

## Mayor Hagerty's emergency management taskforce

March 24, 2020 update

There are 1,285 confirmed cases of COVID-19 in Illinois; there have been 12 deaths in the state. There are 36 confirmed cases in Evanston; and 2 deaths; one death of an Evanston resident and one death of someone who attended the Unitarian Church of Evanston.

The Robert Crown Center is the center for the emergency operation center for the city

Northshore hospital had been testing 500 people/day for the COVID-19 virus. Most of the positive tests are people aged 20-29; most of the serious cases are people who are older, but this reminds us of the importance of everyone of every age abiding by Governor Pritzker's stay-at-home order in order to stem the spread. People can be outside and go grocery shopping and to the drugstore, but play equipment for children cannot be used in the parks.

The schools have been distributing meals for those in need. That need has increased. By next week 1500 meals per day will be distributed.

### **Assistance for the homeless:**

The focus of today's call was to let everyone know what the city is doing to help the homeless. Last week, Interfaith Action had to suspend its overnight shelter because it didn't have the resources to house people safely. As of today, Lake Street Church will be able to house some people, there's a shelter for women in Alderwoman, Robin Rue Simmons's home in the 5<sup>th</sup> ward, and there are 5 people who are being housed in a hotel. There are also 15 bathrooms and washing stations around the city to serve the homeless. The warming center at St. Mark's Church is also open, and there's an Amazon Wishlist of items the warming center needs. Soup kitchens are operating by ordering food from restaurants and distributing meals. Some meals will also be brought to the hotel that is housing some of the homeless. Connections for the Homeless and Interfaith Action are working together to coordinate these needs. If you are interested in volunteering, please go to the Connections for the Homeless website. As more volunteer opportunities are aggregated, we will get that information out to people.