



APRIL 20TH, 2022

TSN NEWSLETTER

MEMBER UPDATE FROM THE TORONTO SHELTER NETWORK



WEBINARS AND EVENTS:

NEXT VACCINE SITE LEADS MEETING WITH TSN AND SSHA

Date: April 29th 2022

Time: 10:00am -11:00am

NEXT SSHA COVID 19 HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDER WEBINAR

Date: April 21st 2022

Time: 1:00pm -2:00pm

Click [HERE](#) to join the webinar.

Phone: 1-416-915-6530

Access code: 2451 103
9833

Webinar password:
GbQijSR443 (42744577
from phones)

COVID-19 AND VACCINES

- Masks or face covering requirements continue to apply in shelters and congregate care settings until further notice.
- Service providers are encouraged and can continue to access free rapid antigen tests by clicking [HERE](#). The provincial antigen screening program has been extended until at least July 31st, 2022.
- Staff can use rapid antigen tests for both: daily screening and to support return to work as recommended by TPH in outbreak settings.
- Practice Health Check is continuing to assess all sites and re-assessing shelters visited earlier this year to follow up on IPAC recommendations and conducting Outbreak Management support meetings.
- Service providers are expected to continue to work with PHC to facilitate scheduling of IPAC audits, training, and outbreak management planning sessions over the course of the year.
- Last call for Disinfecting Wipes pick up!! TSN is distributing wipes this Friday April 22nd from 10:00AM-1:00PM at 25 Canterbury Pl, North York, ON M2N 0E3. Distribution is based on while supplies last!

ICHA Virtual Clinic Support

- Inner City Health Associates (ICHA) is continuing to offer virtual clinical support to shelters for residents who are isolating in-situ under direction of Toronto Public Health as a result of a shelter outbreak.
- This aim of this program is to support residents with non-urgent health care concerns during their in-situ isolation. This program runs from Monday-Friday 9am-5pm.
- To book an appointment please click [HERE](#). For more information, please see attached in the email.

Harm Reduction and Overdose Prevention

- MOVID is available to provide onsite harm reduction and peer supports to individuals during outbreaks who test positive for COVID and use drugs.
- Supports may include: managed alcohol program and referrals to safer supply, access to cigarettes
- For more information, please click [HERE](#)

COVID-19 TRANSITION PLAN

- The consultation process continues. Another meeting was held on April 13th. A few highlights from the meeting are listed below:
 - To transition to housing, people need continued access to: harm reduction, food security, case management support
 - It is imperative to not revert to the pre-pandemic model
 - As we shift to something new, need to retain: community supports for residents, harm reduction supports and wrap around supports as a transitional model.
- SSHA, BGM and TSN are working together to collect feedback and recommendations from 200 hotel residents this month.

CANADA ONTARIO HOUSING BENEFIT

- The Canadian Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB) provides households with a portable housing benefit to assist with rental costs in the private housing market.
- The COHB pays the difference between 30 per cent of the household's income and the average market rent in the area. For recipients of social assistance, the COHB will pay the difference between the shelter allowance and the household's rent and utilities costs.
- For more information (eligibility, application process) please click [HERE](#)

FRONTLINE WORKER SUPPORT SESSIONS

- TSN has organized monthly mental health and wellness check-ins for frontline shelter workers, facilitated by Chris Leonard! Join us in an interactive virtual space where she guides us to unpack and process the hard work and effects of frontline shelter workers.
- The next session will be taking place on April 26th, 2022 from 1pm-3pm. To join the Zoom session, please click [HERE](#) for the Zoom link.
Meeting ID: 897 3614 4381
Passcode: 881952
- If you have any questions please contact Soha at coordinator.tsn@gmail.com

UPCOMING SECTOR MEETINGS

- Youth Sector Meeting: **Friday April 22nd**
- Men's Sector Meeting: **Tuesday April 26th**
- All Member Meeting: **Wednesday April 27th 1pm- 2:30pm**- featuring a focused presentation and discussion of the Pipeline Project- Creating a good work environment for people with lived experience in Toronto's shelter system.

WEBINARS AND EVENTS:

Current Vaccination Status at Reporting Shelter Locations:

All programs:

- *76% have received first dose!*
- *68% are fully vaccinated!*

- *POS Shelters are at 75% vaccinated!*
- *DOS shelters are at 73% vaccinated!*

Youth programs:

- *75% have received their first dose!*
- *65% are fully vaccinated!*

