

March 27, 2020 ~ COVID 19

Charles County Emergency Services
Situation Report #13

New items will be italicized

Childcare for First Responders has been highlighted below in two sections.
Link for facility disinfection guide from the CDC is linked below in green
See below information highlighted in turquoise for broadband information

SITUATION	
Situation Summary:	Global COVID-19 situation map here Maryland summary map here
COVID Confirmed cases in Charles County	<i>29 cases total – Health Department will not be providing individual details for cases moving forward.</i>
Total PUIs transported by Career & Volunteer EMS to date:	36
EOC Safety Officer Update	<p><i>-Safety message is being broadcasted twice daily on the public safety radio system.</i></p> <p><i>-The County's Peer Support Team has been activated and will make weekly wellness checks with our County's first responders. Email address: despeersupport@charlescountymd.gov Phone number will be established soon as well.</i></p> <p><i>-PPE stockpiles remain stable with an estimated supply range of 9 days based on current call volumes.</i></p> <p><i>-Revision to EMSOP Special Order 2020-01 Version 3.0 has been completed and disseminated to staff.</i></p> <p><i>-As this is a rapidly changing landscape, leaders should review any changes with their personnel each morning.</i></p> <p><i>-With the implementation of the most recent update of special Order 2020-01 V 3.0, personnel should continue to perform wellness checks twice a day as prescribed in the SO as well as decon apparatus frequently.</i></p> <p><i>-Personnel who report having a fever, sore throat, cough or other respiratory related symptoms should stay at home and self-isolate until they are symptom free for a period of 72 hours.</i></p> <p><i>-Personnel who have recently travelled to a suspected COVID-19 country or have taken a cruise which ported at a COVID-19 infected region should not report to work. Those personnel are being asked to self-isolate at home for a period of 14 days.</i></p> <p><i>-Personnel with facial hair should be aware of the NIOSH requirements for properly fitting filtering facepiece respirators in relation to their specific facial hairstyles. A CDC infographic was disseminated to staff with compliance guidance. Those with facial hair not in compliance drastically increase their risk of exposure even when using an N95 mask.</i></p>

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<p>Websites that include the official information:</p>	<p>FEMA's rumor control website: https://www.fema.gov/coronavirus-rumor-control?fbclid=IwAR3x4emdkwiN9W1z_dMZVPFTjgvwxCEXSi9THFHwkddzXjITl1g-py9iio</p> <p>Updated CDC flyers have been added to the below site. Printable CDC Handouts & Posters: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/communication/factsheets.html CDC COVID-19 website for informational purposes: https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html Coronavirus.gov</p> <p>Maryland Dept of Health Coronavirus website: https://phpa.health.maryland.gov/Pages/Novel-coronavirus.aspx https://coronavirus.maryland.gov/</p> <p>Charles County Dept of Health Coronavirus website: http://www.charlescountyhealth.org/2019-novel-coronavirus-2019-ncov-in-the-u-s/</p> <p>Charles County Government: https://www.charlescountymd.gov/services/health-and-human-services/covid-19</p>
<p>Closures:</p>	<p>All closures for Charles County will be listed here: https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/operating-schedule</p> <p>Multiple closures based upon Governor Protective Orders including all non-essential services/businesses.</p>
<p>Donations Management</p>	<p>We will be directing the public to call 301-609-3435 or to email desdonations@charlescountymd.gov if they wish to donate.</p>
<p><u>EXECUTIVE ACTIONS</u></p>	
<p>EOC Activation:</p>	<p>Enhanced Activation – Monday-Friday 0800 to 1700 – Virtual on Weekends Effective tomorrow our Daily Conference Call/meeting with Core Planning Team will be at 1300 hours. Other EOC work groups meeting daily (Mon-Fri) and providing reports at the Core Meeting</p> <p>MEMA Full Activation of the SEOC – with staff will be operating Monday – Friday 0700 to 1700. Virtual on Weekends.</p> <p>New email address established for EOC Operations: despeersupport@charlescountymd.gov</p>

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	deseoc@charlescountymd.gov desplanning@charlescountymd.gov deslogistics@charlescountymd.gov desfinance@charlescountymd.gov dessafety@charlescountymd.gov desdonations@charlescountymd.gov
State of Emergency:	<p>State of Maryland Declared on 3/5/2020 County Declared 3/16/2020</p>
Protective Actions:	<p><u>All gatherings must be less than ten persons.</u> All non-essential businesses have been closed. See attached interpretive guidance. Social Distancing programs in effect from Governor's Order. All Governor's Executive orders are posted here: https://governor.maryland.gov/category/executive-orders/ Interpretive guidance for the closure of non-essential businesses have been attached to this email.</p>
County Government:	<p>County Government Buildings are Closed to the Public Telework for non-essential workers and some essential staff that can telework.</p> <p>Closures for County Government here: See here for Recreations, Parks and Tourism https://www.charlescountyparks.com/about-us/covid-19 See here for Operating Status updates: https://www.charlescountymd.gov/government/operating-schedule</p>
PIO:	<p><i>Jen Harris is doing daily, every weekday updates M-F on what's going on in Charles County. We are releasing an interview with Commissioner Collins and Dr. Hill later today about how schools will function during the extended closure. We are continuing to emphasize the message that people should remain home except for essential trips. We are also being transparent about the lack of test kits available, that individuals will require extensive screening and be prioritize for testing, and that those who have been in the same vicinity of another person with COVID-19, like a store or living next door to someone, remain at low risk, especially if they exhibit no symptoms, and should not inquire about obtaining test at this time. We are also cleaning up the website and removing old content to avoid information overload. I will send a CNS later today as a reminder to the page.</i></p>

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*This week , we launched a daily podcast/YouTube update to keep the public informed about what's happening locally as new information is being provided on a daily, and nearly hourly basis. There's a lot of misinformation being spread, so we are encouraging you to share these links with the public, and follow/subscribe to obtain these updates from us every day. If we speak with **one consistent message**, we'll be effective in keeping the public informed with the facts.*

Today's COVID-19 Updates for March 27 are ready with the links listed below!

ON YOUTUBE: <https://youtu.be/ZCd1aGayDyU> (March 27, 2020) and <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qh-1tNjDi9o> (March 26, 2020)

CHARLES COUNTY'S PODCAST:

<https://www.buzzsprout.com/209287/3145432> (March 27, 2020)

Additionally, we released two important "In the Studio" interviews this week, and an update directly from Commissioner President Collins. Commissioner Stewart also hosted a virtual Town Hall on Facebook, which we shared on our government page. You can find links to all of these resources below.

- *["In the Studio \(March 27, 2020\)"](#) – Commissioner President Collins speaks with Dr. Kimberly Hill, Superintendent of Charles County Public Schools, about their efforts to support students while schools are closed.*
- *["In the Studio" \(March 25, 2020\)"](#) – Commissioner President Collins speaks with Bill Grimes, Vice President of Charles Regional Medical Center about the hospital's preparations for treating those with COVID-19.*
- *[Commissioner Stewart's Virtual Town Hall on COVID-19](#)*
- *[COVID-19 Update \(March 23, 2020\)"](#) – Commissioner President Collins provides an update on the county's efforts to address the COVID-19 pandemic locally.*

Our County Administrator, Mark Belton, put out a short video message to employees earlier today, thanking them for their efforts and providing important reminders and updates. If you missed it, you can watch it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DM67Jp4hfok&feature=youtu.be>

*Finally, I had the opportunity to participate in a webinar with Harvard experts from the Shorenstein Center for Media and Politics this morning, and they emphasized how widespread our new "Infodemic" is becoming. **With the overabundance of information, it's more important than ever to help our community separate fact from fiction.** Please share our short [Public Service Announcement](#) that guides the public on where to obtain the facts during what is likely to be a sustained public health emergency.*

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- [Commissioner President's Update on Response to the Coronavirus](#) (March 23, 2020)
- [Commissioner President Collins Declares a State of Emergency](#) (March 16, 2020)
- [First COVID-19 case in Charles County](#) (March 13, 2020)

[Board of County Commissioners COVID-19 Update](#) (March 17, 2020)

“In the Studio” Video -- [Health Officer Dr. Suzan Lowry, MD FAAP with Commissioner President Collins](#)

Health Department video messages:

- [Coping Strategies for COVID-19](#)
- [Social Distancing](#)
- [Stop the Spread](#)

Podcast with Emergency Services Staff: [Inside Your County Government](#)

Charles County Government News Releases:

- March 23- [County to Waive Online Transaction Fees for Taxes and Water and Sewer Billing During COVID-19](#)
- March 22- [Charles County Government Buildings Closed to the Public](#)
- March 20- [Department of Planning and Growth Management Encourages Use of Online Services](#)
- March 19- [County Government Eliminates In-Person Payments Effective March 23](#)
- March 19- [County Landfill and Recycling Center Encourage COVID19 Precautions](#)
- March 19- [Board, Committees, and Commissions Non-Essential Meetings to be Suspended](#)
- March 18- [Economic Development Publishes Businesses' Operating Status Web Page](#)
- March 16- [Housing Authority Suspends In-person Appointments and Inspection](#)
- March 16- [Charles County Commissioners Declare Local State of Emergency](#)
- March 13- [Charles County Government Announces Operating Status Updates](#)

Operating Status Updates:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• County Government Operating Status and Affiliated Agencies: Click here• Local Businesses Operations (hosted by EDD): Link <p>Citizen Notifications (for Text and Email Alerts) -- Updates sent daily to 15,754 subscribers. Sign up online here → https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736722254#/signup</p> <p>Daily E-news Updates (sent to 3,000+ subscribers)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• March 23- County Government Update for COVID-2019• March 19- County Government Update for COVID-2019• March 18- County Government Update for COVID-2019• March 17- County Government Update for COVID-2019• March 16- Charles County Commissioners Declare Local State of Emergency• March 13- Protecting Yourself from the Coronavirus• March 6- Local Update in Response to the Coronavirus <p>Fitness at Home: Our recreation/senior center fitness instructors recorded classes for our residents to watch/follow at home during COVID-19.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reconditioning Wellness• Household Exercises• Yoga Class• Senior Exercises• Abs Workout• Kids Workout (Ages 3-5)
Schools:	<p>Schools will be closed beginning Monday 3/16/2020 and will be closed through 04/24/2020.</p> <p><i>Meals:</i></p> <p><i>On 3-26 CCPS served 6078 meals an increase of 554 meals over 3-25. Westlake High School and St Charles continues to be the busiest sites, for example on 3-25 they served over 1,000 meals at each of those sites.</i></p> <p>NO MEAL DISTRIBUTION SAT and SUN</p> <p><i>Closure:</i></p> <p><i>School closure through at least 4-24-20.</i></p> <p><i>MSDE closed all regulated child care centers as of today at 1700.</i></p> <p><i>Instruction:</i></p>

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Distribution of computers for teachers and students in need of technology are being looked into as a way to help support our distant learning.

Plan as of 3-26-2020. Excerpt from a memo sent to all CCPS Staff:

Monday, March 30 Teachers should finish and post grades for the third quarter.

Directions will be sent out how to finish grading since the quarter ended early.

Tuesday, March 31 Elementary teachers preview materials on SharePoint. Secondary teachers watch the APEX training video and prepare to set up rosters. Special education teachers review all student IEPs on their caseload and watch the Goalbook training videos. Additional webinars will be planned later in the week.

Wednesday, April 1 Continue to prepare for instruction and complete roster assignments.

Thursday, April 2 Send your first communication to students via Synergy Mail. Your communication should reestablish your relationship with your students and explain what the instruction will look like in the future.

Secondary teachers will ensure that all students know how to log into their APEX account.

Friday, April 3 Instruction begins and all teachers are available during "office hours" to communicate with students and to answer questions. Office hours will be established by level.

Elementary staff must be available from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., middle school staff from 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and high school from 1:00-4:00 p.m.

COMAR defines an academic day as three hours; hence, the designated office hours.

Community Wifi:

4 sites are up and broadcasting. Picco, Mt Hope, Henson, and TC Martin. Press release was delayed should go out 3-27-2020. We continue to work with AT&T FirstNet to increase signal strength.

Comcast and Verizon are taking different approach to assist the Covid-19 demands. Both of them are sending self-installation kits (routers and starter packets) free to non-customers and offering the basic internet plan for free (2 months). Comcast opened up all public Wi-Fi (hotspots) to everyone for the next 60 days. On top of this all mobile carriers (Verizon, AT&T, T Mobile, Sprint) have decided to give unlimited bandwidth to all subscribers and there won't be any data over charges. You can read the Sun newspaper article about this here Comcast and Verizon broadband changes are also listed in the Sun Paper

Misc:

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	<i>FBI has posted a warning re: the increased potential of child exploitation and predator interaction due to on-line learning and additional unsupervised screen time. The Office of School Safety and Security is building a "Situational Awareness" Bulletin for the community.</i>
<u>HEALTH and HUMAN SERVICES</u>	
Total Casualties:	None in Charles County at this time.
<i>Medical isolation/quarantine for vulnerable populations:</i>	<i>Coordinating with DSS, Lifestyles, & HD to provide shelter to vulnerable populations that have no location to isolate at. Current number of available units: 12 at Camp Merrick Working on getting cabins at Smallwood State Park Working to have a backup to this at local hotels, but this will be a last resort.</i>
Shelter Operation Plan:	Not Activated
Recreations, Parks & Tourism:	No report requested at this time. See cancellations here: https://www.charlescountyparks.com/about-us/covid-19
Department of Health:	<p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p> <p><i>The Long Term Care Facilities, Assisted Living and Hospice calls will be held weekly. Will also be holding conference calls with other medical staff around the County.</i></p> <p><i>Working on details of the VEIP testing site which will be starting sometime next week based upon available testing/collection kits. Details will follow when we have been made aware of operation schedule.</i></p> <p><i>Their PIO team is going to be listing the number of cases on their website. They will also be participating on podcare radio for Spanish speaking citizens and they have a call out to T-Bone and Heather to get information out through their show. They will be participating in a meeting with other PIO's at 2:00pm.</i></p> <p>A call center hotline is established on Monday 301-609-6717. There has been significant call volume and they may extend the hours. Emergency Services is contributing staff to the call center.</p> <p>COVID Testing Priorities:</p> <p>Priority 1 Testing for COVID-19</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospitalized patients • Healthcare facility workers with symptoms <p>Priority 2 Testing for COVID-19</p>

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- Patients in long-term care facilities with symptoms
- Patients over age 65 years with symptoms
- Patients with underlying conditions with symptoms
- First responders with symptoms

Priority 3 Testing for COVID-19

- Critical infrastructure workers with symptoms
- Individuals who do not meet any of the above categories with symptoms
- Healthcare facility workers and first responders
- Individuals with mild symptoms in communities experiencing high numbers of COVID-19 hospitalizations

Non-Priority

- Individuals without symptoms

CDC has released new guidance for homeless individuals, retirement communities and independent living facilities to better aid in the planning, preparation for, and response to coronavirus disease 2019.

The guidance is based on what is currently known about the transmission and severity of coronavirus disease. Residents in retirement communities and independent living facilities are considered to be at higher risk of severe COVID-19 outcomes because of older age and because they may have underlying health conditions.

These resources be accessed using the links below.

- Interim Guidance for Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html>
- Guidance for Retirement Communities and Independent Living: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/retirement/index.html>
- Preventing the Spread of COVID-19 in Retirement Communities and Independent Living Facilities (Interim Guidance): <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/retirement/guidance-retirement-response.html>
- Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) Checklist: Older Persons: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/retirement/checklist.html>

Also of interest, other updates from CDC

- [Disinfecting Your Facility if Someone is Sick](#) Saturday, March 21, 2020
- [Resources for Large Community Events & Mass Gatherings](#) Friday, March 20, 2020

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Environmental Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations Friday, March 20, 2020 • Interim Guidance for Businesses and Employers Friday, March 20, 2020 <p>The basic plans to setup the VEIP site as a collection/test site for COVID-19 have been reviewed locally. A meeting was held this morning to possibly set this up sometime later in the week based upon the availability of testing kits.</p> <p>Please see the attached updated FAQ from Maryland Dept of Health.</p> <p>Here are some resources on telehealth in Maryland (for providers):</p> <p>CareFirst: https://individual.carefirst.com/individuals-families/about-us/coronavirus-healthcare-providers.page</p> <p>Medicaid - Patients homes are now considered an originating site (previously patients had to go to a health clinic, provider office etc to connect with an off site provider) - as far as I know, all MCO plans are following this guidance</p> <p>Aetna - https://www.aetna.com/individuals-families/member-rights-resources/covid19.html</p> <p>Cigna</p> <p>General Fact Sheet</p>
Social Services	<p>Coordinating to provide shelter for vulnerable populations with Lifestyles, Emergency Services, and the Health Department.</p> <p>Charles County Department of Social Services is closed <u>TO THE PUBLIC</u>. We continue to provide services such as :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SNAP (food stamps) • Temporary Cash Assistance (TCA) to families • Short-term disability (TDAP) • Emergency Assistance for rent, foreclosure, burial, and other day-to-day needs (These funds are VERY limited) • Child Support - both new applications and action to collect • Homelessness services (limited to temporary and emergency sheltering for those NOT exhibiting COVID-19 symptoms) <p>We will continue conducting in-home and in-facility investigations on reports of child abuse and neglect and adult abuse/neglect and financial exploitation.</p> <p>CCDSS staff remain available to you should you have questions about services, need us to contact a constituent, or wish to include us in planning</p>

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	for the longer-term problems we will all need to address inflicted by COVID-19.
Community Services:	<p><u>SAFAH resource for homeless:</u> <i>DCS will assist facility-based providers of homeless services in Charles County with maximizing their service capacity by accepting referrals to the Supplemental Assistance to Facilities that Assist the Homeless Program (SAFAH). This program offers the opportunity for providers to move residents of Transitional Housing & Supportive Housing programs for the homeless onto permanent Housing Choice Vouchers, in order to preserve transitional & emergency shelter beds for the most immediate crises. Providers of homeless services can make a referral to the SAFAH program by contacting Ms. Rita Wood, Chief of Housing at woodr@charlescountymd.gov or via phone at 301-934-0130.</i></p> <p><u>Additional Childcare Resources for essential healthcare/EMS/public safety, etc:</u> <i>Parents and caregivers of essential personnel may call one of the following numbers for additional information:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Please call the trained LOCATE: Child Care Referral Specialists (Toll-Free) 877-261-0060. <p><i>The link for statewide childcare centers that are designated to serve essential personnel is as follows.</i></p> <p><i>Childcare Options with AlphaBest which is the on site program at the Port Tobacco community center. This arrangement is a “last option” for parents who don’t have other childcare options, but work in essential healthcare (local hospital, our area nursing homes), 911/dispatch, EMS, CCSO, etc. The Port Tobacco site is not very large & will still need to practice appropriate social distancing, so we expect to use this option for those essential staff who may not otherwise be able to come to work. There will be a daily drop-in fee, which we hope will make it more affordable for employees who do shift work & therefore may not need typical Mon-Fri weekly care.</i></p> <p><i>The phone number for the childcare site is 301-934-0104, if parents have questions about the paperwork, fees, etc.</i></p> <p><i>Community available Wifi from xfinity see below:</i></p> <p>https://wifi.xfinity.com/?INTCMP=ILC:XA:GEN:GEN5bfebd84b5e3a</p>

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Lifestyles:	<p><i>Coordination</i></p> <p><i>Several calls were conducted today to set up isolation and/or quarantine for individuals who have been tested but no results as of yet and they may be displaced or homeless. Coordination with EOC, CCHD, DSS and LifeStyles</i></p> <p><i>Scheduling conversation with the EOC and HD regarding shelters, staffing, isolation and quarantine for Monday or Tuesday.</i></p> <p><i>Information regarding sanitation stations and assistance for the homeless was provided to EOC.</i></p> <p><i>This will address homeless encampments</i></p> <p><i>Food services</i></p> <p><i>Through conversations with Dr. Hill and End Hunger, additional families may be identified.. We will coordinate groceries utilizing local farmers as much as possible.</i></p> <p><i>Pre-packaged food baskets will be brought to the Fuller House for curbside pickup. Persons should call first to notify staff of their arrival and provide information as needed via phone</i></p> <p><i>Coordination of food delivery to county's hard to reach population with End Hunger in Charles County and volunteers</i></p> <p><i>10 Charles County Cares Cabanas will be placed throughout the County manned by volunteers from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Everyone will be able to take one non-perishable bag and toiletries. Plans are to have 50 to 75 bags at each site. Persons will remain in their vehicles or at a distance when walking to the cabanas. All volunteers will have gloves on throughout the distribution. There may be a need for additional food. We are depending on volunteer resources.</i></p> <p><i>10 Charles County Cares Cabanas will be placed throughout the County manned by volunteers from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Everyone will be able to take one non-perishable bag and toiletries. Plans are to have 50 to 75 bags at each site. Persons will remain in their vehicles or at a distance when walking to the cabanas. All volunteers will have gloves on throughout the distribution. There may be a need for additional food. We are depending on volunteer resources.</i></p> <p><i>LifeStyles will operate the following programs/services until further notice:</i></p>
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	<p>Overall operations</p> <p>Transfer all LifeStyles calls to the Fuller House for a call center</p> <p>Allow for two staff on-site during the 8am – 4pm shift</p> <p>SNAP applications online</p> <p>Robert J. Fuller Transitional House for Men, to include:</p> <p>Continued provision of two meals a day</p> <p>Receive referrals for the program and conduct intakes via phone</p> <p>Only transition individuals that LifeStyles has a history of services</p> <p>Case management maintenance/assistance with rehousing</p> <p>Martha’s Place, Gayle’s House and Haven of Hope case management services</p> <p>Receive referrals for the program and conduct intakes via phone; assistance with rehousing support</p> <p>Martha’s Place participants transition to Gayle’s Place during crisis</p> <p>Human Services</p> <p>Emergency assistance and Case management for general public</p> <p>Intakes and application assistance via phone/email/fax; no in-person appointments</p> <p>Advocacy services with other partner agencies</p> <p>Maintain all Homeless Management Information System data entry</p> <p>Homeless Services</p> <p>Provide housing search and assistance through essential staff</p> <p>Provision of outreach, food and hygiene items for homeless clients</p> <p>Case management services</p> <p>Manage text messaging services through Homeless Alert system</p> <p>SNAP applications online</p> <p>Food services</p> <p>Pre-packaged food baskets will be brought to the Fuller House for curbside pickup. Persons should call first to notify staff of their arrival and provide information as needed via phone</p> <p>Coordination of food delivery to county’s hard to reach population with End Hunger in Charles County and volunteers</p> <p>10 Charles County Cares Cabanas will be placed throughout the County manned by volunteers from 11a.m. to 3 p.m. daily. Everyone will be able to take one non-perishable bag and toiletries. Plans are to have 50 to 75 bags at each site. Persons will remain in their vehicles or at a distance when walking to the cabanas. All volunteers will have gloves on throughout the distribution. There may be a need for additional food. We are depending on volunteer resources.</p>						
	<p style="text-align: center;"><u>CHARLES COUNTY CARES CABANA</u></p> <table><tr><td style="text-align: center;"><u>AREA</u></td><td style="text-align: center;"><u>LOCATION</u></td><td style="text-align: center;"><u>SAMARITAN</u></td></tr><tr><td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;">(Captain Cabanas)</td></tr></table>	<u>AREA</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SAMARITAN</u>	(Captain Cabanas)		
<u>AREA</u>	<u>LOCATION</u>	<u>SAMARITAN</u>					
(Captain Cabanas)							

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	<p>Nanjemoy (1) Thomas Mt. Hope Church (Confirmed) Danny</p> <p>Indian Head (2) TBD Village Green (Confirmed)</p> <p>Bryans Road (3) TBD Free Gospel</p> <p>La Plata (4) Coggins Willing Helpers Hall (Confirmed) Turner</p> <p>La Plata (5) McClarry Dorchester Community Center Pastor (Confirmed)</p> <p>Waldorf (6) Our Lady Help of Christians</p> <p>Waldorf (7) Jones New Hope COG (Confirmed) Dr. Aaron</p> <p>Newburg (8) Cobb Island VFD (Confirmed) Mary Bailey</p> <p>Newburg (9) Kilinski Newburg VFD (Confirmed) Lynn</p> <p>Bel Alton (10) Bel Alton VFD</p>
Charles Regional Medical Center	<p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p> <p><i>Still working on setting up external tents.</i></p> <p>Seeing an uptick in patients with Influenza Like Illnesses. We cannot confirm they are Covid-19 patients, as there continues to be a delay in test results. At this point we have only seen 2 confirmed positive patients, both of which were seen in the ED and discharged home for self care.</p> <p>All UMMS hospitals have implemented a “No Visitors” policy Logistics has coordinated sourcing tents for CRMC to use outside the ER.</p>
<u>OPERATIONS</u>	
Career EMS:	<p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p> <p>Sent out the letter from the Jurisdictional Medical Director – Dr. Seaman to all career & volunteer staff regarding fact vs fiction and COVID 19</p> <p>New Special Order has been completed.</p>
	Providing logistical support to Emergency Management

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HazMat:	<p>Placing orders for emergency supplies through multiple sources. Using the email address for logistics:</p> <p>deslogistics@charlescountymd.gov</p>
Law Enforcement: MSP & CCSO	<p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p> <p><u>Buildings:</u></p> <p>Charles County Sheriff's Office: Building open to public Maryland State Police: Restricted open to public Maryland Transportation Authority: Restricted to public La Plata Police Department: Closed to the public Natural Resources Police: Building Closed</p> <p><u>Operations:</u></p> <p>Charles County Sheriff's Office: Operations as normal Maryland State Police: Operations as normal Maryland Transportation Authority: Operations as normal La Plata Police Department: Operations as normal Natural Resources Police: Operations as normal</p> <p><u>PUI:</u></p> <p>Charles County Sheriff's Office: 4 officers quarantined – 1 officer tested; 11 Recruits quarantined – none from CCSO tested but one from St. Mary's has been. Maryland State Police: None local Maryland Transportation Authority: None local La Plata Police Department: None local Natural Resources Police: None local</p> <p><u>Crime Stats:</u></p> <p>Commercial Burglaries Up for all agencies; otherwise all other crime numbers are down</p> <p><u>TRU:</u></p> <p>Charles County Sheriff's Office: Open and working Maryland State Police: Open and working Maryland Transportation Authority: Open and working La Plata Police Department: Open and working Natural Resources Police: Open and working</p> <p><u>Call Restrictions:</u></p> <p>Charles County Sheriff's Office: None</p>

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	<p>Maryland State Police: None</p> <p>Maryland Transportation Authority: None</p> <p>La Plata Police Department: None</p> <p>Natural Resources Police: None</p>
Volunteer Fire:	<p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p> <p><i>Spoke with Fairfax about how they are handling nursing homes. Chief Filer sent an email to other agencies to see what they are doing and if we can do the same. No major incidents to report.</i></p> <p>Overall, call volume remains low for this month in comparison to previous months.</p>
Volunteer EMS:	<p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p> <p>New Special Order has been completed, signed and sent out.</p>
Special Operations Collapse Team:	No report requested at this time.
Emergency Management:	<p>Hosting coordination meetings with the Core Planning Group</p> <p>Options for shelter:</p> <p>Camp Merrick:</p> <p>9 cabins – all have a bed, toilet and showers.</p> <p>2 houses – 1 two floor 6 bedroom house with a bathroom(toilet & shower) on each floor.</p> <p>One admin cabin with one bathroom (toilet & shower). Fully finished with washer/dryer.</p> <p>Dining Hall onsite is unusable due to a water line break issue.</p> <p>All cabins have heat/AC.</p> <p>Smallwood state park – all cabins are winterized. The request for use has gone up their chain of command. We will wait for an answer.</p> <p>Coordinating all emergency resource requests in WebEOC.</p> <p>Requested and received Petty Cash on hand for emergency operations.</p>
Animal Control/CART:	<p>To help try to minimize the spread of and the potential exposure of our ACOs to COVID-19, animal control officers will limit their direct interactions with the public and will only be physically responding to emergency calls</p> <p><i>The animal services staff has reported that the preparations thus far for the pets, if needed, are:</i></p>

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>Contact has been made with the 11 licensed boarding kennels in the County. 10 of these facilities have agreed to accept pets from COVID-19 PUIs or positives. The max capacity of these facilities is around 420 +/- pets. (depends on at what capacity they are at when asked)</i> 2. <i>Contact has been made with the local pet sitting community. These 9+ businesses have affirmed that they will service the COVID-19 PUIs or positives but would require that the pet be brought out to them – no in home pick up or care.</i> 3. <i>The County's animal shelter facility has made the following adjustments to accommodate the community's needs:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. <i>One wing of the facility has been cleared to make room. This includes 14 standard kennels, a free roaming cat room that can be fitted with a large amount of individual crates/cages for cats, a critter room, a restroom and a break room.</i> b. <i>Emergency supplies have been inventoried in the event that an emergency pet shelter needs to be set up – either at the Hughesville facility or in another location.</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>171 portable crates/cages</i> ii. <i>43 portable critter cages</i> iii. <i>Various feeding, watering and cleaning supplies needed</i> c. <i>Also available for deployment if an offsite location is used would be:</i> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i. <i>the 30 foot travel trailer that has been retrofitted as a portable emergency animal shelter (generated), and</i> ii. <i>the 24 foot cargo trailer that is retrofitted as the rescue response trailer. This trailer is designed so that racked supply containers can be switched out and replaced with medium pet crates for additional housing space. This trailer is also generated.</i> <p>Shelter Operations have been limited to Reclaims, adoptions and rescues by appointment only between the hours of 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Appointments can be requested/made by email to animalshelter@charlescountymd.gov</p>
<p>Economic Development</p>	<p>The Maryland Department of Commerce is offering three new business assistance programs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic:</p> <p>(1) Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Loan Fund: This \$75 million loan fund offers no interest or principal payments due for the first 12 months, then converts to a 36-month term loan of principal and interest payments, with an interest rate at 2% per annum. Learn more.</p> <p>(2) Maryland Small Business COVID-19 Emergency Relief Grant Fund: This \$50 million grant program offers grant amounts up to \$10,000, not to exceed 3 months of demonstrated cash operating expenses for the first quarter of 2020. Learn more.</p> <p>(3) Maryland COVID-19 Emergency Relief Manufacturing Fund: This \$5 million incentive program helps Maryland manufacturers to produce personal protective equipment (PPE) that is urgently needed by hospitals and health-care workers</p>

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	<p>across the country. If you have specific questions about these funds, please email fpaworkflowcoordinator.commerce@maryland.gov.</p> <p>For the most up-to-date information pertaining to the business community and COVID-19: visit https://businessexpress.maryland.gov/coronavirus.</p> <p>If you have specific, business-related questions: email secretary.commerce@maryland.gov.</p> <p><u>Federal Programs</u></p> <p>The federal Small Business Administration has also established programs to assist small business. Governor Hogan announced on March 19th that the entire state of Maryland has received official designation for SBA assistance. Individual businesses can now apply directly to the SBA for low-interest loans through the Economic Injury Disaster Loan program. Visit SBA's website to apply now.</p> <p>General SBA guidance for businesses can be found here. If you need additional help navigating the SBA process, Maryland SBDC can assist.</p> <p>Local Business Resources: www.meetcharlescounty.com</p>
<u>INFRASTRUCTURE</u>	
Power Outages: (SMECO)	None at this time
County Roads:	No report requested at this time.
Debris Removal:	Not activated
Communications:	<p>Providing 9-1-1 call screening for Possible COVID-19 cases. Per the next edition signed Special Order2020-1.</p> <p>Participating in coordination meetings with Emergency Management.</p>
Utilities:	Not activated
PGM(DA Teams):	Not activated
County CIP/B&T:	Not activated
<u>LOGISTICS</u>	
	The Logistic Officer providing coordination and ordering for emergency supplies.

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	<p><i>Currently working through facility locations. Hand sanitizer is currently on hold and we cannot guarantee when it will come in. We are working with Public Health to come up with a way to shelter positive patients or patients that have been tested for COVID-19 and have no place to go.</i></p> <p>Nick Ellis, serving as our Logistics Officer asks that you please complete the ICS 213 RR form (Joe will send out a copy via email or you can google search the form) and send any and all forms/requests to deslogistics@charlescountymd.gov. Please complete the appropriate check boxes (Requestor name, item #, etc.)</p>
<u>FINANCE</u>	
	<p>CONTINUE tracking any response costs your agency may have now. An email address has been established for finances: desfinance@charlescountymd.gov</p> <p>We received good news during our conference call with MEMA – We are now eligible for reimbursement through public assistance, Jennifer Adams reminds the group to please contact her to get directions to submit an RPA.</p> <p>We will be beginning the Public Assistance request process. Jen Adams will be reaching out to complete the Request for Public Assistance RPA forms for all response partners.</p>
<u>STATE SUPPORT</u>	
	<p>Actively coordinating with MEMA & MDH</p> <p>Charles County Emergency Operations Center on behalf of the Charles County Health department is requesting the following National Guard personnel for their drive through testing site due to possible staff shortages in CCSO.</p> <p>(4) personnel for onsite security (6) personnel for traffic control</p> <p>Child Care service has extended hours to respond to increased call volume during the pandemic. Parents should call 877.261.0060 between Monday through Friday from 7:00 AM to 7:00 PM. A real time chat feature is available Monday through Friday between 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM or use the self-guided web version of LOCATE: Child Care 24/7 both at marylandfamilynetwork.org. Specialized services for parents of children with special needs as well as Spanish language LOCATE: Child Care are also available.</p>

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	<p>MEMA Full Activation of the SEOC – with staff will be operating Monday – Friday 0700 to 1700. Virtual on Weekends. Primary Election moved to June 2 Farmers Market opening moved back 2 weeks.</p> <p>State Coordination calls will occur every day at 1500 hours for the duration of the event.</p>



Larry Hogan, Governor · Boyd K. Rutherford, Lt. Governor · Robert R. Neall, Secretary

March 26, 2020

Dear Colleague:

We are writing to provide important updates regarding testing for COVID-19.

Earlier this week, Secretary Neall issued a [Directive and Order Regarding Various Healthcare Matters](#) stating that health care providers shall prioritize COVID-19 test orders to the following groups:

- A. Hospitalized patients, who should be tested by the most expeditious means available (either a hospital lab, private lab, or the State Laboratory);
- B. Symptomatic Emergency Medical Service Personnel, healthcare workers, and law enforcement personnel;
- C. Symptomatic patients in nursing homes, long-term care facilities, or in congregate living facilities housing individuals who are medically fragile; OR
- D. Symptomatic high-risk unstable patients whose care would be altered by a diagnosis of COVID-19.

The Maryland Department of Health is continuing to conduct COVID-19 testing and will accept specimens for patients in these prioritized groups (A-D). MDH cannot accept lower priority specimens for testing at this time.

- Health department approval is no longer required for COVID-19 testing performed at MDH. Clinicians do not need to notify the local or state health department of the decision to test or the decision to submit the specimen to MDH for testing.
- Clinicians may only submit specimens to MDH for patients in these prioritized groups. However, clinicians are NOT required to use MDH for COVID-19 testing of these groups.
- Clinicians should use their own swabs and viral transport media for specimens submitted to MDH for testing.
- An MDH Laboratories Administration test order form must be completed and accompany the specimen, **AND must indicate the specimen's priority group (A, B, C or D).**
- Continue to follow MDH Laboratory Administration guidelines related to specimen collection, shipping guidance, and the required test request form:
<https://health.maryland.gov/laboratories/Pages/Novel-Coronavirus.aspx>

For related questions, please contact your local health department.

- **Clinicians should continue to also use commercial and hospital laboratories for COVID-19 testing, as determined by clinical judgment.**
- Testing of asymptomatic people is not advised.
- Mildly ill patients should be encouraged to stay home if they can safely care for themselves at home.
- Patients who have clinical symptoms consistent with COVID-19, but who are not tested for COVID-19, should be advised to self-isolate at home until:
 - At least 3 days (72 hours) have passed since recovery defined as resolution of fever without the use of fever-reducing medications **and** improvement in respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath); **and**,
 - At least 7 days have passed since symptoms first appeared.

We would also like to call your attention to additional CDC guidance that has been released in recent days, including the following:

- [Criteria for Return to Work for Healthcare Personnel with Confirmed or Suspected COVID-19 \(Interim Guidance\)](#)
- [Discontinuation of Transmission-Based Precautions and Disposition of Patients with COVID-19 in Healthcare Settings \(Interim Guidance\)](#)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'Monique Duwell', with a stylized, cursive script.

Monique Duwell, MD, MPH
Chief, Center for Infectious Disease Surveillance and Outbreak Response
Maryland Department of Health

Psychological First AID

http://www.sph.umn.edu/pfatutorial/#responder_self_care_basics

Psychological First AID

There is an excellent tool for Psychological First Aid (PFA) from the University of Minnesota for download to Android and Apple smart phones. An overview and instructions on how to download the tool is located at the following URL:

<http://www.sph.umn.edu/ce/perl/mobile/pfatutorial/> .

The tool contains a PFA overview of for disaster victims as well as responders. In addition, the tool has a series of case studies to allow individuals to apply their knowledge of PFA. For those interested in further study of PFA, there is a section with a list of references. The on-line tool is located at: <http://www.sph.umn.edu/pfatutorial/> .

Responder Self-Care Basics

Responder self-care is a critical component of Psychological First Aid. Responders deploy on short notice, face terror and destruction, and work long hours. These challenges make normal mechanisms of self-care difficult to access and easy to overlook.

It is imperative for responders to tend to their physical, emotional, and spiritual wellbeing. Without adequate self-care, fatigue, adrenaline, and a desire to help can lead to ineffective, or even regrettable, decisions and practices.

Self-care includes actions taken before, during and after deployment.

Self-Care Before Deployment

- Create personal and family disaster plans. Planning for potential emergencies at home will help provide peace of mind during deployment.
- Develop a Personal Resiliency Plan or Self-Care Plan. Identifying personal stressors, red flags, and favorite coping strategies in advance will help responders take better care of themselves.
- Practice your Self-Care Plan during day-to-day life. This will make it more likely for self-care to be utilized during response.
- Participate in pre-incident training. The more knowledge acquired before a disaster, the better prepared you will be at the time of deployment.
- Evaluate your readiness to respond to the disaster. Recognize if your own physical and emotional health status makes you unable to perform the required functions of a specific deployment request.

Psychological First AID

http://www.sph.umn.edu/pfatutorial/#responder_self_care_basics

Self-Care During Deployment

- Set personal boundaries, including the number of hours you will work and the amount of exposure to traumatic stimuli with which you are comfortable.
- Take care of yourself. You are modeling healthy behavior for survivors and other responders.
- Follow your Self-Care Plan. Taking brief stress management breaks, performing basic bodily care, and checking in with colleagues, family, and friends are all important practices in maintaining an ability to respond.
- Eat properly, drink plenty of water, get rest and exercise, and avoid abuse of alcohol and drugs.
- Talk often to people who care. Never be afraid to ask for support from family, friends, mental health professionals, or clergy.
- Develop a “buddy” system with a co-responder. Agree to keep an eye on each other's functioning, fatigue level, and stress symptoms.
- Writing, journaling, drawing, and painting can be stress management tools.
- Try to be flexible, patient, and tolerant.

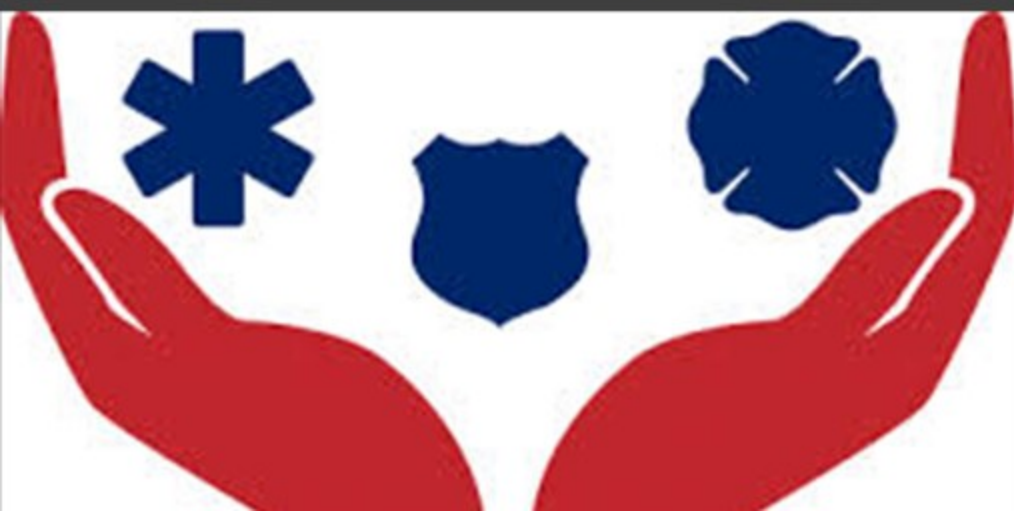
Self-Care After Deployment

- Allow for emotional adjustment upon returning to your usual routine.
- Prepare for changes in how you see the world as you are processing your experiences that may not be mirrored by others in your life.
- Pay extra attention to rekindling close interpersonal relationships.
- Participate in formal mechanisms of obtaining help.
- Increase leisure activities; pay extra attention to health and nutrition and sleep.
- Make time for self-reflection on what you experienced during deployment.

Responder Reactions To Traumatic Stress

Responders such as yourself may experience stress reactions similar to others who have been exposed to traumatic events. However, responders may also have reactions specific to their role as a responder. Examples include:

- Concerns for your family's wellbeing while deployed
- Fear of long-term health impacts to yourself and your family
- Domestic pressures caused by the disaster such as school closures or disruptions in childcare as well as ongoing pressures such as family illness are heightened during deployment
- Compassion fatigue from repeatedly caring for others
- Refusal to relinquish control when shift is finished and difficulty maintaining self-care activities (e.g., getting sufficient rest)



First Responder Peer Support

Want to talk? Contact us at:

DESpeersupport@charlescountymd.gov