



## **A Brief Scan of COVID-19 Impacts on People Experiencing Homelessness: Shelter Impacts and Responses**

Jakob Koziel, Maria Savidov, and Andrea Frick

This is part 3 of a 3-part series entitled,  
*A Brief Scan of COVID-19 Impacts on People Experiencing Homelessness.*

Correspondence concerning this article should be disclosed to Bissell Centre, 10527 96 Street,  
Edmonton AB, T5H 2H6. Email: [research@bissellcentre.org](mailto:research@bissellcentre.org).

# Table of Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Methods</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Acknowledgments</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Disclaimer</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>The shelter impacts of COVID-19 on populations experiencing homelessness</b>	<b>4</b>
Prevalence of COVID-19 at the shelter level	4
Transmission of COVID-19 at the shelter level	4
<b>Responses and strategies focused on mitigating shelter impacts</b>	<b>5</b>
Protective measures in Shelters	5
Shelter Closures and Restrictions	6
Alternatives to Shelters	6
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>7</b>

## **Introduction**

The World Health Organization declared a global outbreak of the coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) on March 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020<sup>1</sup>. The virus is two times more deadly than the influenza virus and can cause a plethora of deleterious health outcomes<sup>2</sup>. Additionally, COVID-19 poses a particular risk for those who already suffer from or who have a higher risk of suffering from pre-existing medical conditions, such as populations experiencing homelessness<sup>3-7</sup>.

This report summarizes the emerging literature, media reports and homelessness-serving systems' responses to the pandemic and the impacts that it has had pertaining to shelters caring for individuals who experience homelessness.

Any strategies and recommendations presented in this report are intended to be suggestive and exploratory as opposed to prescriptive. That is, this paper is to serve as a starting point for readers interested in doing more research on topics related to COVID-19 and homelessness. Additionally, the purpose of this report is to learn from the global response to the reality of homelessness in the pandemic and understand the evidence of various responses to the pandemic to assist with informing regional practice, program, and policy decision making.

## **Methods**

Initially, we conducted an online media and academic search on COVID-19 among populations experiencing homelessness and shelters between March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2020. We also conducted one-on-one telephone interviews with 5 shelters across Canada and the United States to gain an "on the ground" perspective during the early stages of the pandemic.

Since April 26<sup>th</sup>, we have been reviewing daily online news reports, as well as documents published in the academic (i.e. peer-reviewed journal articles) and grey (i.e. evaluations, government documents, working papers, etc.) literature to understand the impact of COVID-19 on equity-deserving populations or those experiencing homelessness as well as developing strategies focused on helping to mitigate that impact.

Our end date for our literature and media search was September 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2020. Literature and media searches revealed that most of the research originates from the United States and only a handful have been conducted elsewhere including Canada and England.

## **Acknowledgments**

We would like to acknowledge and thank the following individuals for their work in reviewing and providing feedback for the paper:

Denise Adams (Canadian Research Initiative in Substance Misuse)  
Don Voaklander (Injury Prevention Centre)  
Karen Edwards (Community-University Partnership)  
Kathy Belton (Injury Prevention Centre)  
Sandra Ngo (Edmonton Social Planning Council)

## **Disclaimer**

Given the heightened risk that COVID-19 poses to individuals experiencing homelessness, the academic and grey literature, while small, has been growing at a rapid pace and suggesting responses for agencies to implement to mitigate this crisis within populations experiencing homelessness. However, due to the novelty of the COVID-19 pandemic, most of the research on this topic is new. As such, most of the research contained in this report has not yet been peer-reviewed and may change or be refuted in the future.

Please note, this report is not meant to be an academic paper or systematic review but rather a summary and snapshot of the emerging media reporting and academic investigations of the pandemic's impact on the previously mentioned populations during a specific timeframe (March 30<sup>th</sup> – September 3<sup>rd</sup> 2020).

The hope is that this report will stimulate further research and inter-agency collaboration on the topics presented here to support those experiencing homelessness. As this work is exploratory, we are continuously conducting additional work on these topics.

## **The shelter impacts of COVID-19 on populations experiencing homelessness**

### **Prevalence of COVID-19 at the shelter level**

There is also emerging research that is suggesting that the prevalence of COVID-19 may be higher among those experiencing homelessness who are sheltered compared to those who are unsheltered. The *Coalition for the Homeless* report also found that the age-adjusted mortality rate is the highest among homeless populations who live in congregate shelters<sup>8</sup>.

In Atlanta, researchers tested 2,875 individuals experiencing homelessness at 24 shelters and nine unsheltered outreach events and discovered that, among those experiencing homelessness and who were sheltered (n = 1,684), 2.1% tested positive compared to 0.5% of those who were unsheltered (n = 628)<sup>9</sup>. Despite the low prevalence, the number of positive cases was four times higher among those who were sheltered than those who were unsheltered<sup>9</sup>.

Based on news reports and studies, the prevalence of COVID-19 among populations experiencing homelessness who have been tested in shelters varies from 22% to 66%. This range of values only pertains to those tested at the shelter level. In one study, researchers tested 1,192 residents in 19 homeless shelters across four American cities (Atlanta, Boston, San Francisco, Seattle)<sup>10</sup>. Of all residents tested, 293 people (25%) tested positive for COVID-19<sup>10</sup>. The highest percentage of positive results was in San Francisco, with 66% percent testing positive<sup>10</sup>.

### **Transmission of COVID-19 at the shelter level**

Studies and media reports have confirmed that COVID-19 can spread very rapidly in shelters<sup>6, 9, 11, 12</sup>. To date, three studies have investigated the spread of COVID-19 among American homeless populations<sup>9, 11-12</sup>. In Boston, researchers conducted symptom assessments and COVID-19 tests for 408 shelter residents over two days with 147 shelter residents (36%) testing

positive<sup>11</sup>. This suggested that COVID-19 symptoms might be uncommon among those who access shelters, and that universal testing is preferable<sup>11</sup>.

Researchers in King County, Washington detailed the spread of COVID-19 between three shelters between March 30<sup>th</sup> and April 8<sup>th</sup><sup>12</sup>. Initially, one infected resident was identified in one shelter on March 30<sup>th</sup>, and by April 1<sup>st</sup>, 7 out of 43 (16.3%) shelter residents tested positive<sup>12</sup>. By the end of the testing cycle, across the three shelters, COVID-19 was diagnosed in 35 out of 195 (18%) shelter residents<sup>12</sup>. Based on their analysis, the researchers have highlighted five factors that contributed to the spread of COVID-19 among shelters including<sup>12</sup>;

- (1) Community members' mobile nature and use of multiple shelters
- (2) Challenges implementing physical distancing in shelters
- (3) Unavailability of Personal Protective Equipment and/or face coverings for residents
- (4) Asymptomatic transmission
- (5) Crowding of shelters and use of congregate sleeping arrangements

Based on these factors, the researchers recommend that shelters isolate symptomatic residents and those with confirmed diseases, enforce shelter orders, and test all residents and staff<sup>12</sup>.

### **Responses and strategies focused on mitigating shelter impacts**

#### **Protective measures in Shelters (Social Distancing and Personal Protective Equipment)**

While large scale housing solutions may be difficult to implement, continually operating existing shelter systems are important during the pandemic. However, existing shelters are diminishing the number of beds available in order to comply with social distancing requirements that slow the spread of COVID-19<sup>13</sup>. Despite these difficulties, shelters can implement social distancing requirements and provide Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) where appropriate.

Spacing out individuals and complying with social distancing regulations can help stunt outbreaks<sup>6, 14</sup>. Father Bill's & Mainspring, a non-profit in Massachusetts, was able to depopulate one of their shelters much earlier than the other<sup>15</sup>. The shelter that was socially distanced first had only a 4% COVID-19 infection rate, while the other shelter had a 32% infection rate<sup>15</sup>. Yet, despite social distancing measures, outbreaks are still happening in some shelters where social distancing is practiced (i.e. Union Rescue Mission in Los Angeles)<sup>16</sup>.

Secondly, in order to mitigate the spread of the virus amongst populations experiencing homelessness, shelter systems can implement practices to disinfect areas as well as provide residents and staff with PPE. Effective cleaning practices and PPE are the first line of defense against the virus.

Practices, in order from most to least effective, include decontamination using alcohol or bleach-based products, cleaning of surfaces regularly, maintaining hand hygiene, physically distancing, and providing access to PPE<sup>17</sup>. Yet, like social distancing, there are current difficulties in implementing these procedures in shelter systems. Addiction and mental health

challenges among residents, as well as a lack of medical care access, can make it difficult for residents to adhere to public health directives while costs and potential unavailability of PPE may make it difficult to implement PPE procedures<sup>6, 18</sup>.

### **Shelter Closures and Restrictions**

Access to shelters with social distancing measures and basic hygiene supplies helps to mitigate the spread of COVID-19<sup>7, 19-23</sup>. However, several challenges currently exist for shelters during the pandemic. Inadequate shelter space presents challenges, as shelters may be forced to turn away individuals seeking shelter due to capacity restrictions, lack of space, and lack of beds<sup>13, 24</sup>.

Additionally, given the close proximity within shelters, there is also the risk that COVID-19 can rapidly spread among shelter residents and lead to closures which subsequently put vulnerable populations at an increased risk of contributing to mass virus transmission. For example, a shelter in Santa Cruz, California was forced to close shelter doors due to a handful of residents and staff testing positive for COVID-19<sup>25</sup>.

Despite the difficulties in sheltering vulnerable populations during the COVID-19 pandemic, multiple steps can be implemented. Preventative actions such as face masks, sanitization requirements, and screening clients helps to keep infection rates low amongst shelter users<sup>20, 22</sup>. The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust organization found that of the 2,000 homeless clients tested for COVID-19, less than 1% tested positive<sup>22</sup>. They attributed their success to regular testing of shelter-users, providing access to hygiene resources, and providing housing services<sup>22</sup>. Officials are calling upon city and government personnel to find shelter spaces that can accommodate large populations while maintaining physical distancing requirements<sup>24, 26</sup>.

As the pandemic continues to evolve, many cities are witnessing closures of mass shelters developed for the purpose of mitigating COVID-19 transmission<sup>20, 27-28</sup>. Service personnel and researchers state that the closure of shelters is premature, and that careful prevention strategies, such as maintaining shelters, must be upheld in order to inhibit the spread of COVID-19 amongst vulnerable populations<sup>6, 24</sup>. Efforts to eliminate homelessness through expanded services and providing accessible resources appear to affect individuals transitioning to housing. In Bremerton, Washington, for example, roughly half of the shelter's population found housing within the past four months, including sober homes and shared living programs<sup>29</sup>.

### **Alternatives to Shelters**

With fewer shelter beds available, many cities are converting unused public spaces into makeshift shelters where individuals experiencing homelessness can be protected from the elements and access essential needs while practicing physical distancing<sup>13, 26, 30-32</sup>. Examples include Edmonton's EXPO Centre (now decommissioned), Windsor's Water World, and school gymnasiums. Some cities like Vancouver have created tent cities, with demarcated physical distancing requirements, while others, such as Toronto, have built modular homes to function as small studio apartments<sup>32-34</sup>. For those living in their vehicles, safe parking areas have been established in California<sup>35-37</sup>.

Emerging research regarding these alternatives to shelters and hospitals is promising. Statistical models projecting the impact of COVID-19 management strategies for those experiencing

sheltered homelessness in Massachusetts found that non-hospital alternate care sites (ACS), such as large tents or non-hospital facilities located in convention centers staffed with on-site medical staff, can achieve comparable clinical outcomes among populations experiencing homelessness as in hospital-based care<sup>38</sup>. Thus, ACS are useful in managing COVID-19 amongst populations experiencing homelessness and in decreasing costs<sup>38</sup>.

All of these solutions help individuals maintain physical distancing. However, they only work if food, hygiene, testing, and other basic needs are provided on-site<sup>39-46</sup>. There have been shortages of food in some areas, such as Dublin<sup>47</sup>. As with the hotels, the lack of opportunity to acquire and safely use drugs for those who have dependencies can lead to risky behavior or overdose<sup>48-52</sup>.

Outcomes from these measures have been promising. The safe parking areas in California have been filling up with people living in their vehicles, and the project has been considered “a local success story”<sup>35</sup>. However, there has been some community backlash against encampments, modular homes, and other makeshift shelter congregations<sup>53-54</sup>.

## **Conclusion**

There is a strong body of evidence that COVID-19 is especially dangerous for populations experiencing homelessness and can spread quickly in a shelter environment if appropriate social distancing, protective and sanitization measures are not undertaken<sup>6, 11, 44-46</sup>. There have been many creative and collaborative responses around the world, which have had both positive and negative impacts in their respective communities. The pandemic has created urgency around the need to eradicate homelessness and has also thrust the living conditions and struggles of those who are homeless into the public consciousness<sup>6</sup>. It is critical that we learn from other communities and consider the impacts and evidence when we make decisions around interventions.

## References

1. World Health Organization. (2020, June 29). Timeline of WHO's response to COVID-19.  
Retrieved from: <https://www.who.int/news-room/detail/29-06-2020-covidtimeline> .
2. Alberta Health Services. (Updated 2020, August 24). Information for Albertans. Novel coronavirus (COVID-19). Retrieved from:  
<https://albertahealthservices.ca/topics/Page16997.aspx#about>
3. Government of Canada (2020, July 20). Vulnerable populations and COVID-19. Retrieved from: <https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/vulnerable-populations-covid-19.html>
4. Blitz, M. (2020, May 14). Homeless residents in D.C. face high rates of COVID-19 infections and deaths. *WAMU*. Retrieved from: <https://wamu.org/story/20/05/14/homeless-residents-in-d-c-face-high-rates-of-covid-19-infections-and-deaths-during-quarantine/>
5. Ho, V. (2020, May 29). San Francisco's homeless deaths have tripled. Advocates blame city Neglect during pandemic. *The Guardian*. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.theguardian.com/society/2020/may/29/san-francisco-homeless-deaths-coronavirus>
6. Perri, M., Dosani, N., & Hwang, S.W. (2020, June 29). COVID-19 and people experiencing homelessness: challenges and mitigation strategies. *Canadian Medical Association*, Vol 192, Issue 26. Retrieved from: <https://www.cmaj.ca/content/cmaj/192/26/E716.full.pdf>
7. Crowe, C. (2020, April 15). 1.5 households to become 'extremely low-income' due to COVID-19. *Smart Cities Dive*. Retrieved from:



<https://www.smartcitiesdive.com/news/coronavirus-affordable-housing-crisis-homeless-national-league-of-cities-webinar/576040/>

8. Routhier, G., & Nortz, S. (2020, June). COVID-19 and Homelessness in New York City: Pandemic pandemonium for New Yorkers without homes. Coalition for the homeless. Retrieved from <https://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/COVID19HomelessnessReportJune2020.pdf>.
9. Yoon, J, C., Montgomery, M, P., Buff, A, M., et al. (2020). COVID-19 Prevalence among People Experiencing Homelessness and Homelessness Service Staff during Early Community Transmission in Atlanta, Georgia, April–May 2020, Clinical Infectious Diseases, [Accepted Manuscript]. <https://doi.org/10.1093/cid/ciaa1340>.
10. Mosites, E., Parker, E.M, Clarke, K.E., Gaeta, J.M., Baggett, T.P., Imbert, E., ... Peacock, G. (2020). Assessment of SARS-CoV-2 infection prevalence in homeless shelters—Four U.S. cities, March 27–April 15, 2020. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 69(17), 521–522. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6917e1>.
11. Baggett, T.P., Keyes, H., Sporn, N., Gaeta, J.M. (2020). COVID-19 outbreak at a large homeless Shelter in Boston: Implications for universal testing. MedRxiv. [Pre-print]. <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.04.12.20059618>.
12. Tobolowsky, F.A., Gonzales, E., Self, J.L., Rao, C.Y., Keating, R., Marx, G.E., ... Kay, M. (2020). COVID-19 outbreak among three affiliated homeless service sites—King County, Washington, 2020. Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report, 69(17), 523–526. <http://dx.doi.org/10.15585/mmwr.mm6917e2>.

13. D'Entremont, Y. (2020, June 22). Funding to house homeless in hotels runs out next week. Halifax Examiner. Retrieved from: <https://www.halifaxexaminer.ca/province-house/funding-to-house-homeless-in-hotels-runs-out-next-week/>.
14. Merzbach, S. (2020, May 3). Study shows area homeless largely free from coronavirus. Daily Hampshire Gazette. Retrieved from <https://www.gazettenet.com/CovidUpdate-hg-050220-34162244>.
15. Jolicoeur, L., Mullins, L. (2020, April 23). For one homeless nonprofit, it's been a coronavirus Tale of two shelters. WBUR News. Retrieved from <https://www.wbur.org/news/2020/04/23/homeless-shelters-coronavirus-covid-19-social-distancing>.
16. Sutton, C. (2020, May 1). Virus infecting homeless "like a storm". Seniors News. Retrieved from <https://www.seniorsnews.com.au/news/virus-infecting-la-homeless-like-a-storm/4006588/>.
17. Gaeta, J. M., De Las Nueces, D., Munson, D. G., Barocas, J. A., & Walsh, K. E. (2020). Case 21-2020: A 66-Year-Old Homeless Man with Covid-19. *New England Journal of Medicine*, 383(2), 170–178.
18. KLTV. (2020, June 20). Homeless mission guards against possible second COVID outbreak. Retrieved from: <https://www.kltv.com/2020/06/20/homeless-mission-guards-against-possible-second-covid-outbreak/>.
19. Tsai, J., & Wilson, M. (2020, April 1). COVID-19: a potential public health problem for homeless populations. *The Lancet Public Health*, Vol 5, Issue 4, 186-187. Retrieved from: [https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667\(20\)30053-0/fulltext](https://www.thelancet.com/journals/lanpub/article/PIIS2468-2667(20)30053-0/fulltext).

20. Babych, S. (2020, July 16). Calgary's homeless shelters readjusting pandemic response strategies but hygiene practices here to stay. Calgary Herald. Retrieved from: <https://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/calgarys-homeless-shelters-readjusting-pandemic-response-strategies-but-hygiene-practices-here-to-stay>.
21. Crowe, C. (2020, July 16). Tackling evictions, housing and the prison-to-homelessness pipeline. Smart Cities Dive. Retrieved from: <https://www.smartcitiesdive.com/news/tackling-evictions-housing-and-the-prison-to-homelessness-pipeline/581734/>.
22. Browning, A. (2020, July 5). Local organization says less than 1% of Miami-Dade's homeless tested are COVID-19 positive. WSVN 7 News Miami. Retrieved from: <https://wsvn.com/news/local/miami-dade/local-organization-says-less-than-1-of-miami-dades-homeless-tested-are-covid-19-positive/>.
23. Shaw, S., Ortega, A., Grode, T., De Los Santos, A., Smith, R., & Hawkins Smith, L. If you want to know how COVID-19 is affecting people experiencing homelessness, ask us. National Alliance to End Homelessness. Retrieved from: <https://endhomelessness.org/if-you-want-to-know-how-covid-19-is-affecting-people-experiencing-homelessness-ask-us/>.
24. Cook, D. (2020, July 10). Edmonton homeless shelters lose 130 beds with reactivation of Kinsmen Sports Centre, scrambling to find more space before cold weather hits. Edmonton Journal. Retrieved from: <https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/edmonton-homeless-shelters-lose-130-beds-with-reactivation-of-kinsmen-sports-centre-scrambling-to-find-more->

[space#:~:text=Edmonton's%20homeless%20shelter%20system%20is,of%20Kinsmen%20since%20late%2DMarch..](#)

25. York, J. (2020, July 21). COVID-19 cluster closes South County homeless shelter. Santa Cruz Sentinel. Retrieved from: <https://www.santacruzsentinel.com/2020/07/20/covid-19-cluster-closes-south-county-homeless-shelter/>.
26. Buffam, R. (2020, July 10). CRD mulls converting old Oak Bay care-home into temporary homeless shelter. CTV News. Retrieved from: <https://vancouverisland.ctvnews.ca/crd-mulls-converting-old-oak-bay-care-home-into-temporary-homeless-shelter-1.5019009>.
27. Mok, T. (2020, July). Toronto's community centres move out homeless residents as they prepare to reopen. BlogTo. Retrieved from: <https://www.blogto.com/city/2020/07/torontos-community-centres-homeless-reopen/#:~:text=Today%2C%20the%20City%20of%20Toronto,vacant%20community%20centres%20into%20hotels.&text=Repurposing%20the%20community%20centres%20allowed,to%20function%20at%20maximum%20capacity>.
28. Drapkin, A. (2020, June 18). Coronavirus: what has it cost to house the homeless during the pandemic? The Week UK. Retrieved from: <https://www.theweek.co.uk/107293/what-did-it-cost-to-house-the-homeless-coronavirus>.
29. Macalus, A. (2020). In response to COVID-19, Kitsap homeless shelters opened 24/7. Now, they're starting to see the benefits. Kitsap Sun. Retrieved from <https://www.kitsapsun.com/story/news/2020/07/06/response-covid-19-kitsap-homeless-shelters-see-success-moving-people-into-housing/5370316002/>.

30. Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (2020, May 4). Getting back to housing: how Canadian Communities are adapting Coordinated Access to accelerate connections to permanent Housing and build momentum to end homelessness once and for all. Retrieved from <https://caeh.ca/wp-content/uploads/CAEH-Getting-Back-to-Housing.pdf>
31. Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness (2020, May 14). Bright spot: Chatham-Kent positions its COVID-19 shelter as a path to housing. Retrieved from: <https://caeh.ca/brightspot-chatham-kent-covid-19/>.
32. Johnston, S. (2020, May 25). Former jockey dorm proposed to help house homeless Edmontonians. Global News. Retrieved from: <https://globalnews.ca/news/6977160/homelessness-edmonton-housing-exhibition-lands-proposal/>.
33. Butler, C. (2020, June 12). London quietly lifts ban on homeless encampments during pandemic. CBC News. Retrieved from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/london-ontario-homeless-encampments-1.5607967>.
34. Westoll, N. (2020, April 29). City of Toronto to spend \$47.5M to build 250 supportive modular Housing units. Global News. Retrieved from <https://globalnews.ca/news/6883855/toronto-modular-housing-units/>.
35. Forestieri, K. (2020, April 23). Safe parking program flourishes as cities scramble to house the homeless. Mountain View Voice. Retrieved from <https://www.mv-voice.com/news/2020/04/23/safe-parking-program-flourishes-as-cities-scramble-to-house-the-homeless>

36. Henry, B. (2020, May 21). Homeless parking lot program wins one-year contract extension. The San Diego Union-Tribune. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/communities/north-county/encinitas/story/2020-05-21/homeless-parking-lot-program-wins-one-year-contract-extension>.
37. Dulaney, C. (2020, May 26). San Diego police increase ticketing of the homeless during the Pandemic. KPBS. Retrieved from: <https://www.kpbs.org/news/2020/may/26/san-diego-police-ticketing-homeless-coronavirus/>
38. Baggett, T. P., Scott, J. A., Le, M, H., et al. (2020). Clinical Outcomes, Costs, and Cost-effectiveness of Strategies for People Experiencing Sheltered Homelessness During the COVID-19 Pandemic. medRxiv [pre-print].  
<https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.08.07.20170498>
39. National Alliance to End Homelessness (2020, June 5). The framework for an equitable COVID 19 homelessness response. Retrieved from <https://endhomelessness.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/04/COVID-Framework-4.29.2020-1.pdf>.
40. Fitzgerald Rodriguez, J. (2020, May 14). San Francisco shifts from trashing homeless camps to Sanctioning them amid COVID-19. National Public Radio. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.npr.org/2020/05/14/855588754/san-francisco-shifts-from-trashing-homeless-camps-to-sanctioning-them-amid-covid>.
41. Rodriguez, L. (2020, May 21). DIY handwashing stations across the US help homeless Communities fight COVID-19. Global Citizen. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/love-beyond-walls-sinks-homeless-covid-19/>.

42. Nunatsiaq News. (2020, May 26). Montreal's reopening increases COVID-19 risks for homeless, Says Indigenous coalition. Retrieved from:  
<https://nunatsiaq.com/stories/article/montreals-reopening-ups-covid-19-risks-for-homeless-says-indigenous-coalition/>.
43. McMordie, L. (2020, June 23). Avoidance strategies: Stress, appraisal and coping in hostel accommodation. Housing Studies. DOI:  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02673037.2020.1769036>
44. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, May 16). Checklist for homeless service Providers during community re-opening. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/homeless-service-providers.html>
45. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, August 3). Interim considerations for health departments for SARS-CoV-2 testing in homeless shelters and encampments. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/testing.html>
46. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. (2020, Aug 6). Interim guidance on unsheltered homelessness and coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) for homeless service providers and local officials. Retrieved from: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html>
47. Neylon, L. (2020, May 20). In Drumcondra, some question whether new homeless hostel should be privately run. Dublin Inquirer. Retrieved from:  
<https://www.dublininquirer.com/2020/05/20/in-drumcondra-some-question-whether-new-homeless-hostel-should-be-privately-run>

48. Gagnon, M. (2020, April 29). Without safe supply, moving homeless people into hotels could kill. The Tyee. Retrieved from <https://thetyee.ca/Opinion/2020/04/29/Safe-Supply-Hotels-Homeless/>.
49. Kines, L. (2020, May 5). Overdose-prevention sites being set up at motels housing people from homeless camps. Times Colonist. Retrieved from: <https://www.timescolonist.com/news/local/overdose-prevention-sites-being-set-up-at-motels-housing-people-from-homeless-camps-1.24129421>.
50. Canadian Research Initiative on Substance Misuse (2020, May 17th). Supporting people who use substances in shelter settings during the COVID-19 pandemic. Retrieved from: <https://crism.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/06/CRISM-Guidance-Supporting-People-Who-Use-Substances-in-Emergency-Shelter-Settings-V1.pdf>.
51. Owen, B. (2020, May 21). B.C. government, advocates spar over success of moving homeless People into temporary housing. CBC News. Retrieved from: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/homeless-temporary-housing-oppenheimer-topaz-park-vancouver-victoria-1.5578386>
52. D'Entremont, Y. (2020, May 21). Harm reduction: how homeless people are getting their drugs During a COVID quarantine. Halifax Examiner. Retrieved from: <https://www.halifaxexaminer.ca/featured/harm-reduction-how-homeless-people-are-getting-their-drugs-during-a-covid-quarantine/>
53. Wakefield, J (2020, May 29). Edmonton resumes homeless camp removal, focused on camps that pose health, safety risk. Edmonton Journal. Retrieved from:



<https://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/edmonton-resumes-homeless-camp-removal-focused-on-camps-that-pose-health-safety-risk>.

54. Doering, K. (2020, June 25). Surrey homeless camp faces eviction as activists argue its safer than shelters. City News. Retrieved from:

<https://www.citynews1130.com/2020/06/25/surrey-encampment-135a-street/>.