

Dear Community Stakeholder,

As of late February 2020, King County Public Health identified cases of novel coronavirus, including several deaths. With additional positive cases expected, King County is acting swiftly to respond to the outbreak in this quickly changing situation. The most effective strategy to slow the spread of COVID-19 is to prevent people from becoming sick in the first place. Most King County residents have the ability to isolate or quarantine in a home of their own. Residents are isolating and quarantining in their own homes in every neighborhood across the County. King County residents experiencing homelessness do not have a place in which they can safely isolate or quarantine, and many live in congregate shelter settings. In order to contain the spread of COVID-19 amongst individuals living in congregate shelters and staff serving those individuals, King County is working to de-intensify existing shelters to allow people experiencing homelessness to practice social distancing and to reduce the chance of becoming sick.

We have identified a site in your vicinity, located at 1 S Grady Way, Renton, WA 98057. This facility will act as a temporary shelter for residents of those shelters and will be operated in partnership with Downtown Emergency Services Center (DESC). Security and appropriate staffing will be integral parts of this operating partnership. Please see the attached fact sheet for more information on capacity, population served, etc.

As COVID-19 infections rise in King County, we will continue to pursue options for siting shelter facilities in order to ensure that one of our highest-risk populations, those experiencing homelessness, remain safe.

We have set up a weekly South King County stakeholder call to provide updates about the siting or isolation/quarantine, assessment and recovery, and shelter de-intensification facilities in response to COVID-19. If you are able, please do join us on Wednesdays from 1:00-1:30pm. More details on how to call in below:

Date: Weekly, every Wednesday

Time: 1pm-1:30pm

Format: Due to Public Health Guidance encouraging social distancing, *this meeting is being conducted virtually via Skype.*

Contact information: <https://meet.kingcounty.gov/mpadillaocampo/8F31HW30>

For those unable to join via Skype, please call **1.206.263.8114** and enter access **code 9782462#**

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to me at cknight@kingcounty.gov and I will work to get answers in a timely manner.