

Anchorage Assembly Committee on Homelessness

Update

May 20, 2020

Pillar 3: Public Health and Safety



- Resolve public health and safety issues related to homelessness through resource allocation and policy improvements.
- Balance safety net and social service resources across the community to adequately address unsheltered homeless persons.
- Revitalize Anchorage's downtown and community neighborhoods with a mix of housing and commerce.

Pillar 3: News + Updates



Happening in 2020:

CDC recommendations for shelter decompression and reconfiguration:

- March 21, 2020 the Municipality of Anchorage helped the homeless shelter system move to CDC recommended 6 ft sleeping space
- Moved adults to Sullivan Arena and Ben Boeke Arena to accommodate persons as needed
- Utilized Dempsey Anderson arena for quarantine and isolation care
- Family emergency shelter system moved to hotel units from church congregate settings

Pillar 3: News + Updates



Results of quick proactive planning:

Safe shelters

- No known COVID-19 + cases identified in Anchorage homeless shelter populations to-date
- Resources have been used to provide medical screening at 11 shelter locations
- Addition of EMT services at mass shelter
- Bean's Café has initiated Navigation services to assist with needed appointments

Pillar 3: News + Updates:

Adult Shelter and mass shelter occupancy

COVID occupancy #s	Adult shelters					
	Anch Gospel Rescue Mission (Capacity=41)	Bean's Café- Municipal contract @ Sullivan Arena + Ben Boeke arena (Combined capacity range approx 240- 320)	Bean's Café- Municipal contract @ Boeke (count separated out from Sullivan arena starting May 1)	Catholic Social Services, Brother Francis Shelter (Capacity = 110)	Downtown Hope Center (Capacity = 40)	TOTAL ADULT Occupancy at shelters w/ general open admissions weekly average
Trends in March/April/May						
March 22- 28	52	304	combined w/SA	96	49	505
March 29-April 4	47	301	combined w/SA	89	37	483
April 12- 28	40	328	combined w/SA	84	34	487
April 19- 25	40	300	combined w/SA	81	34	455
May 3 - 9	40	185	62	76	35	398
May 10 - 16	36	162	60	76	36	370

Pillar 3: News + Updates: Adult and Young Adult capacity changes with COVID-19



Capacity limits:					
Adult Shelter Capacity	Winter 2018-19	Summer 2019	Winter 2019-20	COVID	Difference: for comparison
Brother Francis Shelter	240	240	240	114	-126
Anchorage Gospel Rescue Mission	100	100	100	41	-59
Covenant House AK	60	60	60	60	0
AWAIC	52	52	52	35	-17
Downtown Hope Center	50	50	70	40	-30
Emergency contract	100	0	166	320	154
Warming Station at 10 degrees	50	0	0	0	0
TOTAL	652	502	688	610	-78

Congregate Care Sites – stepping down

Dempsey-Anderson Ice Arena (Mass Isolation/Quarantine)

- Used to shelter persons who required quarantine and/or isolation with no other location to stay safely
- Utilized resources from OPA and Securitas to provide care & oversight
- Last person to stay left May 1
- Demobilizing by June 1

Boeke/Sullivan Arena (Mass Shelter)

- Used to shelter persons displaced by the CDC COVID-19 guidance
- Currently planning to consolidate all individuals into Sullivan Arena
- Sullivan arena has locations for meals and space to potentially provide on-site medical clinic
- Demobilizing Boeke by June 1

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Family Capacity with COVID-19



Family Capacity:	persons (est) typical year	# Units typical year	COVID (est) persons	COVID # units
Clare House shelter spaces:	49	20	49	20
Mckinnel:	45	16	45	16
Family Emergency Cold Weather Shelter (pre-COVID in churches; COVID wave 1 = hotel units	20	N/A	90	30
TOTAL	114	36	184	66

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More partners joining every week!

Community Resource Hub – one-stop shop location for housing referrals and service connections

Partners:

Municipality of Anchorage	Bean's Café
Catholic Social Services	Covenant House Alaska
Anchorage Downtown Partnership	RurAL CAP
Anchorage Community Mental Health	Veteran's Administration
Cook Inlet Tribal Council	GCI
Downtown Hope Center	Southcentral Foundation
United Way of Anchorage	9 Star
Providence Alaska Medical Services	Volunteers of America
Anchorage Neighborhood Health	Partner's Re-Entry Center

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Community Resources Hub results



Program or referral status for move-out of shelter April 13 - May 13, 2020	Number
Catholic Social Services (Rapid Rehousing Programs and veteran's assistance program) - housed or assisted to other locations	21
Catholic Social Services (Rapid Rehousing Program) - shopping for units	32
Cook Inlet Tribal Council - housing or treatment program assistance	34
Moved from mass shelter to another shelter or care location (i.e. Assisted Living Home, other shelter or relocation)	15
Moved to other housing provider/program (RurAL CAP, NeighborWorks AK)	3
Veteran's administration	1
TOTAL	106

Pillar 3: News + Updates



Summer 2020:

- Camp Abatement – Season began April 30
- Zones in current abatement or completed:
 - 3rd and Ingra – completed
 - Chester Creek trail from Gambell to A street
 - Individual camps across the community identified by APD for prioritization
- Coming in May/June:
 - Closure of Chester Creek trail Gambell to A Street while mass shelter site is in operation
 - Additional zones and individual camps abated as resources allow
 - Revised camp dashboards with more information for residents reporting camps
 - 60+ fires responded to by AFD to-date, will continue to closely monitor