

City of Toronto – Enhanced COVID-19 Supports for Targeted Neighbourhoods

November 23, 2020



In March 2020 at the start of the pandemic, the City began taking action to support vulnerable residents, families and communities under its guiding framework, TO Supports: COVID-19 Equity Action Plan. This work is constantly evolving and improving in light of new information, new partnerships, and new public health conditions.

The targeted COVID-19 enhanced equity measures announced by the City of Toronto on November 23, 2020 builds on the work started in March and implemented throughout the pandemic, and will include:

- partnering with trusted community based partners to share public health information
- improve access to COVID-19 testing
- provide critical supports to individuals and their families.

TO Supports Equity Action Areas

Existing actions mobilized early in the pandemic as part of the broader TO Supports: COVID-19 Equity Action Plan.

HEALTH COMMUNICATION & OUTREACH

- Multilingual Public Health Campaign
- Expanded Local Community Outreach
- Non-Stigmatizing Data Reporting

COMMUNITY HEALTH ACCESS

- Promote Community Testing
- Voluntary Isolation Site
- IPAC Support to Agencies
- Overdoses Prevention
- Flu Shot Clinics

SUPPORT FOR COMMUNITY SECTOR PARTNERS

- Emergency Funding
- Donations Management
- Community Agency Cluster Coordination

SHELTER, HOUSING, & HOMELESSNESS SERVICES

- Expand Services for Physical Distancing and IPAC
- Rapid Housing Access
- Human Rights-based Encampment Response
- 12 month Interim Shelter Recovery Plan

INCOME SUPPORTS

- Connect to Emergency Benefits
- Eviction Prevention Advocacy

FOOD SECURITY

- City-wide Response to Acute Food Insecurity

CARE FOR SENIORS

- Prevent and Manage Outbreaks in Long-Term Care
- Support Seniors in the Community

DIGITAL ACCESS

- Expand Free WiFi for all.
- Free High-Quality Online Activities and Programming

MENTAL HEALTH & FAMILY SAFETY

- Free, Culturally-Appropriate, Multilingual Phone-based Counselling
- Family Violence Awareness Campaign

CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORTS

- Emergency Child Care
- Protect access to Fee Subsidies and Child Care Spaces
- Online EarlyON programming and family supports

Scalability of the Targeted COVID-19 Enhanced Equity Measures

Based on data, a set of targeted COVID-19 enhanced equity measures will be refined for the **northwest** and **northeast** areas of Toronto.

These targeted COVID-19 enhanced equity measures are **scalable** and **can pivot** to different neighbourhoods as required, based on findings from the data.

Targeted COVID-19 Enhanced Equity Measures

The City is collaborating with community and health services partners, residents and employers in hotspot areas to share public health information, improve access to COVID-19 testing, and provide critical supports to individuals who test positive.

EXPANSION OF TESTING SITES

1. Increase mobile testing
2. Increase transportation to testing sites
3. Increase the number of testing sites
4. Extend testing site hours

Partners: Ontario Health/LHIN



EDUCATION & ENGAGEMENT

1. Targeted outreach, case management and supports
2. Equip residents with masks
3. Add “family approach” to voluntary isolation sites

Partners: Community Agencies



EVICCTIONS & EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

1. Advocate for residential eviction prevention
2. Advocate for income supports
3. Advocate for newcomer access to COVID-19 services and supports

Partners: Ontario & Canada



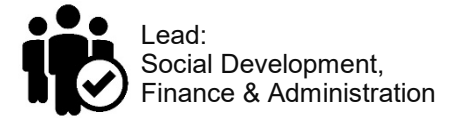
IMMUNIZATION

1. Leverage targeted enhanced equity measures to implement the City’s immunization strategy (in development through the EOC)

Partners: Community Agencies



Community Education & Engagement

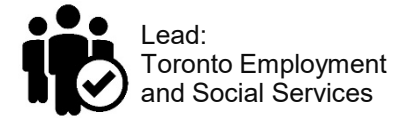


A range of strong community agencies have been selected through the Community Coordination Clusters to partner with the City on implementing the targeted COVID-19 enhanced equity measures.

The community partners are based in the targeted neighbourhoods, and trusted among newcomers, BIPOC, youth, and other population groups to which we are targeting support.

COMMUNITIES	AGENCY
Black Creek/Humber Summit	Black Creek Community HC
	Delta Community
North Etobicoke	Rexdale Community Health Centre
York/Weston/Pelham	Unison
	Davenport Perth
East York/Don Valley	Thornccliffe Neighbourhood Organization (TNO)
North Scarborough	TAIBU Community Health Centre
	Malvern Family Resource Centre
South Scarborough	Scarborough Centre for Healthy Communities
Population Specific	Sistering
	FCJ Refugee Centre

Eviction & Emergency Assistance



ACTION	DETAILS	DEPENDENCIES / INTERGOVERNMENTAL	TIMELINE TO IMPLEMENTATION
<p>Advocate for residential eviction prevention</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City request to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing to implement a temporary moratorium on residential evictions (via letter and political/executive engagement) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial agreement • Mitigating resistance from landlords 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contingent on provincial approval process
<p>Advocate for income supports for those that test positive or are in positive households</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City request to the Minister Children, Social and Community Service to extend eligibility for Emergency Assistance (via letter and political/executive engagement) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contingent on provincial approval process
<p>Advocate for newcomer access to COVID-19 services and supports</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • City request to the Federal Minister, IRCC to ensure newcomers can access COVID-19 services and supports (via letter and political/executive engagement) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal agreement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contingent on federal approval process