

Summary of Santa Clara County Continuum of Care Efforts in Response to COVID-19

Since the COVID-19 crisis began, Santa Clara County has disseminated guidance, in multiple languages when possible, to sheltered and unsheltered persons and to agencies operating temporary shelters, outreach programs, day centers, supportive housing program sites, and affordable housing developments.

The County Office of Supportive Housing is working with the City and our local non-profits and service providers coordinating services including mobile medical services to support individuals who are elderly and/or have underlying health conditions.

The County is seeking to improve access to basic need services through day-time service centers and/or locations where homeless persons may go to for assistance (e.g., Emergency Assistance Network agencies – locally CSA). All shelters are open 24/7 and banks of motel rooms are also being reserved. Working with its partners, the County is identifying clients eligible for motel voucher, prioritizing according to those who have tested positive, those tested and waiting results, those at risk, and then all other unsheltered persons.

The County is working to provide additional supplies like hygiene kits, and increasing supplies or addressing supply needs at temporary shelter sites. They are seeking to expand temporary shelter capacity in order to increase social distancing and establishing protocols to better separate at-risk individuals staying at existing shelters.

The County has also worked closely with City staff and our community partners on developing solutions related to safe parking, ramping up the timing of having the sites operational, and providing additional services to our homeless population.