



## CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter

Welcome to the CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter.

For additional resources relating to the COVID-19 response, visit [cceh.org/covid19](https://cceh.org/covid19).

You can also donate to CCEH's COVID-19 Emergency Fund at [cceh.org/about/donate-now/covid19](https://cceh.org/about/donate-now/covid19).

### A Message from Our CEO

Dear Friends,

Things are finally starting to calm down as we settle into a new temporary normal for the homeless response system. As I write this, I encourage all of you to step back and think about all that we have accomplished together. To date, we have moved approximately 60% of sheltered households into 15 hotels across the state.

**Just this week we received some good news that we can utilize the hotels for shelter decompression through June 1st.** This will give us time to focus as a coalition on moving clients safely into their own apartments. Please click on the how you can help link below to learn how you can donate emergency funds or identify apartment vacancies for our clients. There is a role for each of us in this effort.

Finally, we would appreciate all of your help spreading the word about this massive shelter decompression effort and have put together a [general info sheet](#), [infographic](#), and [FAQ](#) that you should feel free to share with anybody who you think would benefit from knowing about this impressive team effort to keep Connecticut's most vulnerable populations safe. And for a bit of cheer, please check out this video PSA that some of our Paddington ambassadors helped create to tell the story of what we have accomplished together.

Thank you again for your commitment to ending homelessness in Connecticut and wishing you and your loved ones the best as we sail on through towards the other side.

Yours,

Richard Cho  
CEO



### Advocacy Action Alert

#### Tell Members of Congress To Prioritize Housing in the Next COVID-19 Package

[Let your member of Congress know today](#) that more federal resources are needed to ensure that the most vulnerable populations, including people experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity, stay safe and healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Now more than ever, it's clear that housing is health care. Those experiencing homelessness in America are at extreme risk during the pandemic. Many are seniors, have disabilities and/or underlying medical conditions, live in crowded shelters or unsanitary conditions, and lack the ability to quarantine, isolate, and recover. The lowest-income, severely housing cost-burdened renters are at high risk of Coronavirus complications as well as the threat of eviction and homelessness due to loss of income. The spread of COVID-19 among these populations threatens their health and safety - and that of us all.

The resources and provisions in the recently passed "[CARES Act](#)" were an important first step in addressing some of the urgent needs of people experiencing homelessness and those on the brink of being homeless. [But much more is needed](#), including emergency rental assistance for the lowest-income renter households who are one missed rent payment from eviction and homelessness.

[Please contact your member of Congress today](#) and ask them to include at least \$11.5 billion in Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG); a national, uniform moratorium on evictions and foreclosures; and [\\$100 billion in emergency rental assistance](#) and eviction prevention.

We all benefit when we prioritize the needs of the lowest-income and most marginalized people in our country. Doing so protects the health and lives of tens of millions of people, the front-line providers serving them, and our healthcare systems.

Help make sure everyone stays healthy and safe during this time of crisis. Contact your member of Congress today!

**Save lives. Act now.**

## How You Can Help

Our providers need your help! This [site](#) includes ways you can volunteer, purchase meals for shelter guests, find a job in a shelter, and help clients become housed. See below to learn how you can contribute to the COVID homeless response.

**Donate today:** Please consider donating emergency funds to move families and individuals into apartments right away. Click [here](#) to make your donation.

**Food:** Please take a moment to donate a hot meal (or two, or three) to a person experiencing homelessness during this crisis. Click [here](#) to purchase a meal or start a "meal-raiser."

**Donate supplies:** CCEH has compiled wishlists of items that our local partners need to keep their staff and clients safe during this crisis. Items in high demand include PPE, toilet paper, and paper towels. Click [here](#) to find your region's wishlist.

**Apartment Vacancies:** We are looking for assistance identifying any vacant units right away. Click [here](#) to share vacancies with our provider network.

**Employment:** You can be part of the COVID homeless response! CCEH is currently accepting applications for essential shelter staff for shelters in Danbury, Greater New Haven, New Britain, and Willimantic/Mansfield Center/Storrs. CCEH will forward applicants to regional Coordinated Access Networks for consideration. Click [here](#) for more information and how to apply.

**Volunteer:** Frontline nonprofits – particularly food banks/pantries, meal delivery services, and homeless shelters – are seeing a marked increase in demand for their services. The state is currently looking for volunteers to support the effort. Click [here](#) to register as a volunteer.

## HMIS Service Update

On Tuesday April 21st HMIS underwent a required update from Caseworthy to version 8.0. This update will improve compliance, application speed and improve overall security. Only small changes will be visible to the CT HMIS user. The most noticeable are:

- An updated login page
- Video help pop-ups
- Print workflow forms
- Security updates
- General code and database structure improvements

To find out more please [click here](#).

## Webinars & Additional Guidance

With information about COVID rapidly evolving, keeping up-to-date is more important than ever. Stay up-to-date by visiting CCEH's COVID Guidance Page, located at [cceh.org/covid19](https://cceh.org/covid19).

### Upcoming Webinars:

Registration is open for the upcoming webinar:

- [Guidance on Shelter Operations in Hotel Space for Service Providers](#)

### Previously Recorded Webinars:

- [Addressing Food Insecurity During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- [Tips for Case Managers Navigating the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- [Preparing Homeless Services and Shelters for Novel Coronavirus](#)
- [Addressing Eviction and Discrimination Concerns During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)

## News Digest

[States Move Vulnerable Homeless Populations to Hotels Amid Coronavirus Outbreak](#)

US News | April 2020



Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness | 257 Lawrence Street, Hartford, CT 06106

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