



District of Columbia
Interagency Council on Homelessness
Strategic Planning Committee



May 25, 2021

Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Emergency Housing Vouchers Overview
- III. Preparing for “Re-Opening”
- IV. Breakout Group Discussion & Report Outs
- V. ICH Executive Director Transition
- VI. Partner Announcement & Updates
- VII. Adjournment

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What are Emergency Housing Vouchers (EHVs)?

- The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARP) appropriated \$5 billion for 70,000 new incremental EHVs
- EHVs are tenant-based rental assistance under section 8(o) of the United States Housing Act of 1937 (42 U.S.C. 1437f(o))
- System level coordination required between PHA, CoC and key implementation partners (e.g., DHS, victim service providers, community)

What is the Opportunity for the District?

- EHV's will be allocated to Public Housing Authorities
- DC has been allocated \$11.7 million for EHV's
 - DCHA has accepted the full allocation and requested additional vouchers
- DCHA is still determining how many vouchers **this will fund** (HUD estimates this will translate into 707 new EHV's, however, actual cost will be based on family composition and actual rents)

Who is eligible?

- Eligibility for these EHV's is limited to individuals and families who are:
 - (1) homeless;
 - (2) at risk of homelessness;
 - (3) fleeing, or attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking or human trafficking; or
 - (4) recently homeless and for whom providing rental assistance will prevent the family's homelessness (e.g. Households in currently in RRH/FRSP)
- CoC (TCP) is responsible for determining whether a household qualifies; EHV referrals from coordinated entry (not from the PHA's waiting list)

EHV Services/Alternative requirements

- To facilitate and expedite leasing, PHAs will receive \$3,500/EHV accepted for services not normally eligible expenses under HCVP, such as:
 - Housing search assistance (required to offer to every voucher holder)
 - Security and utility deposit assistance
 - Landlord recruitment and incentive payments
 - Other expenses such as moving costs, essential household items, renter's insurance, tenant-readiness services
- Significant waiver authority and alternative requirements allowed in order to facilitate and expedite leasing
 - DCHA can waive certain criminal history provision
 - Self-certification possibilities to speed lease-up

EHV Program: Roles of Key Partners

- DCHA – Receives EHV voucher allocation and administers the program in coordination with DHS (eligibility review, unit inspection, voucher assignment, etc.)
- DHS – Provides supportive services (PSH) to families and individuals matched to EHV through DHS contracted PSH providers to support application process, housing navigation and stabilization services post move-in
- TCP – Manages coordinated entry process/referrals (CAHP)
- DC Coalition Against DV – Manages referral process for survivors of domestic violence matched to EHV
- Stakeholders (ICH, consumers, homeless services providers, landlords) – participate in EHV design through engagement sessions

EHV Program: Key Dates

- 5/24/21: Deadline for PHAs to accept the EHV allocation
 - DCHA has accepted full allocation and requested additional vouchers
- 7/1/21: Effective date of EHV
- 7/31/21: Deadline for MOUs between CoC and PHAs to be signed
- 9/30/23: EHV sunset after this date (PHAs may not reissue any previously leased EHV)
- 9/30/30: EHV funds are available until this date

Proposed Allocation/Prioritization

Based on 500 vouchers			Match Process
	# of Vouchers	% of Vouchers	
Single Adult	375	75%	
RRH Step-Up	29	8%	Housed RRH clients who have been assessed to need PSH intervention
I-CAHP	313	83%	Prioritization - 50% Exceptional Medically Vulnerable BNL (approved for PEPV and/or at PEPV); 50% BNL
DV	33	9%	
<i>Subtotal</i>	<i>375</i>	<i>100%</i>	
Families	125	25%	
F-CAHP	125	100%	Prioritization - 90% FRSP long-stayers (18+ months); 10% STFH
Total	500	100%	

- Considerations:

- Further build out of pilot DV referral process parallel to I-CAHP/F-CAHP
- DCHA/HMIS data match for the BNL to identify overlap and additional prioritization as needed

Opportunities for Engagement

- **Key Areas For Community Input in EHV design:**
 - EHV Allocations and Prioritization
 - Services – what services are most needed? What is the best use of the administrative/services EHV funding?
 - Strategies for engaging landlords and speeding up the lease-up process
- **Engagement/Design Sessions Planned**
 - Consumer Engagement Workgroup – May 28 @2:30-4
 - ICH Singles System – June 1 @1-2:30
 - Housing Solutions Committee (**special session**) – Date/Time TBD

Contact ich.dmhhs@dc.gov to be added to any of these sessions

 - Additional opportunities for landlord input through Landlord Advisory Group

Next Steps

Item	Target Date
Engagement and Design sessions	May 28 – June 7
Finalize prioritization and allocation model	June 3
DHS meets with PSH providers to discuss EHV program and expanding services	June 4
MOU completed between system partners (DCHA, TCP, DHS)	June 30
Lease-ups Start	July 1

Points of Contact

DCHA

- Aisha Thompson, Athompson@dchousing.org
- Anissa Jones, Ajones@dchousing.org

(please include HGbrey@dchousing.org and Cpunter@dchousing.org on any communications)

DHS

- Tania Mortensen, tania.mortensen@dc.gov
- Anna Fogel, anna.fogel@dc.gov

TCP

- Jose Lucio, JLucio@community-partnership.org
- Eileen Rosa, Erosa@community-partnership.org

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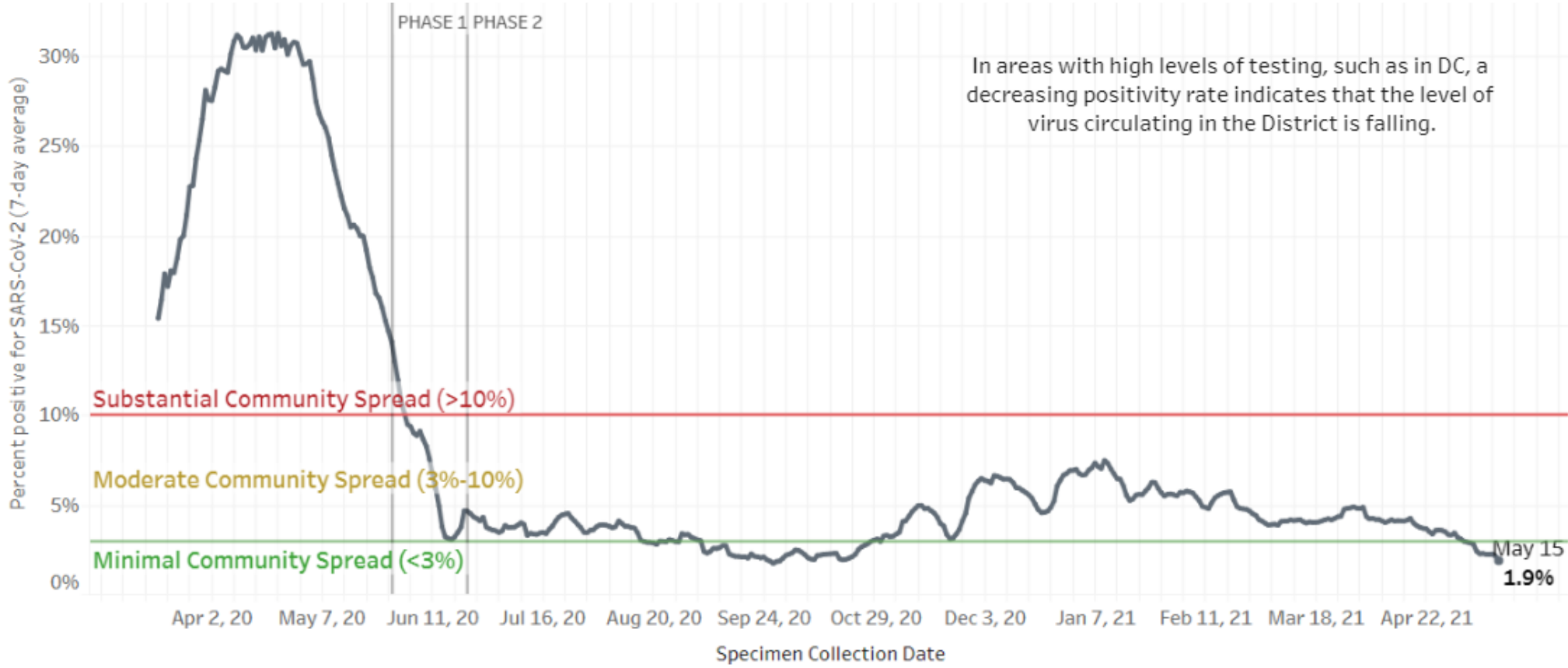


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Re-Opening Metrics



Positivity Rate
(7-day average)



In areas with high levels of testing, such as in DC, a decreasing positivity rate indicates that the level of virus circulating in the District is falling.

Sources: DC Health and Public Health Labs. Data are subject to change on a daily basis.

Metric Definition: Test positivity rate is calculated by date of specimen collection and takes the number of DC residents who test positive in a screening or diagnostic test, divided by the number of DC residents with an adequate sample collection for a test on that date.

Latest Guidance – Significant Re-openings

Mayor's Order 2021-069

- As of May 17, fully vaccinated people only need to wear masks or social distance in places where it is required.
- As of May 21, restrictions on most public and commercial activity, including capacity limits, types of activities, and time restrictions, were lifted.
- On Friday, June 11, nightclubs and large sports and entertainment venues will be able to resume full normal operations.
- Masks are still required on public transportation, homeless shelters, government buildings, healthcare settings, schools/childcare settings, prisons and where required per workplace.

What else do we know?

- **We are still in a public health emergency.** While the end seems to be in sight, it's not over yet. DC Council authorized extension through July 25.
- **Social Distancing and use of PPE (wearing masks) are still *highly recommended* for unvaccinated individuals to prevent the spread of COVID.** Masks will still be required in shelters for now because of ease of transmission and highly vulnerable population.
- **Health guidance is evolving.** We will likely see additional guidance from the CDC and DC Health that will provide additional information about COVID protections in settings such as shelters.

DHS Re-Opening Planning

DHS planning to take a phased approach to returning to pre-COVID operations based on updated guidance from DC Health and input from key stakeholders.

Considerations include:

- Ability to continue social distancing/use of PPE
- Continued adherence to COVID protocols – enhanced cleaning, advance screening, isolation/quarantine where required
- Input from key stakeholders/providers on readiness for re-opening and priorities for resuming in-person activities
- Assessing the new normal in a post-COVID world (what *should* this look like?)

DHS Re-Opening Planning

DHS public-facing services (VWFRC, Adams Day, 64 NYA) –
*Looking towards July for restarting in-person services incrementally.
DHS staff gradually returning to in-person.*

Case management – *Still mainly remote. No set date for resuming in person/in home visits, but priority area for resuming*

Shelters – *Modified operations still in place. Plan to maintain capacity limits until community transmission declines further – gradual phasing in. Continuing conversations with stakeholders/ERSO on other re-opening measures (hours, etc.)*

Day Centers – *preparing for phased re-opening with safety protocols. Downtown Day Center will re-open at reduced capacity in early June (30%), gradually increasing to full capacity.*

Transportation – *Plan to maintain social distancing in vans for now. Planning for resuming scheduled routes to align with shelter re-opening – targeting June timeline*

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Breakout Group Activity (30 minutes)

Identify a Note Taker and Someone to Report Out
Spend No More than 6-7 Minutes Per Question

Questions for Group Discussion

- *What is your organization doing to plan for reopening?*
- *What are your thoughts and fears regarding changes as a result of reopening?*
- *What are you feeling urgency around? What needs a longer timeline?*
- *What has gone well since changes implemented as a result of the pandemic that you think would be good to keep in place once we re-open?*

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Executive Director Transition



- ❖ Director Kristy Greenwalt's last day with the ICH is Friday, June 4th
- ❖ The Director position has been posted on the [Mayor's Office of Talent and Appointments](#)
- ❖ Until a new Director is hired, ICH staff will ensure Committee/Workgroups and strategic plan implementation continues

Executive Director Transition



- ❖ ICH Staff Contact Information
 - Kimberly Waller – Kimberly.waller@dc.gov
 - Lindsay Curtin – Lindsay.curtin@dc.gov
 - Theresa Silla - theresa.silla@dc.gov
 - Kyla Woods - kyla.woods1@dc.gov

Executive Director Transition



- ❖ **What?** Farewell party for Kristy
- ❖ **When?** Thursday, June 3rd from 5pm to 7pm
- ❖ **Where?** Union Market (1309 5th St NE); will be outdoors at picnic tables on the main level (if it is raining, we will be indoors in Dock 5 on the second level)
- ❖ **Who?** Any ICH Partner
- ❖ **Why?** We want to thank Kristy for all her work, dedication, and passion that she has given to DC and the ICH over the past 7 years!

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