

# Mountain Plains COVID-19 ECHO Program

1/4/2021 – Happy happy happy New Year!

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# Outline

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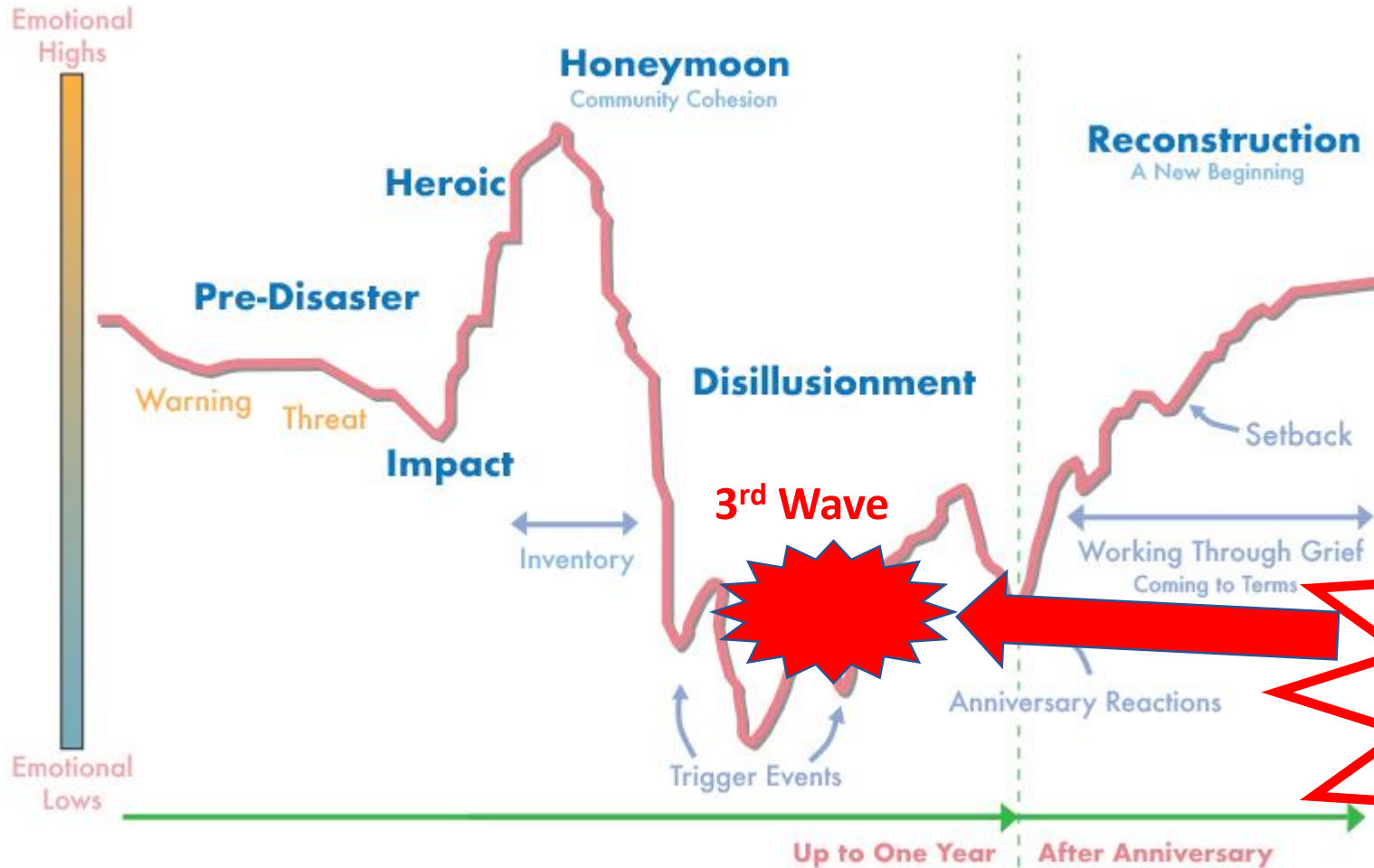
(no disclosures...)

- Gratitude -- in this Time of COVIDity.
- COVID wreaking even more havoc for PEH
- Epi of COVID among PEH
- Approach to Testing & I/Q = Isolation/Quarantine
- Staff exposures...

What People Experiencing Homelessness

already were facing...

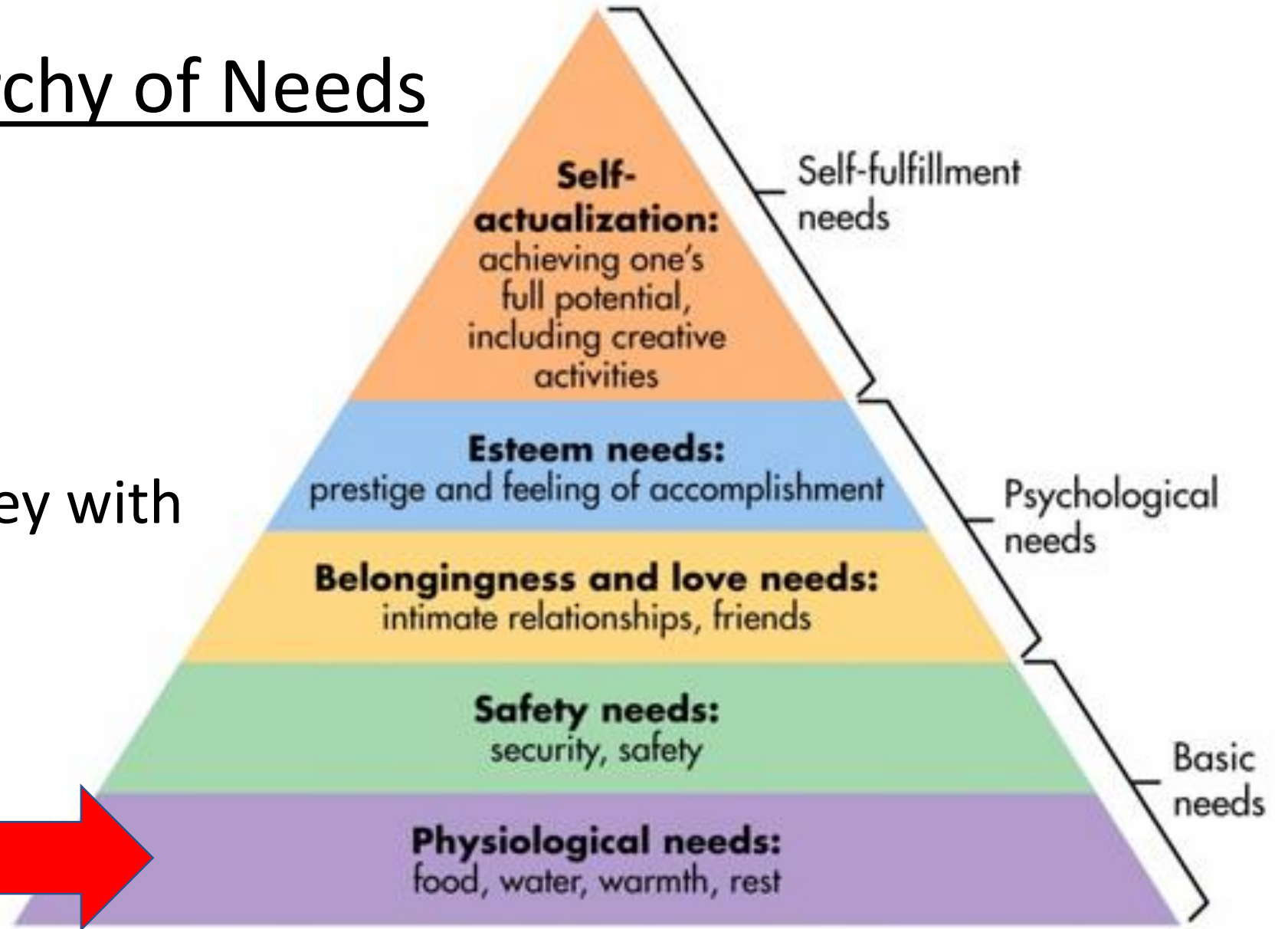
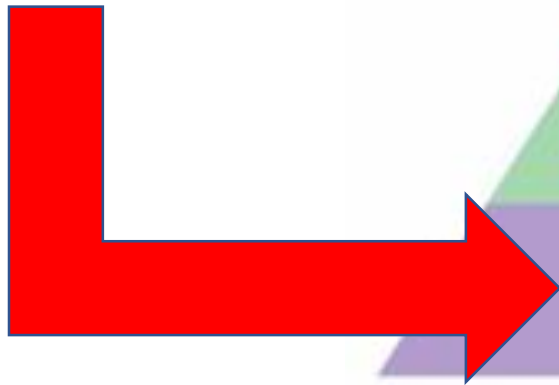
# Phases of Disaster = toughest 1 – 3 months = Now



- Cold. Dark. Holidays?
- More PEH than ever
- 4 - 5 x GAD/MDD
- **EVERYTHING** fatigue...
- Social injustices continue...

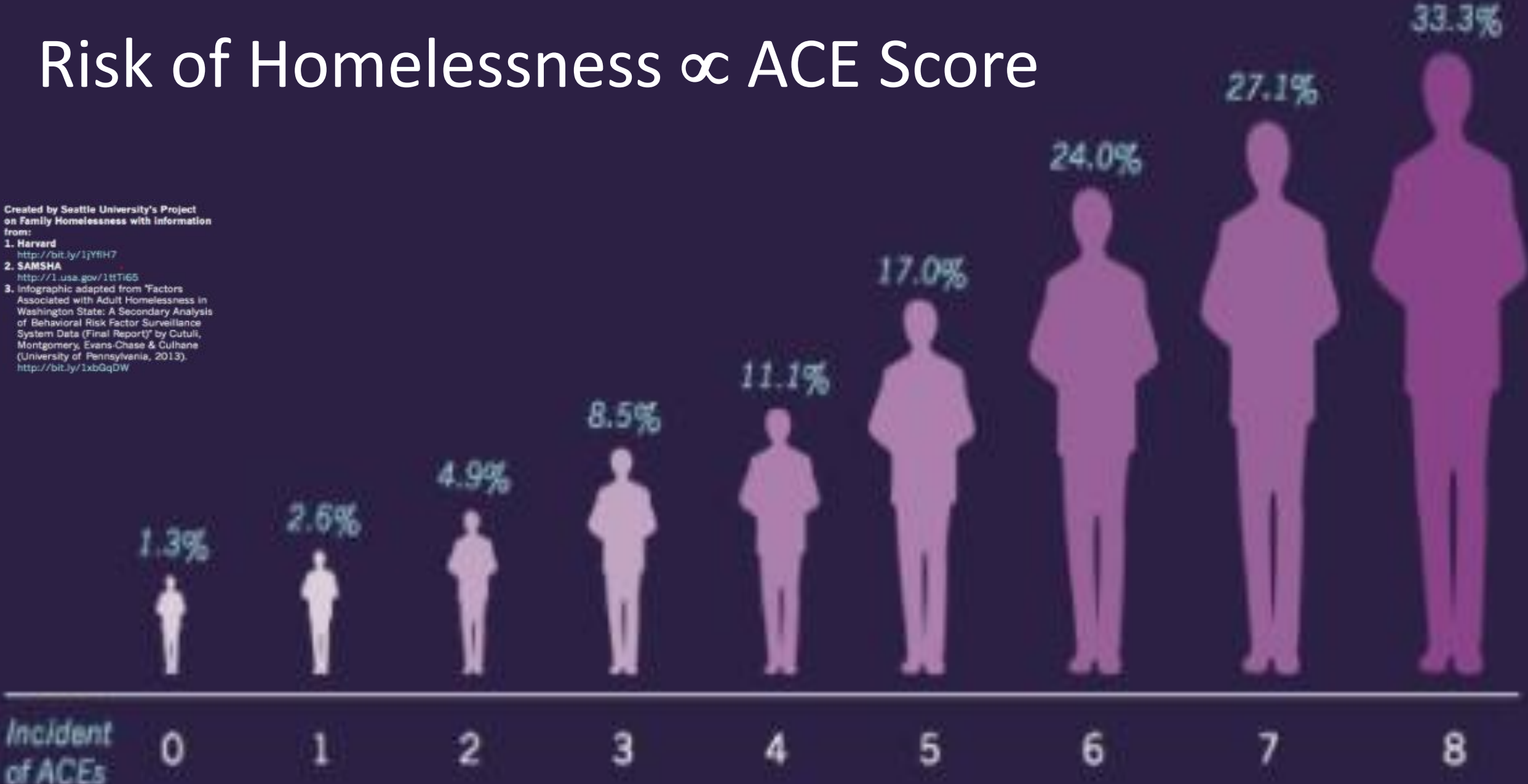
# Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs

The people we journey with are usually here....



# Risk of Homelessness $\propto$ ACE Score

Created by Seattle University's Project on Family Homelessness with information from:  
1. Harvard <http://bit.ly/1pY6H7>  
2. SAMSHA <http://1.usa.gov/1tTt65>  
3. Infographic adapted from "Factors Associated with Adult Homelessness in Washington State: A Secondary Analysis of Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System Data (Final Report)" by Cutuli, Montgomery, Evans-Chase & Culhane (University of Pennsylvania, 2013). <http://bit.ly/1xbQqDW>



ACE Score and Relation to Adult Homelessness

For people in shelter →

hard to follow what we should all be doing...

***“Live like you & everyone else are contagious”***

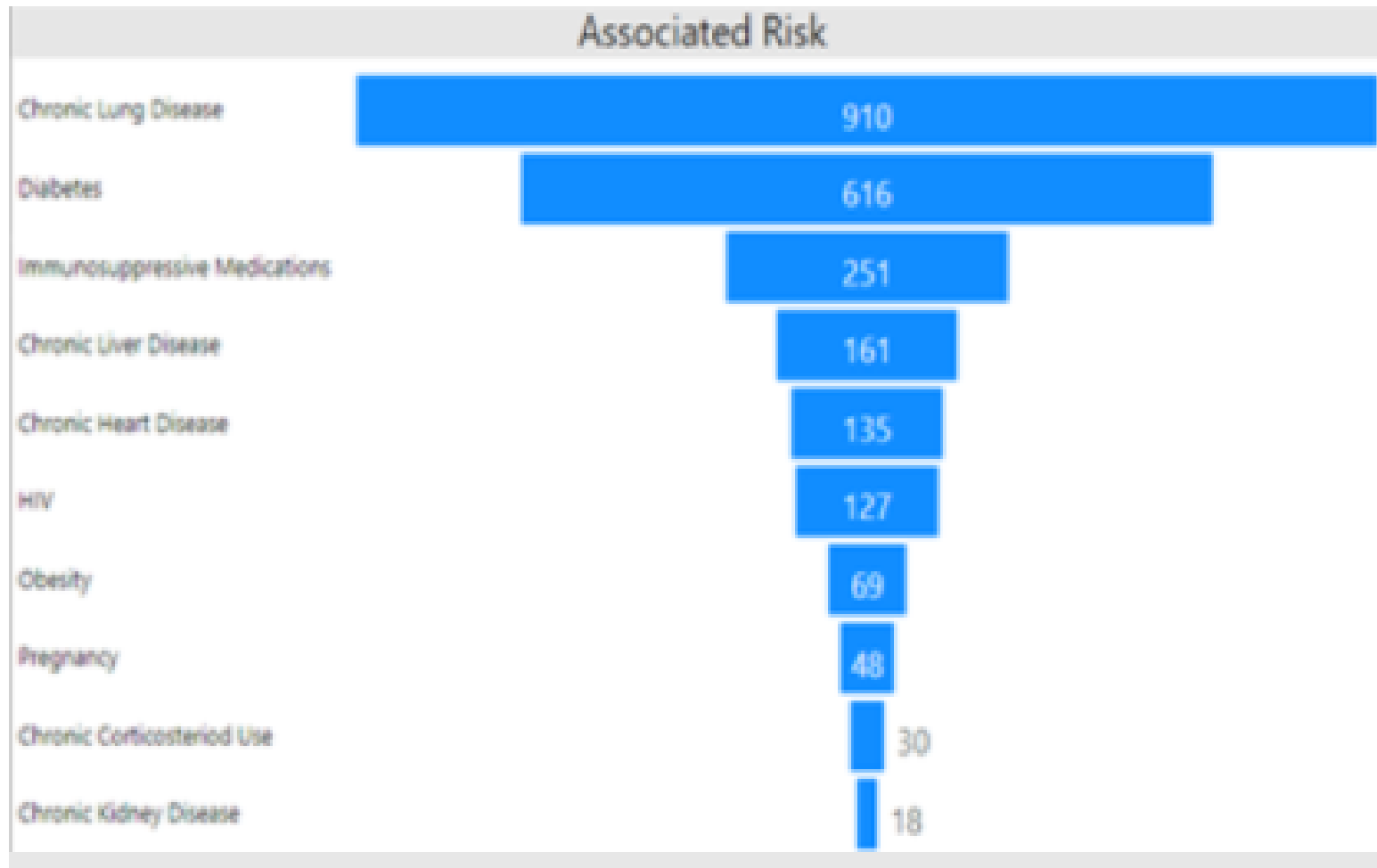


***Live so you never get defined as a “Close Contact”***



# CCH 2019

13,000 + served and at least 3,500 at high risk...



# Community Partnership = Key

## Denver Joint Task Force

- DPH + DDPHE + CCH + HOST + HLC + Shelter Partners Galore<sup>1</sup> = Magic
- Twice to 5 times per week meetings, adjusted as needed.
- Remarkable collaborations

<sup>1</sup> Denver Department of Housing Stability (**HOST**), Denver Human Services (**DHS**), Denver Department of Public Health and Environment (**DDPHE**), Denver Health and Denver Public Health (**DPH**), the Colorado Coalition for the Homeless (**CCH**), Salvation Army (**SA**), and leaders from the Homeless Leadership Collaborative (**HLC**),

# PEH = Triple the Risk of hospitalization

## COVID-19 Hospitalizations Among PEH Compared to the General Population

Percent of Cases in PEH (out of all COVID19 cases)

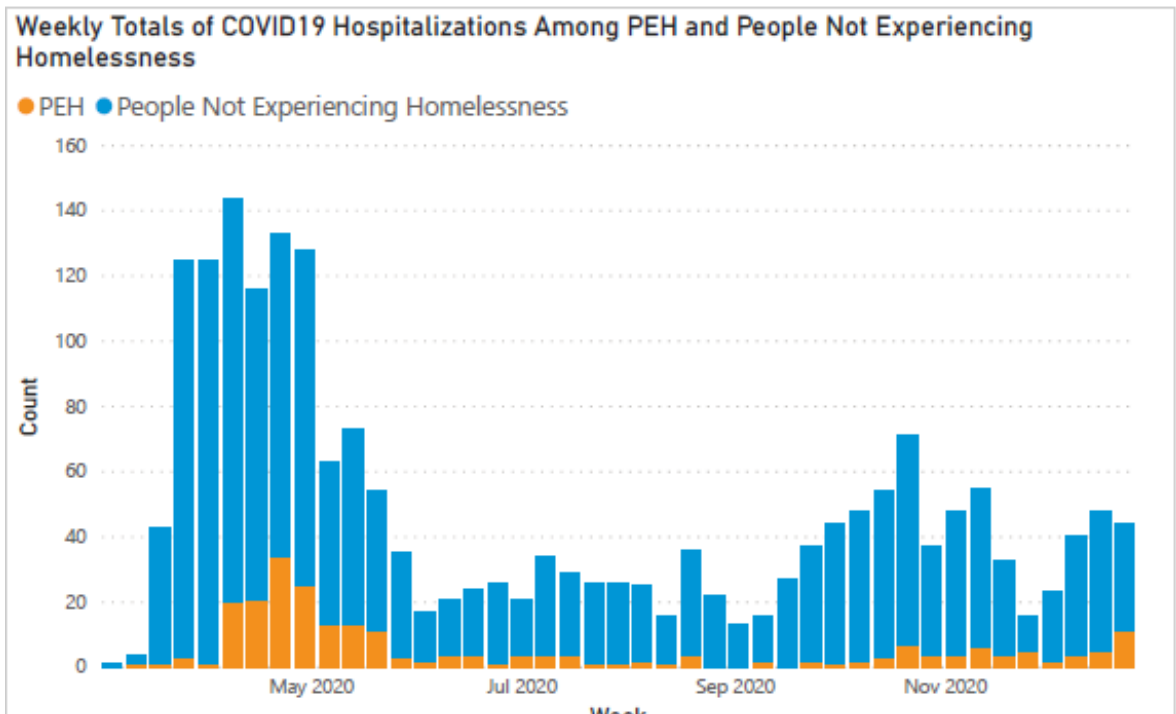
**2%**

Percent of cases in PEH that have been hospitalized (out of all cases in PEH)

**28%**

Percent of cases not in PEH that have been hospitalized (out of all cases in people not experiencing homelessness)

**9%**

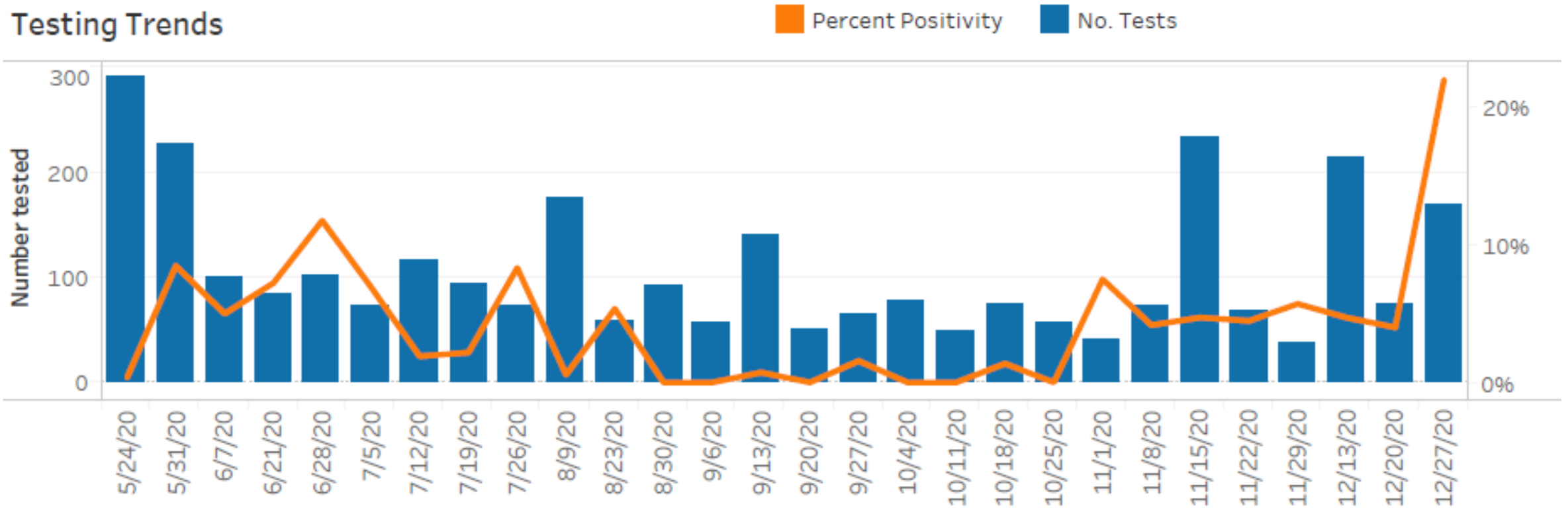


### Take Aways

- Out of all COVID19 cases, 2% are in the population experiencing homelessness.
- Out of all cases in PEH, 28% have been hospitalized, compared with 9% of cases hospitalized in the general population.

Data Source: Denver Health and Hospital Authority RedCap database

# Testing by DPH, most recent results...



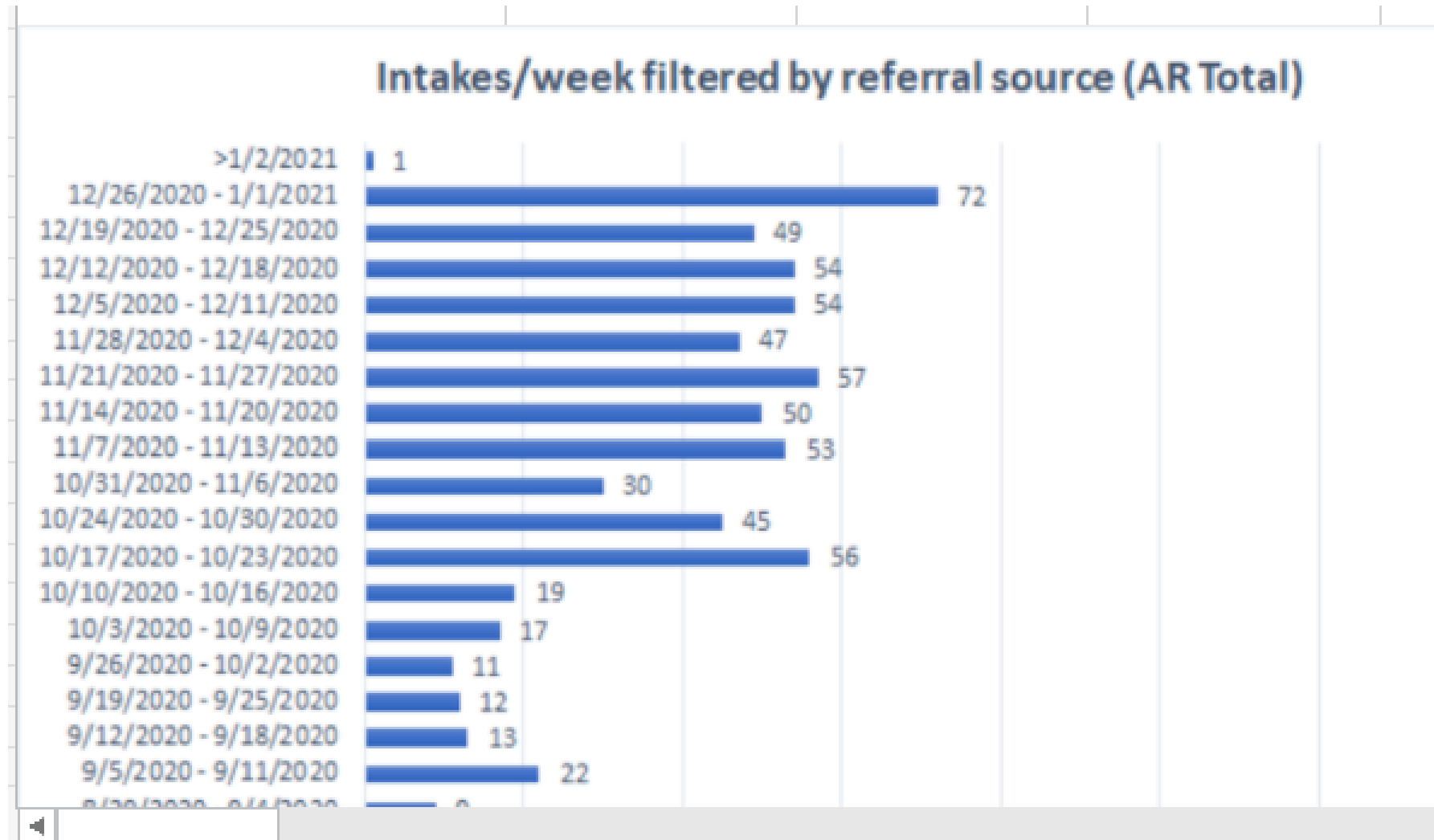
Data last updated 1/4/2021 7:55:42 AM

Courtesy of Denver Public Health, Dr. Sarah Rowan and others.

# “Protective Action” and “Activated Respite”

- PA =
  - De-densify shelters and move clients with high-risk conditions to motels
  - Currently 700 clients in 6 area motels.
- AR
  - Used local motel (s) to isolate (sometimes quarantine)
  - Partnership!

# AR Intakes/week – peaked in 120s/wk in late April



# Critical definitions, some are murky<sup>1</sup>

## Exposure =

- Having come into contact with a cause of, or possessing a characteristic that is a determinant of, a particular health problem.

## Close Contact<sup>1</sup> =

- Someone who was within 6 feet of an infected person for  $\geq 15$  minutes in 24 hours.
- Starts 2 days before illness onset until the time the patient is isolated.
- Consider many factors → proximity, duration, symptoms, singing/shouting/sneezing, indoors vs. outdoors, mask use<sup>1</sup>; smoking a joint/cigarette together<sup>2</sup>, etc.
- “A hug” doesn’t *necessarily* count → some CDC links still include this.

## Contact Elicitation Window =

- The timeframe when the case was likely infectious and not under isolation.

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html#contact>

<sup>2</sup> Clinical situation with conclusion → “Close Contact”

# Language matters, continued...

- **Isolation =**

- The separation of a person or group of people **known or reasonably believed to be infected** with a communicable disease and potentially infectious from those who are not infected to prevent spread of the communicable disease.

- **Quarantine =**

- The separation of a person or group of people **reasonably believed to have been exposed** to a communicable disease but not yet symptomatic from others who have not been so exposed to prevent the possible spread of the communicable disease.

- **Isolation** and **Quarantine** for public health purposes may be voluntary or compelled by federal, state, or local public health order



## Quarantine vs. Isolation...

Quarantine = Exposure/ “Close Contact”

Isolation = Infection

Quarantine or isolation: What's the difference?

**Quarantine** keeps someone who might have been exposed to the virus away from others.

Isolation keeps someone who is infected with the virus away from others, even in their home.

# “Quarantining” of Staff members...Big Gray Area

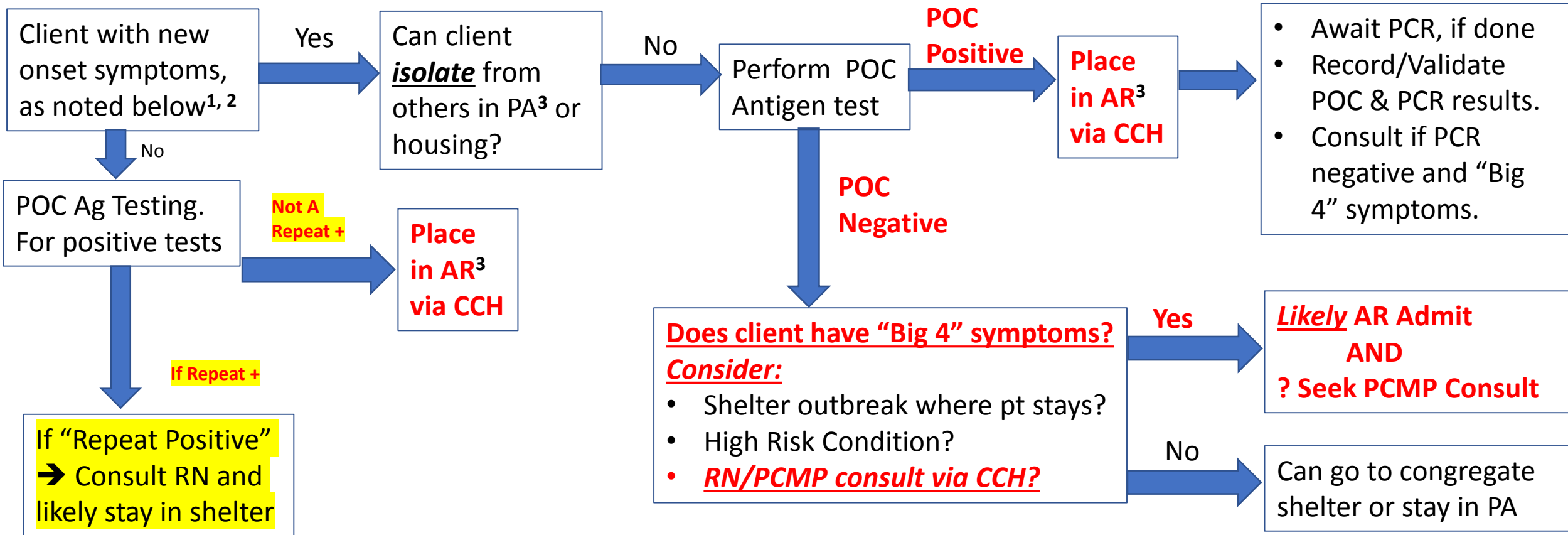
## One Possible Recommendation:

- If a household contact = **Quarantine**
- Work contacts with universal masking = **No quarantine**
- If both staff members were wearing masks, they are not “close contacts”

# Testing strategy...

- Evolution from Symptom-based to...
- Surveillance testing at shelters to...
- Adding on POC testing...

# COVID -19 POC<sup>3</sup> Virus Antigen testing at Denver Metro Shelters with Binax NOW



<sup>1</sup> **“Big 4” Symptoms** = Fever OR new cough OR short of breath OR loss of taste/smell

<sup>2</sup> **“Little 7” Symptoms** = New onset of Sore Throat, Congestion or Runny Nose, H/A, Nausea or Vomiting, Diarrhea, Muscle or Body Aches, Fatigue

<sup>3</sup> **Abbreviations** = PA = Protective Action. AR = Activated Respite, POC = Point of Care. PDSA = Plan, Do, Study, Act

If PCR comes back positive, AR admit unless PCMP consult advises otherwise.

*This flow is subject to continuous change and PDSA-ing, esp. as POC Ag Data is validated (or not)*

# POC Accuracy – specific, not that sensitive.

-- reminder → approved only in symptomatic clients

<b>BinaxNOW ----- Data Accuracy</b>		
<b>2 x 2 Table, 12.10.</b>	<b>PCR +</b>	<b>PCR negative</b>
<b>POC +</b>	25	1
<b>POC negative</b>	7	133
<b>Sensitivity</b>	78%	25/32
<b>Specificity</b>	99%	133/134
<b>PPV</b>	96%	25/26
<b>NPV</b>	95%	133/140
<b>LR +</b>	105	
<b>LR -</b>	0.22	



SUBJECT  
TO  
CHANGE

A silhouette of a person stands on a rocky shore with their arms raised in a gesture of triumph or hope. The background is a sunset over the ocean, with a warm orange and yellow glow. The word "HOPE" is written in large, dark, serif capital letters across the upper right portion of the image.

HOPE

# Resources/References for HCH = Health Care for the Homeless

- Health care of people experiencing homelessness in the United States, UpToDate, [Travis P Baggett, MD, MPH, Stefan G Kertesz, MD, MSc](#)
- National Health Care for the Homeless Council and HCH Clinicians' Network, <https://nhchc.org/clinical-practice/hch-clinicians-network/> and <https://councilbackup.flywheelsites.com/2018/07/new-clinical-resources-from-the-hch-clinicians-network/>
- Old and sleeping rough: elderly homeless persons on the streets of Boston, James J O'Connell et. al., <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/16047915/>
- Health Care for the Homeless: What We Have Learned in the Past 30 Years and What's Next [Cheryl Zlotnick](#), RN, DrPH, [Suzanne Zerger](#), PhD, and [Phyllis B. Wolfe](#), LICSW, MSW, MA, <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC3969140/>
- ADAPTING YOUR PRACTICE General Recommendations for the Care of Homeless Patients, <https://nhchc.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/08/GenRecsHomeless2010-1.pdf>
- Care of the Homeless: An Overview, DAVID L. MANESS, DO, MSS, and MUNEEZA KHAN, MD, American Family Physician, <https://www.aafp.org/afp/2014/0415/p634.html>
- [Stories from the Shadows: Reflections of a Street Doctor](#), Jim O'Connell, 1985



# References on COVID and especially PEH

- CDC Interim Guidance for Responding to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) among People Experiencing Unsheltered Homelessness. March 22, 2020. Accessed at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/community/homeless-shelters/unsheltered-homelessness.html>
- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. Webinar: COVID-19 Planning and Response—Isolation and quarantine: Lessons learned from King County. March 24, 2020. Accessed at: [https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset\\_library/Webinar\\_COVID\\_19\\_Seattle\\_King\\_County\\_Slides\\_03242020.pdf](https://www.usich.gov/resources/uploads/asset_library/Webinar_COVID_19_Seattle_King_County_Slides_03242020.pdf)
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- United States Interagency Council on Homelessness. Webinar: COVID-19 Planning and Response—Isolation and quarantine: Lessons learned from King County. COVID-19 Planning and Response: Assessment and Recovery Centers: Lessons Learned from Seattle & King County. April 13, 2020. Accessed at: <https://www.usich.gov/tools-for-action/webinar-implementing-assessment-and-recovery-centers-and-providing-transportation-to-isolation-and-quarantine-facilities-lessons-from-seattle-king-county>
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- CDC: Summary of Changes, Glossary of Key Terms. Published October 21, 2020. Accessed at: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/php/contact-tracing/contact-tracing-plan/appendix.html>
- Oran DP, Institute SRT, Topol EJ, Jeanne Marrasso RMC and . Prevalence of Asymptomatic SARS-CoV-2 Infection. Annals of Internal Medicine. <https://www.acpjournals.org/doi/abs/10.7326/M20-3012>. Published September 21, 2020. Accessed November 4, 2020.
- Two Studies Show Drop In COVID-19 Death Rates, Web MD. Published October 22, 2020. <https://www.webmd.com/lung/news/20201021/two-studies-show-drop-in-covid-19-death-rates>