



CCEH COVID-19 Response Newsletter

A Message from Our CEO

Dear Friends,

If your days have been anything like mine over the last few weeks, they have left little room for contemplation. Whether involving back-to-back phone and zoom calls or providing direct care and services to others—not to mention putting out fires large and small, doing our best to learn the latest information about this wicked virus, all while helping to home school, and check in on loved ones—our days are packed to the brim.

I've now committed to spending at least 30 minutes each day to take a walk with my family, away from screens and phones, which has given me a little space to reflect. And one of the things I've reflected on is what it means to be a coalition at a time when we are told to socially distanced. At a time when it is more important than ever to join forces, we are forced to remain physically apart, our interactions mediated by technology, and with less chances for the type of unplanned conversations where ideas and opportunities so often truly arise.

Yet despite these challenges, I am amazed at what our coalition has done together these past few months. Through our shelter decompression effort, our coalition continues to execute the most assertive COVID-19 outbreak prevention effort for homeless populations in the country. Our coalition has quickly adapted to delivering services to people in shelters, providing meals via soup kitchens, and facilitating connections to housing while protecting staff and clients from the virus. Our coalition has received a massive amount of support from the private sector—assistance from realtors and landlords, furniture sets from IKEA, face masks from United Healthcare in partnership with CSH, charity workouts from local gyms, and countless grants and donations. And now our coalition is making plans to ramp up its efforts to divert and re-house as many as 1,000 households, and as systematic COVID-19 testing rolls out in shelters and hotels, to shift our COVID-19 infectious disease control approach from prevention to containment.

Our coalition is stronger than ever. And while we must continue to remain physical apart in the near term, I am excited at the chance to convene with all of you at our first ever virtual Annual Meeting taking place next Thursday, May 28th from 1-3pm, when we will come together to celebrate all that we've achieved together and to look ahead to all that we will accomplish in the future. We hope that you will all join us. Please note that members in good standing will have the opportunity to vote on our new board members and officers so do make sure you renew your membership if you haven't already done so before next week.

As always, the work of CCEH is only effective if we are meeting the needs of our members. Please continue to stay in touch with us and let us know how we can best support your efforts through this challenging time.

Yours truly,

Richard Cho

Notice of CCEH Annual Meeting

Please join us on Thursday May 28 from 1-3 pm for CCEH's annual meeting! Our community will come together virtually to celebrate our shared response to the pandemic and discuss our coalition's way forward in the era of COVID-19.

A reminder too that during our annual meeting we are looking forward to sharing photos of the all the amazing work our members have been doing. Please share any photos of your staff in action with Allan Vega at avega@cceh.org.

Please note that this is a public meeting open to anybody, but that only dues-paying members will be eligible to vote. Please visit [our membership page](#) to see our 2019 members and scroll down to join our coalition.

CCEH Waives HMIS Fees

In light of the pandemic, CCEH will be waiving HMIS fees for the year. Thanks to all for your hard work keeping HMIS data up-to-date every day!

Thank you to IKEA!



Thank you to IKEA for donating \$30,000 worth of Home Starter Kits! IKEA donated twin beds, bedside tables, dressers, tables, and folding chairs to furnish more than 100 apartments for people rehoused from hotels or shelters in the next month. CCEH is in touch with Coordinated Access Network leads to organize details for distributing the items. Stay tuned!



Special thanks to Orange Rotary members Mike Richetelli of Colonial Properties and Carl Russell of Pearce Real Estate for securing this fabulous donated warehouse space to store the delivery

We couldn't have done it without the pallet jacks donated by Canevari Plastics and Connecticut Snacks. Thank you so much!

Thank you to our volunteers who worked so hard to unload the truck. We are grateful for your help and creativity!

United HealthCare donates Face Masks

The Corporation for Supportive Housing and Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness are pleased to announce that United HealthCare has donated 4,000 face masks for distribution to shelter staff and clients. CCEH and CSH will be distributing the masks to people in supportive housing, experiencing homelessness, and for shelter staff in order to comply with State safety guidelines and prevent the spread of COVID-19.

This generous gift was made possible by the United Health Group. CCEH and CSH are collaborating to disperse the masks to housing and homelessness service organizations across the state.

CCEH is making masks available to member agencies. If your agency would like to receive a shipment of masks, please let us know by filling out [this form](#).

Thank you all for your dedication and hard work.

North Haven CrossFit Hosts Charity Workout

Congratulations to North Haven CrossFit on raising more than \$2,000 at their amazing CCEH Charity Workout last Saturday! We were honored that North Haven First Selectman Mike Freda and State Representative Dave Yaccharino joined owners Curt and Courtney Garceau in hosting this event.

We are delighted by the interest we have been receiving from gyms and yoga studios interested in signing up to hold benefit charity workouts with us. You can sign up [here](#)!

How You Can Help

Our providers need your help! This [site](#) includes ways you join Connecticut's homeless response.

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.

Previously Recorded Webinars:

- [Caring for and Reducing the Transmission of COVID-19](#)
- [DPH Webinar: COVID-19 Monitoring, Care, and Transmission Reduction Among People Experiencing Homelessness in Shelters and Hotels](#)
- [Responding to Violence in the Home During the COVID-19 Crisis](#)
- [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](#)

Additional Resources:

- [NAEH COVID-19 Online Learning Resources](#)

Please [click here](#) to access our entire webinar catalog.

News Digest

[Tufts Health Plan Foundation Announces Third Wave of Funding to Address Coronavirus Impact](#)
The Laconia Daily Sun | May 2020



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

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