

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.

You are able to call in to the webinar on your phone.

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



MINNESOTA
INTERAGENCY COUNCIL
ON HOMELESSNESS

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

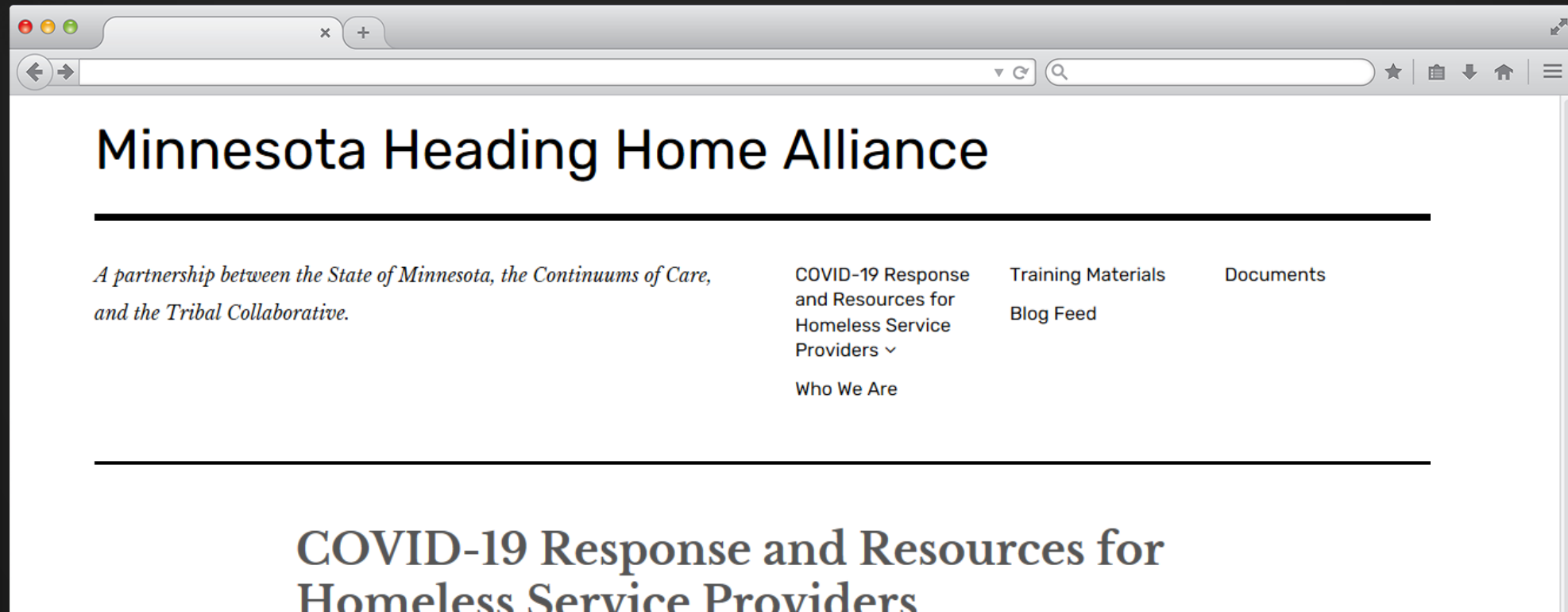
June 30, 2021

Agenda

Time	Topic
1:00 – 1:05	Welcome and opening remarks
1:05 – 1:30	Important updates from the State of Minnesota
1:30 – 1:55	Questions and answers
1:55 – 2:00	Closing remarks and adjourn

Visit the Heading Home Alliance COVID-19 page

- Latest resources, guidance, and contact lists
- <https://headinghomealliance.com/covid-19-response-and-resources-for-homeless-service-providers/>



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!**

July Webinar Speakers Bureau

- The next webinar Speakers Bureau will be on **Wednesday, July 7 at 1:00 p.m.**
- The July prep session has moved to **Tuesday, July 6 from 3:00-3:30 p.m.**
- There is still space to sign up to share! Help us spread the word about this opportunity. Check out this [flyer](#) for more details.
- Email elizabeth.dressel@state.mn.us or call 651-248-5548 with any questions or to sign up for the Speakers Bureau.

Legislative Updates

- Yesterday, the Governor signed the Health and Human Services, Housing, and Higher Education omnibus bills, enacting important investments to prevent and end homelessness. Funding highlights include (funding amounts per biennium, except where noted):
 - \$12 million for the Emergency Services Program
 - \$2 million for emergency shelter to increase capacity and improve conditions
 - \$18 million for the Community Living Infrastructure program, also expanding activities to include direct support for individuals with housing deposits, utility payments, costs related to expungement, etc.
 - \$4 million for Housing Stabilization Services to support staffing and expanded activities, including assisting with transition costs associated with moving to a community settings that are not covered by other sources, including rent deposits, utilities setup costs, essential furnishings and supplies, etc.
 - \$50 per month increase to the Housing Support Room and Board Rate for individuals in certain community settings (effective July 2022)

Legislative Updates Continued

- Funding highlights include (funding amounts per biennium, except where noted):
 - \$431,000 for additional staffing for the Department of Corrections and Department of Human Services Joint Initiative to assist people re-entering the community after a release from a Minnesota Correctional Facility
 - \$100 million for Housing Infrastructure Bonds
 - \$200,000 to support the Task Force on Shelter
 - \$538,000 for expansion of the Emergency Assistance for Postsecondary Students program

Legislative Updates Continued

- Both chambers have agreed to invest the following, but both bills are awaiting passage:
 - \$6.3 million for ending Veteran homelessness in the State Government, Elections and Veterans omnibus bill
 - \$40 million for Local Homelessness Prevention Aid to Counties to support families with children modeled after Homework Starts with Home (effective in the biennium starting July 1, 2023) in the Taxes omnibus bill

The eviction moratorium is ending

Know your rights. Mark these dates. Learn what you can do to stay in your home.

[Visit the MN Housing website](#) to learn more and access the **Frequently Asked Questions** document

Apply for rental assistance at renthelpmn.org or call 211



Your lease could be terminated if you materially violate your lease agreement (does not include nonpayment of rent).

You could be evicted if you qualify for rental assistance but refuse to apply.



You could be evicted if you materially violate your lease agreement (does not include nonpayment of rent).



Your lease could be terminated if you have not paid your rent and are not eligible for COVID-19 rental assistance.



You could be evicted if you have not paid your rent and are not eligible for COVID-19 rental assistance.



All lease termination and eviction protections are lifted except for eligible renters with pending COVID-19 rental assistance applications.



All lease termination and eviction protections are lifted.

Know your rights and responsibilities



15-day notice

Between now and Oct. 13, property owners must give tenants a 15-day notice before they file an eviction for nonpayment.



Apply for help

You might be eligible for rental assistance. Go to RentHelpMN.org or call 211.



Refuse to apply?

Tenants who are behind on rent and eligible for help but refuse to apply can be evicted starting June 30.

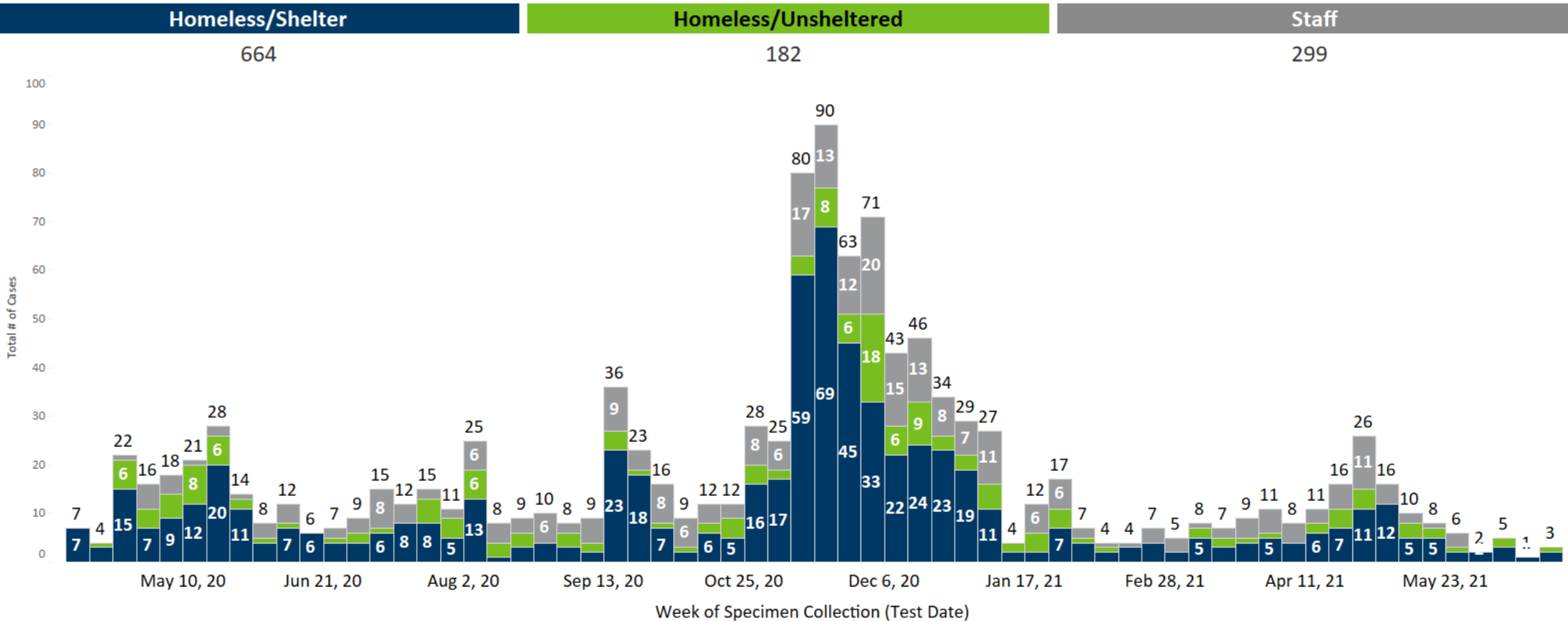


Have legal questions?

Visit LawHelpMN.org for additional information and legal resources.

MDH Update: Cases Over Time

The number of new COVID-19 cases remains low in our population and across Minnesota.



Masking and Changes

- CDC and MDH continue to strongly encourage all staff and residents/guests to wear a mask when in shelter, even if they are fully vaccinated
- The threshold of vaccination in shelter and congregate spaces is unknown, so we do not recommend making changes based on what percent of residents/guests or staff are vaccinated
- Small, incremental changes are recommended to see what works best for your space and clients

- Booster may be needed for J&J shot as Delta variant spreads, some experts already taking them, [Reuters](#)
 - CDC and FDA do not have formal guidance or safety data. Talk to your doctor if you have questions.
- L.A. county urges indoor mask wearing as Delta variant spread, [Los Angeles Times](#)
- Moderna: ‘Encouraging’ Data Shows It’s COVID Vaccine Remains Protective Against Delta Variant, [CBS Boston](#)

COVID-19 Trusted Messengers Vaccine Program

- MDH has identified an organization to operate and manage the COVID-19 Trusted Messengers Vaccine Program.
- Launching soon! We will have more details on how to participate in the coming weeks.
- Goal is to hire people with lived experience of homelessness as Trusted Messengers to talk with their peers about vaccine safety and efficacy
 - MDH will provide training

Getting Real-time Data on Staff and Client COVID-19 Vaccination Rates

- The Minnesota Department of Health provides a list feature to allow eligible service providers to get real-time aggregate (not individualized) information on the COVID-19 vaccination status of their staff and clients.
- This option is specific to service providers that offer onsite childcare or healthcare services.
- Interested organizations can learn more about Minnesota Immunization Information Connection (MIIC) [here](#).
- You can contact the MIIC helpdesk, health.miichelp@state.mn.us, to determine eligibility and establish a Data Use Agreement after consulting with internal legal/policy leads.

Update on MDH vaccine resources

- Requesting a community vaccine event: <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/670f865fdef5494cbab079487b58dd45>
 - Up to \$5k available to help cover costs
- New state vaccine contractor: Black Nurses Rock

We want to hear from you...

- What is your biggest priority right now for your setting?
- What support, if any, do you need in addressing your biggest priority?
- Has your setting gone back to full capacity?
- What, if any, changes have been made to your space?
- What are topics or trainings that you would like us to cover in future webinars?

Preliminary Feedback on Justice Orientation to Preventing and Ending Homelessness

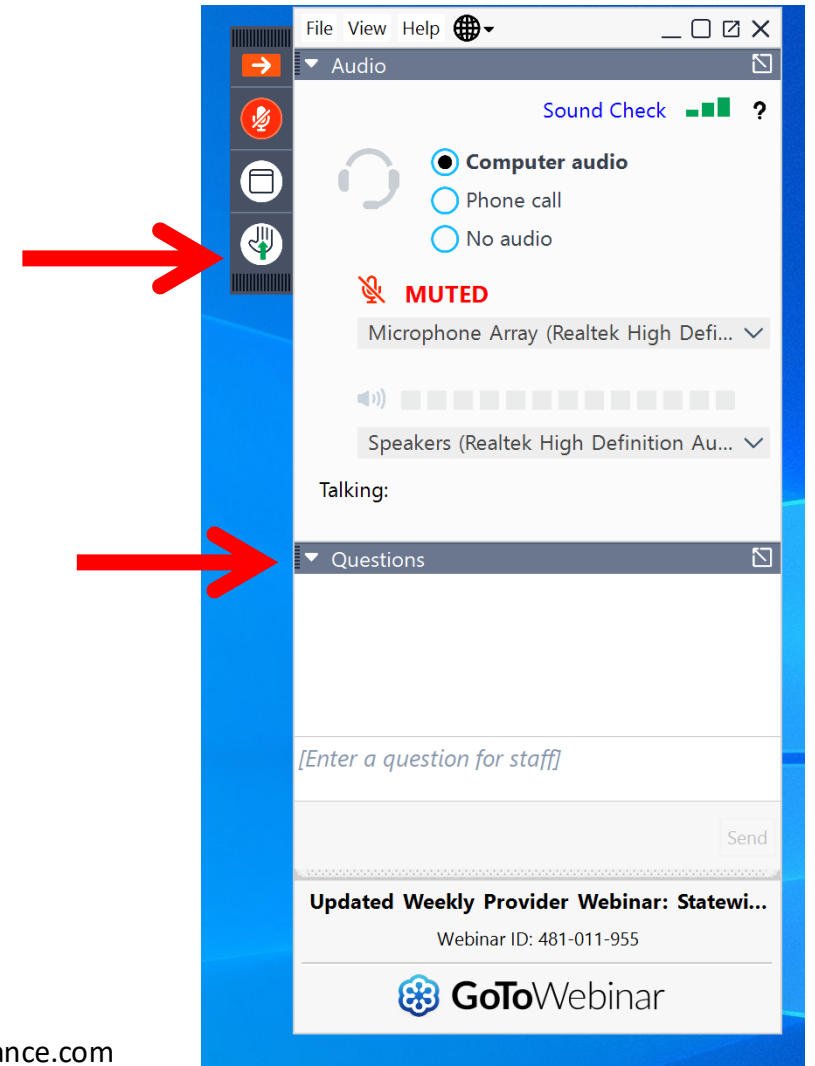
- Over the last month we gathered your initial thoughts and perspectives on what it means to view homelessness as a form of injustice, and to center the solutions to homelessness on pursuing housing, racial, and health justice.
- Based on the comments shared, we have pulled together an initial summary of the themes of the initial feedback that can be found [here](#).
- There is still plenty of time to share your ideas as we are at the initial stage of this process of where we go next. We look forward to continuing to learn from all of you and developing our collective next steps to focus on creating housing, racial, and health justice for all Minnesotans.
- In case you missed the overview of the justice frame and discussion, you listen to that webinar [here](#).

Help Spread the Word about the MDVA's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workgroup

- The Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA) has engaged with Racial Equity Partners (REP) to create a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion workgroup that will meet quarterly over the next year to shape MDVA's racial equity work and efforts to end Veteran homelessness.
- MDVA is looking for your help in recruiting Veterans who have experienced homelessness to join the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Workgroup. [This flyer](#) details the commitment, compensation, and how to apply. Help spread the word about this opportunity with Veterans you work with!
- If you have any additional questions, please contact Nicole Wiley, Nicole.wiley@state.mn.us.

Questions and answers

- We will try to get to every question we can.
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Closing remarks and adjourn

Thank you!