



County of Orange Temporary Isolation Facility - Laguna Woods

Orange County Homeless Strategy

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and the Governor's Shelter-in-Place Executive Order, the County of Orange (County) is identifying motels countywide. This program is for individuals experiencing homelessness who are COVID-19 positive or symptomatic. The program will allow individuals to recover in an isolated setting while preventing community transmission.

Overview

The County leased the Ayres Laguna Woods, which is strategically positioned near a hospital and/or medical facilities, to house medically-stable confirmed COVID-19 positive or symptomatic individuals as a temporary isolation facility for recovery. Capacity at this site is 138 beds and will be available only to those experiencing homelessness in the South Service Planning Area (South County). The motel was secured for approximately three months with a target start date of receiving clients between April 9 and April 12 for intake depending on lease execution.

A contract provider, Illumination Foundation (IF), will manage the motel facilities and provide the following at each site:

- Initial medical assessment and ongoing medical case management
- Transportation
- Support services (including on-site meals)
- 24/7 on-site staffing includes 4 security guards, 2-3 nursing staff, 3 line staff and 1 site supervisor, per shift
- PPE for staff and client distribution
- Coordination of discharge transitions

Clients will only be permitted to leave the premises via IF van transport for re-location to an alternative shelter site or if hospitalization occurs. There will be no visitors allowed on-site to ensure clients are following self-quarantine/isolation protocols. Those who don't follow isolation protocols will be exited and provided an alternative placement option. IF has protocols to ensure impacts from this temporary program are minimized to surrounding communities.

Referral Process

Shelters providers, County outreach staff and contractors, hospitals and law enforcement will be able to refer eligible persons to IF for a medical screening and intake through a single phone number. Walk-ups are not permitted.

Ongoing Public Health Training(s)

County and non-County homeless providers, including IF, are being trained by Public Health staff on:

- A. Sanitation of facilities,
- B. Ongoing screening of all residents and staff,
- C. Enhancing social distancing; and
- D. Isolation of probable virus-positive persons.

County staff continues to work closely with IF and other homeless providers to ensure necessary processes are in place to prevent the spread of COVID-19 in the community. For the latest on the County's COVID-19 response, visit ochealthinfo.com/novelcoronavirus.

April 2, 2020