

# While we prepare to start...

## How to ask a question:

- Click the raise your hand button of the GoToWebinar toolbar. This will allow us to call on you and unmute your line to ask your question.
- Submit your question on the Questions tab of the GoToWebinar toolbar.
- Email [elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us](mailto:elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us)

A recording of the webinar and a copy of the slides will be posted online after the webinar concludes: <https://mich.mn.gov/weekly-webinar>

Unfortunately, we will not be able to troubleshoot any audio issues you are having.



**MINNESOTA**  
**INTERAGENCY COUNCIL**  
**ON HOMELESSNESS**

**Weekly Webinar:**  
**Statewide Updates on COVID-19 and Homelessness**

November 16, 2022

# Agenda

Time	Topic
1:00 – 1:05	Welcome and opening remarks
1:05 – 1:30	Updates from state agencies
1:30 – 1:55	Questions and answers
1:55 - 2:00	Closing remarks and adjourn

# We need your help spreading the word

- For announcements about these calls, sign up for Minnesota Housing's eNews
- <http://www.mnhousing.gov/sites/np/enews>
- Select “Topics and Issues for Providers Serving People Experiencing Homelessness”
- **Please encourage your colleagues to do so!**

# Newsletter Opportunity for People with Lived Experience

- Are you interested in learning about opportunities to share your expertise and ideas on the work to prevent and end homelessness?
- Individuals who have or are currently facing homelessness can sign up for a new newsletter list to receive updates about opportunities to share their ideas and expertise.
- The newsletters will be sent as new opportunities are available to share.
- [Sign up for the newsletter here](#)

# December Speakers Bureau

- Opportunity each month for individuals with lived experience of homelessness to share their ideas with the webinar audience.
- Help us spread the word about this opportunity. Check out [this flyer](#) for more details.
- Email [elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us](mailto:elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us) or call 651-248-5548 with any questions or to sign up for the Speakers Bureau.
- Next Speakers Bureau will be Wednesday, December 7 at 1:00 p.m. and the prep session will be on Tuesday, December 6 at 3:00 p.m.

# Check out the MICH website

[mich.mn.gov](http://mich.mn.gov)

Share your Ideas & Get Involved

Stay connected and watch this page for ways to provide your thoughts and feedback. The MICH team welcomes your comments and appreciates your participation!

Working to achieve housing, racial, and health justice for people experiencing homelessness.

Learn More About MICH

Get Involved in the Justice Planning Process



Home Council Overview Justice Strategic Plan Get Involved Resources COVID-19 Task Force On Shelter

COVID-19 Response and Resources for Homeless Service Providers

This website links to COVID-19 resources and information for supporting people experiencing homelessness and the staff who support them.



Vaccine Information

This page provides information on how to access COVID-19 vaccines for people



State and Federal Funding Resources

This page has information on the funding



Public Health Resources

This page links to specific public health guidance from the Centers for Disease



ig phase of developing a statewide on achieving housing, racial, and health riencing homelessness. You may be p we mean when we say justice? We our planning process that is focused ership with the community and able definition of housing, racial, and is contracted with Rainbow Research to work.

Justice Planning Process



Webinar Information

Every Wednesday from 1:00 - 2:00 pm

Learn More



Speakers Bureau

First Wednesday of the month

Speakers Bureau

# Justice Strategic Planning Process: Stay connected and share your thoughts

- <https://mich.mn.gov/justice-strategic-plan#phase-two>
- Review results and share your reactions and thoughts
- Agency teams beginning the work with consultants to develop strategies

## Results



The ten consultants with lived expertise and MICH staff have worked together to synthesize all of feedback we have received into five bold results. The process to develop these results over the last two months was collaborative and iterative. We utilized the consultants' expertise as well as what we have heard from many partners during the justice workgroup discussions and community conversations in Phase 1, participant feedback from our weekly webinars, and multiple agencies' staff expertise. The process generated many ideas and has been synthesized to these five results.

1. **Homelessness is prevented whenever possible, and services and supports are provided to ensure no one returns to homelessness.**
2. **A robust crisis response geared towards housing outcomes supports people staying outside, in emergency shelters, and in community.**
3. **People facing homelessness have access to housing options that meet their needs and honors their choice.**
4. **Homelessness is treated a crucial health and public health crisis wherever it occurs.**
5. **The state shares power with Indigenous, Black, Brown, Poor, LGBTQIA+ people and people who have faced homelessness to strengthen natural supports within community.**



## Share your thoughts and ideas!

The image shows two identical comment boxes side-by-side. Each box has a green speech bubble icon with a white plus sign at the top left. Below the icon are four horizontal blue lines representing text input. At the bottom of each box is a blue button with a white speech bubble icon and the text 'Add Comment'. Below the first box is the label 'Justice Results' and below the second box is the label 'Strategy Development'.



# Webinar Changes

- Webinars switching from weekly to monthly
- Webinar on the first Wednesday of the month from 1:00 – 2:00 p.m.
- We will increase frequency as needed
- Continue to stay in touch with us
  - Ongoing work with justice strategic plan and legislative work
  - Website and newsletter coming biweekly
  - Email us at the MDH congregate email for COVID support and Elizabeth for MICH



# COVID-19 Therapeutics Navigator

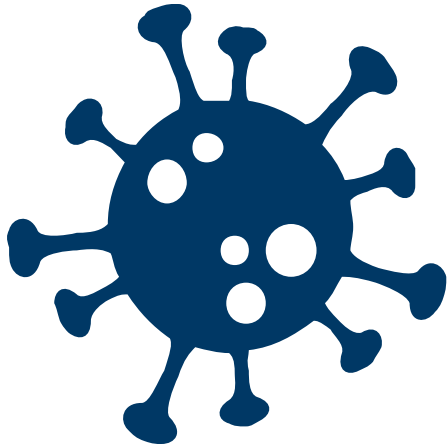
Tia Bastian | Epidemiologist | COVID-19 Highly Impacted Settings Unit

11/16/222

# COVID-19 therapeutics

- People who test positive for COVID-19 and are at higher risk of becoming very sick may benefit from available COVID-19 medications
- Medications can help prevent severe illness, hospitalization, and death from COVID-19
- Medications are widely available in the state
- COVID-19 medications are not a substitute for prevention
  - It is still recommended to get vaccinated and take other steps to prevent the spread of COVID-19

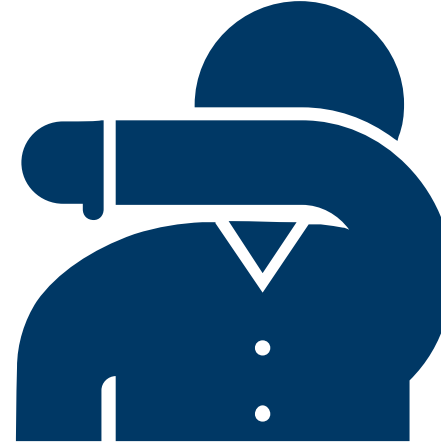
# Eligibility for COVID-19 therapeutics



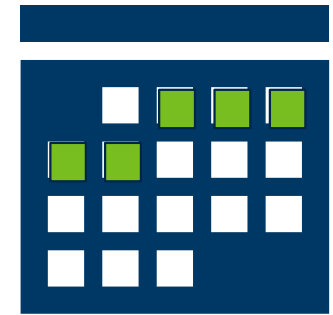
Test positive for  
COVID-19



At higher risk of severe  
illness



Have COVID-19  
symptoms  
(mild to moderate)



Within 5-7 days of  
symptom onset

Learned from July therapeutics survey that some shelters face barriers to helping residents access therapeutics

- Accessing healthcare providers
- Unclear of eligibility criteria
- Transportation barriers
- Perceived cost barriers
- Competing priorities

# Therapeutics navigator

Navigator can support the shelter and patient to:



Identify a healthcare provider to conduct medical assessment and prescribe COVID-19 therapeutics



Schedule medical appointments including telehealth visits



Arrange transportation to healthcare provider




Schedule pick-up or delivery of medications

- Test resident for COVID-19
  - Take a picture of positive test if used an OTC test
- Screen for basic eligibility
- Provide educational information
- Ask resident if they are interested in therapeutics
- Ask for consent to work with navigator
- Complete [REDCap form](#) to request a navigator
- Coordinate with navigator

# Shelter role

- Test resident for COVID-19
  - Take a picture of positive test if used an OTC test
- Screen for basic eligibility
- Provide educational information
- Ask resident if they are interested in therapeutics
- Ask for consent to work with navigator
- Complete [REDCap form](#) to request a navigator
- Coordinate with navigator

- 
- Submitter name
  - Shelter address and contact information
  - Patient name and birthdate
  - Patient insurance information
  - Date of symptom onset
  - Date of positive test
  - Accommodations



- Review request for services
- Identify appropriate referral options
- Contact patient and/or shelter to review options
- Schedule appointments as necessary
- Arrange transportation as needed
- Follow up with shelter after services are provided (brief)

## MDH will not cover:

Costs associated with clinic visits or medication, if any (e.g., dispensing fee, administration fee, co-pays, etc.)

**Many no-cost options for COVID-19 therapeutics exist.  
The navigator will help to identify them.**

- MDH Where to Access Oral Antiviral Therapy in Minnesota  
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/hcp/medsaccess.html>
- MDH COVID-19 Medications  
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/meds.html>
- MDH COVID-19 Therapeutics Checklist for Shelter and Correctional Settings  
<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/theracong.pdf>
- MDH Therapeutics Navigator Request Form  
<https://redcap.health.state.mn.us/redcap/surveys/?s=PF4LNCTE4M343H8N>

# Navigator Introduction

Fadumo Egal

Afghan Refugee Health Screening Care Coordinator

Refugee and International Health Program, MDH

Office: 651-201-4354

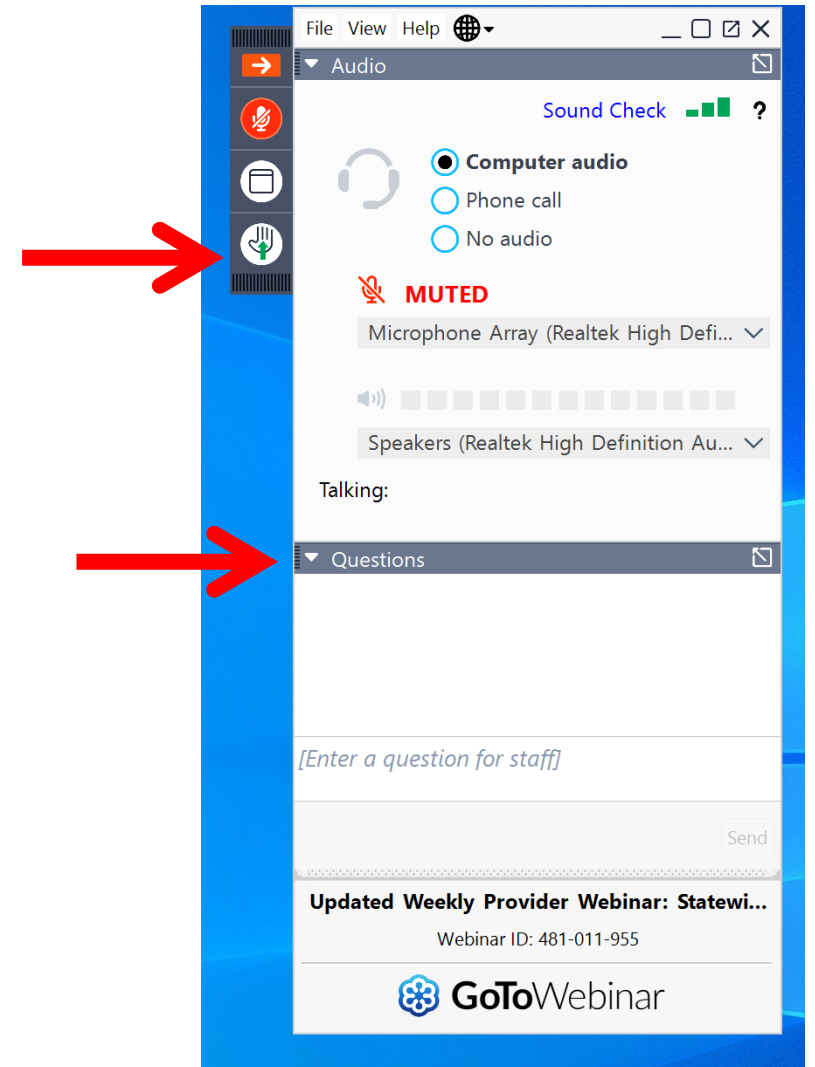
Fadumo.Egal.Contractor@state.mn.us

# Questions?

- MDH Community Vaccine Event Request Form is now live
  - [COVID-19 Vaccination Event Request Form for Congregate Settings \(smartsheet.com\)](https://smartsheet.com)
- Statewide coverage: Local public health --> MDH contracted providers
- Services available:
  - COVID-19 vaccine first shots, 2nd shots, bivalent boosters
  - Influenza vaccine
  - Harm Reduction services (Naloxone, fentanyl test strips, condoms, safer use supplies)

# Questions and answers

- We will try to get to every question we can.
  - Click the raise your hand button of the GoToWebinar toolbar. This will allow us to call on you and unmute your line to ask your question
  - On the Questions tab of the GoToWebinar toolbar
  - Email [elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us](mailto:elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us)



Thank you!