



Memorandum

Memorandum No: 21-013

Date: April 05, 2021

To: Honorable Mayor and Commissioners

From: Chris Lagerbloom, ICMA-CM, City Manager

Re: Non-Congregate Shelter Program Update

This memorandum is to provide an update on the creation of the Non-Congregate Shelter Program.

The City of Fort Lauderdale, with the support from the Florida Department of Health – Broward County, has established a temporary hotel housing program for members of our unsheltered homeless population who are unable to comply with social distancing requirements and recommendations included in State executive orders, the Broward County Comprehensive Emergency Order, and guidance from the Center for Disease Control (CDC) because of COVID-19.

In addition to shelter, food services in partnership with the Salvation Army, 24-hour security to ensure the safety and supervision of participants, intensive case management and access to peer specialist with wrap around supportive services will be provided. The City will also provide routine COVID-19 testing and health care screening outreach through a partnership with the COVID Collaborative, operated by Broward Partnership. We are also pursuing additional partnerships to bring COVID-19 vaccines to the participants.

On Wednesday, March 31, 2021, Neighbor Support staff in conjunction with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department distributed 79 of the initial 111 vouchers to temporarily shelter those experiencing homelessness during phase one of the Non-Congregate Shelter Program. Participants came from the downtown area, SE 17th Street, A1A, area parks and the North Federal Highway corridor. The City is working with a second partner hotel to secure phase two for an additional 35 vouchers, bringing the program total to 146 vouchers.

The budget for this temporary non-congregate shelter program is approximately \$3.4 million and is reimbursable by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).

The City of Fort Lauderdale's temporary hotel program will end on September 30, 2021. Case Management will work collaboratively with clients to identify needs and associated referrals for continued support and transition from our non-congregate hotel housing program into various other housing assistance programs.

If you would like additional information, please contact Hal Barnes, Neighbor Support Manager at HBarnes@fortlauderdale.gov.

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