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Emergency Cold Weather Shelter 3rd Party Oversight

Weekly Report for Week 25

Project Name: 3rd Party Emergency Shelter Oversight

Submitted to: Anchorage Assembly, Anchorage Mayor's Office, Anchorage Health Dept., and Shelter Operators (Henning, Inc. and The Alaska Hotel Group)

Date: Reporting period May 6 – 12, 2024

Date Submitted: May 15, 2024

Submitted by: Cathleen McLaughlin, JD/MBA

Monica Gross MD, MPH

A. Background

As required under Contract #2023003145, fully executed on November 17, 2023, RRS submits its Weekly Report for Week 25. This report is for the period May 6 - 12, 2024 (with some data from May 14, 2024).

B. Actions and Events During this Reporting Period

1. RRS focus is on operations at the 2 remaining Emergency Cold Weather Shelter sites (CWS and The Aviator). The current census of ECWS sites as of May 14, 2024:

CWS – 185 – 200. CWS is maintaining a census below the maximum capacity of 200. CWS has not turned anyone away due to being at capacity.

Aviator – 157. This ECWS site decompressed from 180 to 157 since May 5, 2024. Closure remains set for May 31, 2024 with reductions during the month of May continuing to be through attrition.

2. **Key topic - Preparation of Final 360 Assessment by RRS.** As required under the 3rd Party Oversight Contract, RRS will be preparing the Final 360 Assessment which requires RRS to create a written report that includes:

1. The process used for the assessment;
2. Summary of information gathered during individual interviews and documents reviewed during the assessment;
3. Observations and facts discovered;
4. Recommendations and conclusions; and
5. Summary.

RRS has submitted the Initial 360 Assessment and 25 Weekly Reports. The 25 Weekly Reports will be incorporated in the Final 360 Assessment.

As noted by the AHD Homeless Coordinator in the 3rd Party Oversight weekly meeting email, RRS will also address:

Performance Evaluation:

Reviewing the effectiveness of our current emergency cold weather shelter initiatives.

Assessing the success of implemented strategies and protocols.

Discussing CE, Exits to Housing, the housing pipeline (90 day stay), and remaining unsheltered clients.

Contractual Compliance:

Ensuring strict adherence to all contractual obligations.

Addressing any potential deviations and formulating remedial actions.

Identifying Improvements:

Collaboratively identifying areas for improvement in our emergency cold weather shelter programs.

Discussing potential enhancements to operational processes.

Goal Alignment:

Aligning our activities with overarching goals and objectives.

CE

Exits to Housing

90 day stay goals

RRS will be meeting with Henning, Inc. on May 20, 2024 to work through data for the Final 360 Assessment.

3. Review of exit data by RRS.

4 clients at the Aviator exited to housing during this period.

4. **Client Call Log** – This workbook continues to be used as the daily call log for RRS. It is submitted to AHD daily. All matters brought to RRS’s attention by clients and community members were timely noted and addressed by RRS, AHD and the shelter operators.

5. **Incidents** – No overdoses or significant incidences were reported. (Note: A client from CWS reported to RRS that he and 5 others experienced food poisoning at CWS on May 9. One client did go on his own to Providence Hospital for treatment. CWS operators stated a few clients were ill but did not link it to food poisoning at CWS. RRS did notify the shelter operator and AHD (in its daily call log) of this concern. Because the matter was not reported to RRS until 5 days after the alleged event, there was no way to verify the truth or veracity of this client concern).

6. **Update of Henning, Inc.** – It was reported to RRS by Henning, Inc. that it is launching a 16 bed men’s transitional pilot project in a 4-plex in Mountain View which will draw from clients at CWS.

C. Shelter Operations (2 remaining sites)

1. **CWS – Congregate Shelter (Being used at Capacity)**

CWS continues to be operated at or near capacity. As noted above, CWS reports that no one has been turned away if they are eligible for a cot.

2. **Aviator – Non-congregate.**

The census is now 157, 23 less than last week. To date, it is reported 77 individuals have been housed through the Aviator program to date.

D. Recommendations, Conclusions and Summary

Anchorage’s ECWS program for the winter of 2023-2024 is ending May 31, 2024. Lessons learned, strengths and weaknesses, gaps in services, and recommendations will be addressed in RRS’s Final 360 Assessment which will be completed within the month of May.

Any questions, please contact RRS through phone, text, or email at any time.

Respectfully Submitted, Cathleen N. McLaughlin, J.D./M.B.A. Monica Gross MD, MPH