COVID-19 and People Experiencing Homelessness: Partnerships And Outreach
Community partners should continue services that protect people experiencing homelessness.

- Homeless services
- Healthcare
- Behavioral health services
- Food pantries
- Coordinated Entry System
• Homeless outreach teams will often be the front lines.
• Outreach workers need to protect themselves, the client and provide information.
• Identify where people can be isolated and receive care.
• Healthcare facilities should be involved in planning for safely discharging COVID-19 patients to a designated location if they do not require hospitalization but lack housing.
• Law enforcement should be involved in plans related to protecting people experiencing homelessness from COVID-19.
• People experiencing homelessness are an important resource.
• Develop advisory boards with representation from people experiencing homelessness to be able to access current information.
• Do not clear encampments during community spread of COVID-19.
• Encourage people staying in encampments to set up tents 12 ft apart.
• Provide soap and hygiene products.
• Provide access handwashing facilities.
• Provide straightforward, current facts.
• Influential community members can help communicate with clients.
• Post signs in strategic locations.
• Provide info on hand washing, hygiene, and cough etiquette.
• Request up-to-date contact information from each client.
• Make encounters meaningful.
• Limit outreach to health and safety efforts.
• Reduce or suspend rapport building outreach.
• Ensure we're here for support, not to further socially isolate.
• Update and track whereabouts of encampments and vulnerable individuals.
• Practice Physical Distancing 6ft.
  • (The term "Social Distancing" may cause a negative reaction since many already feel distant from society.)
• Wash hands and wear gloves.
• Masks are for people showing symptoms.
• Review and practice proper use of gloves and masks.
• Offer masks to people showing symptoms.
  • If there are no mask use physical distance, 6ft., for safety.
• Talk to them about seeking medical attention.
  • Do not call 911 or go to the ED.
  • Encourage them to contact their primary care provider if they have one.
  • Provide info for available medical services.
  • Problem solve transportation issues getting medical attention.
• Practice Harm Reduction:
  • Discuss isolating within the encampment.
  • 14 day isolation is recommended if there has been possible exposure.
  • Provide hygiene supplies.
  • Make sure they or someone they know has a phone.
CDC: Interim Guidance for Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness
https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html?fbclid=IwAR0E3CmQpobPpCGOQ_1FO9p5kCV4ma6r3FldJqml01EDZwNW0kPe-mtq6U

STREET MEDICINE PRACTICE during the COVID19 PANDEMIC
https://stmi.memberclicks.net/assets/docs/COVid19%20SM%20Guidance%203-20-20.pdf