and respond to coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19)



<https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/coronavirus-covid-19-resources/>

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Communicate Your Needs

What additional resources and supports are needed to develop and implement your COVID-19 responses?

- Do you need funding to pay for more staff to outreach to people who are unsheltered at risk?
- Do you need access to resources to help you move highly vulnerable people out of your congregate shelter and into independent housing?
- Do you need funding to help you update and improve sanitary conditions of your facilities?

Communicate needs via: <https://cohhio.org/boscoc/covid19/>

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Contact

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Thank You

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