



# LAUDERTRAC



## HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES UPDATE

Tracking Progress on Fort Lauderdale Commission Priorities for 2021

April 2021

### BUILDING A BRIDGE THROUGH HELP, HOUSING, AND HOPE



#### Non-Congregate Shelter Program Update

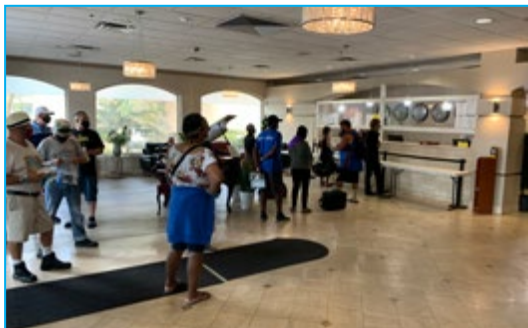
In March 2021, the City of Fort Lauderdale launched the Non-Congregate Shelter Program with support from the Florida Department of Health in Broward County. The program offers the City's unsheltered homeless population with hotel vouchers. The temporary hotel housing program complies with social distancing requirements, along with the state and Centers for Disease Control COVID-19 recommendations. The City is expected to be reimbursed for approximately \$3.4 million by the Federal Emergency Management Agency for program associated costs.



In addition to temporary shelter, the City partners with The Salvation Army to provide food services. Security services have been procured to ensure the safety and supervision of program participants. The participants receive intensive case management and access to peer specialists with wraparound supportive services. 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. City staff is pursuing additional partnerships to bring COVID-19 vaccines to the program participants.



During phase one of the Non-Congregate Shelter Program, the City Manager's Office Neighbor Support Division, in conjunction with the Fort Lauderdale Police Department, distributed 92 of the initial 111 vouchers. As of April 15, 2021, the 92 hotel rooms in use serve 99 individuals (consisting of 85 singles, six couples and one mother/infant son). Participants came from the downtown area, Southeast 17 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.



These vouchers offer temporary shelter through September 30, 2021. Case management will work collaboratively with participants to identify needs and associated referrals for continued support. The goal is for the participants to transition from our non-congregate hotel housing program into various other housing assistance programs.

The hotel voucher program has a limited number of vouchers. While there is no guarantee an opening will become available, unsheltered residents of Fort Lauderdale may email their contact information to [neighborsupport@fortlauderdale.gov](mailto:neighborsupport@fortlauderdale.gov) to be placed on a waiting list. Although emailing contact information is recommended, unsheltered residents of Fort Lauderdale may also call the City's 24-hours a day Customer Service Center at 954-828-8000 and leave their contact information to be placed on the waiting list.