



King County

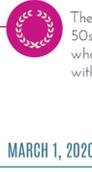
Department of Community and Human Services

COVID-19 RESPONSE

A YEAR IN REVIEW TIMELINE

AS YOU NAVIGATE

Click on the icon at each point to learn more!



DCCHS completed a countywide survey of shelters, day centers, encampments, and supportive housing programs to identify resource gaps and needs.



FEBRUARY 27, 2020

The first confirmed case of COVID-19 is observed in King County.

The first death due to COVID-19 in a resident of King County

FEBRUARY 29, 2020

This enabled "extraordinary measures" to fight the outbreak like waiving some procurement protocols, authorizing staff overtime work, and other powers.



MARCH 1, 2020

Executive Constantine signed a Proclamation of Emergency, in response to COVID-19.

DCCHS, PHSKC and City of Seattle convene weekly strategy calls with 200+ providers.

MARCH 2, 2020



Included were homeless services, health care, supportive housing, city planners, coalitions, and faith communities to present up-to-date information on COVID-19 and respond to questions.



MARCH 4, 2020

King County bought a hotel in Kent to quarantine COVID patients.

DCCHS conducted first trainings on CDC guidelines for shelter sanitation and hygiene.

MARCH 6, 2020



The Centers for Disease Control guidance was designed to train and prepare homeless services staff in Homeless Shelters and Day Centers.

With increasing number of COVID-19 cases, King County residents limit social contacts to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in the community.



MARCH 8, 2020

With City of Bellevue, created 80 spaces to de-intensify the Eastside's largest shelter site.

Kent Isolation and Quarantine site was opened only six days after purchase!

MARCH 10, 2020



Amazon Donates Thousands of Essentials to Isolation and Quarantine

King County, City of Seattle and United Way pooled their resources of bleach, hand sanitizer, gloves and other sanitation supplies into one place.



MARCH 10, 2020

Opened a COVID supply "store" in a King County warehouse for service providers.

WA State orders schools to close until April 24 as well as issue a ban on large events.

MARCH 13, 2020



DCCHS opens 24/7 shelter space in the King County International Airport for 80 older adults to de-intensify one of the county's largest shelters.

"Treat the next two weeks as a period of self-quarantine, to protect yourself and the lives and health of your loved ones and the entire community." - Executive Dow Constantine



MARCH 16, 2020

State orders no gatherings over 50 and closes restaurants, bars, clubs, theaters, and fitness.

Aurora Isolation and Quarantine modular facility opens with first guests.

MARCH 24, 2020



Amazon Donates Thousands of Essentials to Isolation and Quarantine

"King County was instrumental in leading the nation on a COVID-19 response. I cannot think of a state that did not reach out to us to learn from King County." - Katy Miller, U.S. Interagency Council on Homeless Regional Coordinator



MARCH 24, 2020

Led first COVID Response Webinar with U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

First 100 deaths recorded in King County and nonessential businesses close statewide.

MARCH 25, 2020



King County and Seattle expand emergency shelter and housing response to create additional space and a range of temporary housing options.



MARCH 29, 2020

Issaquah Isolation and Quarantine site opens as safe place from vulnerable family.

Executive transmits emergency legislation to fund childcare services for first responders.

MARCH 31, 2020



Approved unanimously by Council, \$2.2 million in unspent Puget Sound Taxpayer Accountability Account funding to provide childcare to families of first responders and essential workers.

In effort to slow the coronavirus and prevent transmission through the homeless population, King County negotiated with three hotels to serve as temporary shelter locations for people experiencing homelessness.



APRIL 2, 2020

King County reduced shelter concentrations by moving nearly 400 people to hotels.

Launched transport of guests to quarantine with specially retrofitted Metro vehicles.

APRIL 3, 2020



Metro's Transportation for Pandemic Response

Temporary sobering and recovery shelter opens at Recovery Cafe with 40 beds and 24/7 case management for people a place to sleep off intoxication and access recovery services. Schools closed statewide through 2020.



APRIL 6, 2020

Five pallets added to Chief Seattle Club's Eagle Village to increase housing options.

Rental assistance fund launched. \$5 million to help low income individuals and families.

APRIL 10, 2020



This fund is a collaboration between King County, United Way of King County, Seattle Foundation and the City of Seattle with help families economically harmed by COVID-19.

King County joined with Harborview Medical Center to repurpose Harborview Hall to serve as an 45-bed COVID-19 recovery site primarily focused on helping the most vulnerable members in our community.



APRIL 10, 2020

Harborview Hall site opens with COVID-19 services for homeless intensive health needs.

Shoreline Assessment and Recovery Center opens with Kaiser Permanente services.

APRIL 12, 2020



King County and City of Shoreline Transform Soccer Field

DCCHS moves about 100 people from shelter sites to hotels in Queen Anne neighborhood in Seattle.



APRIL 24, 2020

DCCHS and Seattle coordinate and launch new emergency childcare for essential workers.

New analysis shows COVID-19 is disproportionately impacting communities.

MAY 1, 2020



Data on cases, hospitalizations and deaths by race and ethnicity shows that rates of confirmed COVID-19 cases for Hispanics, Native Hawaiians and Pacific Islanders is four times that of Whites.

Isolation and quarantine sites had 46 people staying in centers, latest data shows COVID-19 transmission rate could be rising in King County.



MAY 8, 2020

DCCHS offers quarantine services at remaining three sites as the Shoreline AC/RC closes.

Elliott Avenue modular pilot project offers shelter beds and services to fight COVID-19.

MAY 14, 2020



Elliott Avenue Modular Shelters

Homeless service providers, healthcare workers, staff from cities and county are working together and making a difference. The coronavirus reminds us how interconnected we are."



MAY 22, 2020

No new cases of COVID-19 reported among people experiencing homelessness.



MAY 30, 2020

DCCHS and Public Health staff film the "Stay Home, and Slow the Spread" PSA

King County helps stranded crew members from a fishing boat with COVID-19 outbreak.

JUNE 1, 2020



86 crew members of an American Seafoods trawler have tested positive for COVID-19, according to a press release from the seafood company.



JUNE 1, 2020

Food for Communities in Need by VSHSL wraps up after providing services in April, May

King County declared racism a public health crisis to equitable community response.

JUNE 11, 2020



King County committed to being intentionally anti-racist and accountable to Black, Brown, and Indigenous People of Color, with a goal of the proposed 2021-2022 policy agenda and budget to meet the needs of and implement positive changes within communities.

DCCHS provides 100 training slots to events aimed at helping Black communities impacted by intersection of the COVID-19 pandemic and racism of widespread police violence.



JULY 11, 2020

Mental Health Day dedicated to Black communities dually impacted by COVID-19.

King County Executive Dow Constantine released his annual State of the County address.

JULY 24, 2020



"All told, we gave almost 1,400 people and families a private, quiet, and secure place to stay and recover—and we saved lives...Our Department of Community and Human Services, led by Leo Flor, made this happen."



AUGUST 5, 2020

DCCHS designs, recruits and launches the new COVID Health Ambassador Program

Executive announces new \$41 million Eviction Prevention and Rent Assistance Program

AUGUST 20, 2020



"Many people are facing serious challenges due to COVID-19 and the loss of health or income, leaving them extremely vulnerable to eviction. This emergency program will forestall the loss of housing and prevent homelessness for thousands of residents in need across King County."

The SoDo site open to provide about 80 people with healthy air and shelter. Shifting wind patterns caused the dense smoke produced by the wildfires in Oregon and California to move into Western Washington, creating unhealthy to very unhealthy air quality.



SEPTEMBER 11, 2020

The SoDo site provided healthy air and shelter 24/7 for 80 people daily during the smoke crisis.

First pool of applicants assisted through the Eviction Prevention and Rent Assistance Program.

SEPTEMBER 14, 2020



The program reached out to individual tenants, large and small property managers and landlords, and mobile home parks. Funding was prioritized for the highest-need areas and residents as well as access in 27+ languages.

Executive Constantine's budget included a measure that proposes the King County Council enact a 0.1 percent sales tax increase to fund a \$400 million investment in permanent housing for the chronically homeless.

SEPTEMBER 22, 2020

Executive announces Health through Housing Initiative in 2021-2022 Proposed Budget Speech.

DCCHS designs and launches COVID relief Child Care Assistance Program in 22 languages

SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

The County received feedback that essential workers and other families continue to have difficulty accessing and affording child care, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. For some families and child care providers, this has been exacerbated by virtual learning.

OCTOBER 7, 2020

University of Washington/King County study shows effectiveness of hotel shelter response.

King County Council approves "unprecedented funding" for Health through Housing Initiative.

OCTOBER 13, 2020

About 4,500 people are considered chronically homeless in King County, according to the Homeless Management Information Service. The legislation will create space for up to 2,000 individuals.

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

Two mass vaccination sites for COVID-19 opened in South King County.

Over \$4.8 million disbursed by Adult Services Division Coronavirus Relief Funds (CRF).

FEBRUARY 1, 2021

DCCHS worked with over 120 organizations since June across the four program categories: Food Security, Domestic and Sexual Violence, Legal Services to Prevent Eviction and Foreclosure and Emerging Needs.

A LOOK AT THE NUMBERS



HOUSING SUPPORT

2,319

Served in Isolation and Quarantine or Assessment and Recovery Centers

1,400

Moved into hotels from congregate homelessness shelters

235,000+

Emergency supplies distributed through COVID supply "store"

EVICTON PREVENTION AND RENTAL ASSISTANCE



\$37.6M+

Amount disbursed through the first round of the EPRAP program

9,073

Households that received rental assistance through the first round of EPRAP

76%

Percentage of Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC) served

COMMUNITY HEALTH

1,149

Outreach visits by COVID-19 Health Ambassadors

665,000+

Masks distributed by COVID-19 Health Ambassadors

10,205

Professionals reached nationwide through training by DCCHS

FAMILY SUPPORT

25,695

Meals served through the VSHSL food delivery program

496

Children that were served through COVID-19-related childcare assistance

\$2.75M+

Amount awarded in childcare grants to centers, programs, and families

Trouble with the timeline? Contact [Antonio Herrera Garza](#)



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