

COHH 2017-22 Strategic Plan  
 COVID-19 and Other Infectious Diseases Response Addendum: July 31, 2020

**Objective 1: Enhance the Coordinated Entry System** - to identify and prioritize needs and service provision

Strategies	Observables	Responsibility	Date of Implementation
The COHH will establish a prioritization policy to include COVID-19 and/or other infectious diseases related cases for referrals to housing solutions.	Create Policy and procedure for prioritizing high risk COVID-19 / other infectious diseases	COHH, VFCCH, participating agencies, Volusia and Flagler Counties, Hospitals, Health Department	Effective date: July 1, 2020
The COHH will implement CARES Act funding to be included in the Coordinated Entry process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track ESG-CV outcomes in HMIS –</li> <li>• 100% of participating HMIS agencies will assist with entry into HMIS and Coordinated Entry</li> </ul>	VFCCH Lead Agency, CoHH, HMIS Committee, Coordinated Entry Committee and Participating Agencies	Effective date: July 1, 2020

**Objective 2: Assure the provision of Homeless Prevention, Early Intervention Services and Human Services**

- to identify and stabilize People at greatest risk of losing their housing and entering emergency shelters or unsheltered locations due to COVID-19

Strategies	Observables	Observables	Date of Implementation
Determine what funding allocations will best target prevention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and allocate prevention funding by geographical area</li> <li>• Ensure prevention funding is being provided to community-based organizations and/or non-</li> </ul>	COHH, Volusia County, Flagler County, VFCCH	Effective date: July 1, 2020

	traditional partners best able to reach into highly impacted communities		
Serve people who are likely to have to stay in emergency shelter or unsheltered location because of individual circumstances, or because they have experienced a crisis event (e.g. fleeing DV, having a health problem, being evicted from housing) that is likely to lead to homelessness due to the impact of COVID-19.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reconfigure HMIS data entry intake for to include COVID-19 / other infectious diseases data (client choice)</li> <li>Track homeless prevention related to COVID-19 / other infectious diseases in HMIS</li> </ul>	VFCCH Lead Agency, CoHH, Participating agencies	Effective date: July 1, 2020
Collaborate with other systems to implement group strategies.  Many people who are at the highest risk of homelessness do not seek help, or they are ineffective at seeking help. Often key partners (e.g. health clinics, schools, police, religious leaders) will be the first ones to know whether someone is at risk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engage additional Non-profit agencies/Faith Based to participate in HMIS and coordinated Entry for access to housing and homeless prevention services.</li> <li>Other useful resources include ESG, ESG-CV, CDBG-CV, SSVF and TANF and Challenge grants.</li> </ul>	VFCCH Lead Agency, CoHH, Participating agencies	ongoing
Implement Secondary prevention strategies, commonly referred to as <b>Diversion</b> strategies. Provide a safe alternative for people who are seeking shelter or are moving to an unsheltered location. Often, secondary prevention programs will identify short-term solutions, such as staying with a family member or delaying an eviction for a couple	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Create procedures at coordinated entry access points AND emergency shelters to implement a problem-solving approach in accordance with CDC guidelines to promote safety and social distancing</li> <li>Apply Diversion techniques.</li> </ul>	VFCCH Lead Agency, CoHH, Participating agencies	

weeks while working with a participant on a more permanent solution.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify flexible funding sources.</li> </ul>		
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**Objective 3: Increase services, retool existing services and enhance the provision of housing services** - in alignment with Housing First best practices to include the spectrum of emergency, transitional and permanent supportive housing coordination and availability to address the chronically homeless impacted by COVID-19.

Strategies	Observables	Responsibility	Date of Implementation
Ensure diversion, housing-focused problem solving, flexible fund resources, and other resources are available	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work as a community to plan and use funding to avoid duplication of services</li> <li>Create a plan to ensure that no one who is in a hotel and motel room or other non-congregate setting exits to the street or shelter, but rather exits to permanent housing</li> </ul>	COHH, VFCCH, participating agencies, Health Departments, Hospitals other community stakeholders	Effective date: July 1, 2020
Increase and retool existing emergency shelter and transitional housing programs to provide effective screening and triage for intake, isolation or referral to on-congregate setting in response to COVID-19 / other infectious diseases	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Redefine screening procedures and operations in accordance with CDC guidelines</li> <li>adjusting operations in accordance with CDC guidelines</li> <li>invite health department/local healthcare to provide regular on-site hours of operations and wellness checks</li> </ul>	Emergency shelter and transitional housing providers. Health departments. Hospitals,	Effective date: July 1, 2020

<p>Increase and Implement Rapid Re-Housing targeting COVID-19 / other infectious diseases impacted persons using CARES Act or other pertinent funding to include: ESG-CV (entitlement and non-entitlement), CDBG-CV, other Federal, State and local funding targeting Impacted persons</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Apply for maximum amount of DCF ESG-CV for RRH</li> <li>• Implement RRH as part of the overall Housing Surge Model (previously used SSVF Model)</li> </ul>	<p>COHH, Volusia and Flagler Counties, VFCCH, Participating agencies, HMIS participating agencies</p>	<p>Effective date: July 1, 2020</p>
<p>Increase the number of Permanent Supportive Housing Beds available to use for High priority COVID-19 and/or other infectious diseases impacting Chronically homeless and high utilizers.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Use Coordinated Entry to prioritize COVID-19 and or other infectious diseases impacting high risk clients for entry into existing PSH housing</li> <li>• Partner with Housing authorities to increase availability of HCV programs to include VASH, Mainstream vouchers, homeless Preference vouchers, and Foster Youth to Independence vouchers.</li> </ul>	<p>COHH, VFCCH, Housing Authorities, participating agencies.</p>	<p>Effective date: July 1, 2020</p>
<p>Sustain robust landlord engagement strategies</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure that people are housed quickly and that tenant-based rental subsidies can be utilized quickly and efficiently.</li> </ul>	<p>VFCCH, Participating agencies, landlords, Housing authorities</p>	

**Objective 4: Assure access to Health Services** - to include interagency case management and referral support

<p>Provide access to immediate COVID-19 other infectious disease testing for homeless/at risk of</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitor clients who could be at high risk for complications from</li> </ul>	<p>Health Department, Halifax Health, Advent Health and</p>	<p>Effective date: July 1, 2020</p>
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homelessness individuals presenting as symptomatic	<p>COVID-19 (those who are older or have underlying health conditions) and outreach to them regularly</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer to health departments, hospitals or other available testing centers for immediate testing</li> <li>• Develop MOU(s) with local Federally Qualified Health Testing Centers to provide testing as part of homeless outreach to those who lack resource to testing sites</li> </ul>	other regional health providers	
Creating a response plan for assisting people who test positive for COVID-19 and/or other infectious diseases who are experiencing homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make available non-congregate isolation options for those positive COVID-19 cases where hospitalization is not required</li> </ul>	COHH, VFCCH, Salvation Army, Health Departments, Halifax Health, Advent Health	Effective date: July 1, 2020

**Objective 5: Assist clients to achieve Economic Stability** - involving education and training tied to employment and financial stability

Assess economic impact on clients for linkage to COVID-19 and/or other infectious disease related assistance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Refer clients through coordinated Entry for linkage to housing interventions that will</li> </ul>	COHH, VFCCH, Salvation Army, Health Departments, Halifax Health, Advent Health	Effective date: July 1, 2020
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	<p>provide the most appropriate level of housing stability</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide case management services to assist impacted individuals with linkage to employment opportunities</li> </ul>		

**Objective 6: Assure the implementation of Outreach and Safety Activities** to identify those experiencing homelessness to increase community and personal safety

Supporting existing homelessness services providers to maintain capacity and care for people experiencing homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing hygiene and sanitation to prevent or slow the spread of the VOVID-19 virus, including provider training and access to centralized supply purchasing and distribution</li> </ul>	COHH, VFCCH, participating agencies, Health Department, Halifax Health, Advent Health and other regional health providers.	Effective date: July 1, 2020
Ensure that any people who remain unsheltered are being regularly contacted and engaged, screened, and tested as needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establish and sustain regular support for any people who remain unsheltered</li> <li>• Examine situation of those who remain unsheltered; assess whether they remain unsheltered because of lack of beds available or because they do not want the assistance being offered or the assistance</li> </ul>	COHH, VFCCH, participating agencies, health departments	

	being offered is unacceptable to them;		
Creating a response plan for assisting people who test positive for COVID-19 and/or other infectious diseases who are experiencing homelessness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Make available non-congregate isolation options for those positive cases where hospitalization is not required</li> <li>• Make available non-congregate shelter options for those individuals and families who are literally homeless and at high risk due to the impact of COVID-19/other infectious diseases</li> </ul>	COHH, VFCCH, Salvation Army, Health Departments, Halifax Health, Advent Health	Effective date: July 1, 2020