

Vermont COVID 19  
Statewide Homeless &  
Housing Update



# Statewide Homeless Response Plan

- Shelter Network Strategies
- Slow the Spread to Maintain Care and Response Capacity
- Community Mitigation
- Shelter or get to the right Setting

# Update on Progress

- Decrease census as needed at shelter sites; 24/7 capacity
- Relocated many emergency shelters to help them meet social distancing requirements
- Work with Economic Services to understand which motels are being used and be able to provide outreach/meal delivery
- Understand and meet the housing needs of multiple vulnerable populations
- Creating minimum capacity at multiple locations across the state for isolation and recovery housing

# Support clients in emergency & supportive housing remotely



Communities are encouraged to continue to provide outreach/support during the COVID-19 outbreak



May be difficult as some shelters have transported guest to motels

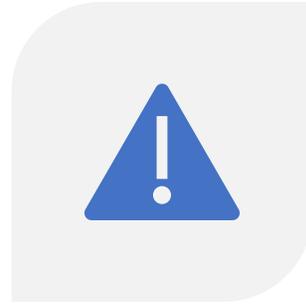


As much as possible staff should use telephonic or remote case management strategies

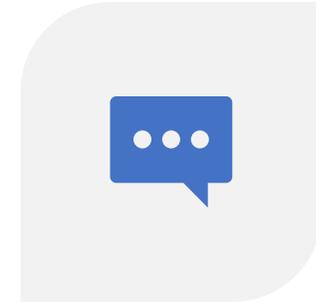


If possible, conduct daily, remote check ins

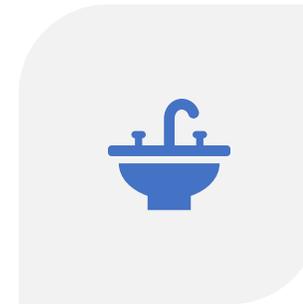
# Support guests to follow isolation guidance



MINIMIZE RISK BY SHARING FACT-  
BASED INFORMATION



OFFER THEM MATERIALS/GUIDANCE  
ABOUT SOCIAL DISTANCING AND  
LIMITING TIME IN PUBLIC PLACES



REMIND THEM/PROVIDE MATERIALS  
ON HEALTH AND HYGIENE INCLUDING  
HAND WASHING

# Supporting Guests with Isolation



Assure clients that they will not lose their housing if they have the Corona Virus



Ensure clients have access to food, fluids, toiletries, garbage bags and cleaning supplies



Ensure adequate supply and refills for needed medications



Identify any mental health, isolation or re-traumatization issues that may emerge



Make sure they have access to a phone and technology for remote access as available and appropriate (skype, tablet, computer, internet access, etc.)



Remind them to call their PCP if they develop symptoms

# If you do make an in-person visit

If you must make an in-person, bring the following:

- Hand sanitizer if available
- Clorox/cleaning wipes OR disinfectant spray/paper towels.
- Good for washing your hands, opening doors to apartment buildings, wiping down your steering wheel frequently, wiping down your phone, etc.
- Garbage bags (plastic grocery bags are perfect for this) to dispose of dirty gloves/tissues/wipes
- Disposable gloves
- Masks to be given to people who are actively coughing or feverish
- Soap, toilet paper, & garbage bags if available for people who don't have any in their home. Many people don't have income or run out of these things quickly.
- For meals – **Knock & Drop**. Step back to maintain proper distance.

## Shelter guests with SUD

Shelter guests can get extended supply of MAT at this time to limit transactions/need to go out

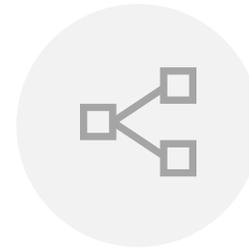
Providers can pick up medications at HUB or at pharmacy; may need to transfer meds to local pharmacy-do providers need help connecting to HUBs?

For guests with SUD not getting MAT, do they want to connect with a treatment provider so that they are comfortable during this time?

# Working with vulnerable populations in traumatic time



A TRAUMA-INFORMED APPROACH TO CONVERSATIONS WITH PEOPLE EXPERIENCING REACTIVATED TRAUMA RESPONSE IS BEST SUPPORTED BY THE RICH PRINCIPLES: RESPECT, INFORMATION, CONNECTION, AND HOPE. *TIPS ON RICH WILL BE SENT OUT AFTER WEBINAR*

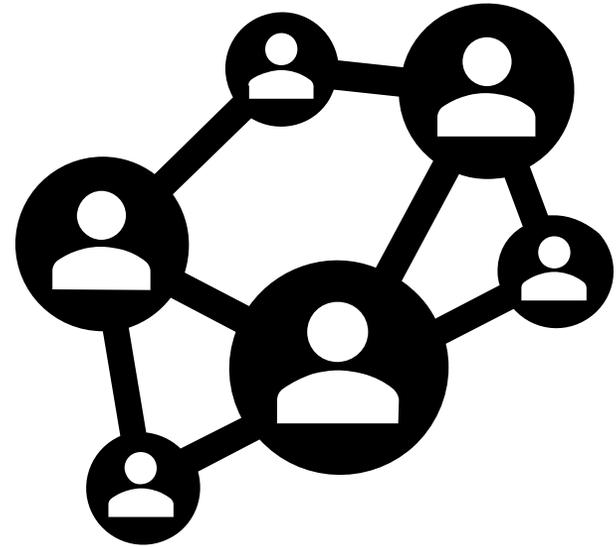


IN ADDITION, DURING THIS TIME OF HIGHER FEAR AND ANXIETY, SELF-REGULATION AND ASSISTING CLIENTS TO REGULATE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE IS KEY TO AN EFFECTIVE INTERACTION.



FOR DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE PLEASE SEE: [VERMONT NETWORK AGAINST DOMESTIC AND SEXUAL VIOLENCE COVID-19 RESOURCE PAGE](#) OR FOR NATIONAL GUIDANCE, [FUTURES WITHOUT VIOLENCE COVID-19 RESOURCE SITE](#) – FULL OF HELPFUL TOOLS AND INFO

# Community Response Teams





Questions?

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