

Ho Hum COVID-19 Isolation, Quarantine, & Recovery Accommodations

Vermont State Emergency Operations Center: Isolation, Quarantine & Recovery Strategy

The Ho Hum in South Burlington is a motel helping to fill a role as a public health intervention implemented by AHS on behalf of the State Emergency Operations Center.

The Ho Hum is accepting guests who are suspected to be COVID-19+, at high risk for being COVID-19+, or who are confirmed COVID-19+ who do not need hospital-level medical attention, but who cannot follow public health guidelines to isolate in their primary place or location of residence. The Isolation, Quarantine, and Recovery Accommodations are not a medical intervention, but an emergency public health strategy in which people receive temporary alternative housing with access to telehealth and social services while they self-isolate and recover from COVID-19.

Guests require limited health care monitoring, can care for themselves, and do not need assistance with activities of daily living. Medical providers - offsite except for testing - support intake, health monitoring, discharge and infection prevention control. Guests stay at the Ho Hum site on a voluntary basis.

Guests of COVID-19 Recovery accommodations meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Are symptomatic and suspected of having COVID-19 but do not require hospital care; **or**
- ✓ Have been exposed to COVID-19 and have been assessed as high-risk for being COVID-19+ by a medical provider; **or**
- ✓ Test positive for COVID-19 (confirmed case) with minimal or no symptoms; **and**
- ✓ Require self-isolation due to risk of infecting others during recovery and have no other suitable place to self-isolate; **and**
- ✓ Do not require hospital level of care (may be discharging from a hospital or referred directly from current housing); **and**
- ✓ Do not require assistance with daily living and can self-evacuate the building if needed.

Isolation, Quarantine, & Recovery Accommodations at the Ho Hum

The Isolation, Quarantine, and Recovery accommodations at the Ho Hum are a partnership between the Champlain Housing Trust, the Community Health Center of Burlington (CHCB), and the Vermont Agency of Human Services (AHS). The site provides temporary accommodations with access to health and programmatic supports for Vermonters who are suspected of being COVID-19+, at high-risk for being COVID-19+, or who have tested positive for COVID-19 and have no suitable place to self-quarantine during their recovery.

Our goals

To provide a place of compassion and healing while people recover, reduce spread of the infection in communities, and reduce the burden on hospitals so those who need hospitalization can be served.

Our values

Dignity and respect for all. Open communication with partners. Healing and privacy for those recovering.

Populations Served at the Ho Hum

All people of all ages, all family structures and all demographics are welcome. Up to 34 rooms are available for people who:

- ✓ Meet the criteria (above) for Isolation, Quarantine, and Recovery Accommodations,
- ✓ Are not on the National nor Vermont sex offender registry,

- ✓ Make a voluntary choice to recover from their symptoms at the Ho Hum, *and*
- ✓ Agree to follow site expectations as described in the Guest Agreement

Health and Safety Protocols, Services & Programming

During their recovery, guests have access to the following:

Safety and Security

- ✓ Onsite security to ensure a safe and private place to recover.
- ✓ Perimeter fence around the site.
- ✓ Informational signs reinforcing CDC health guidelines.
- ✓ Local Emergency Services notified and coordinated with the site.
- ✓ All guests and staff are required to wear PPE and follow medical protocol.

Cleaning, Disinfecting, Waste, Laundry

- ✓ There will be a twice daily cleaning of the high touch areas in the office. The laundry room and the front desk window will be cleaned after each use.
- ✓ There will be a removal of waste, recycling products, and medical waste as needed.
- ✓ Bed linens and towels will be laundered as needed. Guests have access to a laundry service for personal laundry as needed.
- ✓ Guests have access to their own cleaning supplies to regularly clean their own rooms.
- ✓ Rooms are cleaned per CDC guidelines after guest discharge and before next guest arrives.

Health Care Coordination & Telehealth Services

- ✓ All guests will receive help coordinating prescription refills, delivery, and access to their health care providers, as needed.
- ✓ Guests who do not have a primary care provider able to support their COVID 19 recovery, will be enrolled in the Community Health Centers of Burlington to provide regular telemonitoring and telehealth appointments.
- ✓ Guests are also able to maintain relationships with their own health care providers, and guest services staff can help coordinate the scheduling of those appointments.
- ✓ Equipment for guests to check their own temperature.
- ✓ Access to comfort medications can be available as necessary for people with Substance Use Disorder (SUD).
- ✓ Daily wellness check-ins by guest services staff.
- ✓ Telehealth (phone or video) appointments scheduled as determined by their health care provider (from the Community Health Centers of Burlington and/or their own providers).

Food

- ✓ Three meals a day will be delivered to each guest. Guests can advise front desk staff of special dietary needs.

Other Services & Programming

- ✓ Staff will help guests with telehealth activities, encourage rest and wellness, entertainment and recreation, meals, and for general support.

Intake, Registration, Telemonitoring, and Discharge

Intake and Registration

- ✓ A health care provider will first determine if a potential guest is appropriate medically for Harbor Place.

- ✓ Agencies referring individuals or families to this site will then call the front desk at **802-233-8922**. Ho Hum staff will walk referring agencies and individuals through the registration process. Referring agencies will be asked to receive paperwork, work with the individual to complete, and send back information securely.
- ✓ When a reservation has been confirmed, the referring agency will receive a call back with instructions for arrival. Referring agencies are responsible for arranging transportation to the Ho Hum. (see: [Transportation Guidelines to COVID-19 Isolation and Recovery Housing](#))

Transportation to & Arrival at the Ho Hum

- ✓ Transportation will be arranged by referring agencies.
- ✓ People will be transported to the site by non-emergency vehicles.
- ✓ The guest will be wearing a mask prior to arrival. Upon arrival, guests will go to the Front Desk window to make sure that paperwork is complete and receive a room key.
- ✓ Guest services staff will help guests settle in and review the Guest Welcome Packet.

Health & Wellness Support

- ✓ Guest services staff will support guests in setting up and preparing for an initial telehealth appointment within the first three days.
- ✓ Guest services staff will provide regular check-ins to make sure guests are doing well and in regular communication with their medical provider.

Guests who are ready to leave will have met all of the current CDC criteria¹:

- ✓ No fever for 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications,
- ✓ Improved respiratory symptoms (e.g., cough, shortness of breath),
- ✓ At least 10 days having passed since symptoms first began, *and*
- ✓ Be recommended by a health care provider following an assessment for discharge.

Process & Transportation for Guests Ending their Stay

- ✓ Guests will be transported to their place of origin or another safe residence as planned. Guests in need of ongoing emergency housing will be told to contact ESD.
- ✓ Planning for departure begins at the start, so that people are able to leave when ready.
- ✓ When guests are ready to end their stay, staff will help arrange transportation as long as the period of self-isolation meets health care recommendations.

Guest Amenities

Guests at the Ho Hum have access to the following amenities:

- ✓ Private bedrooms and bathrooms
- ✓ Three meals a day – breakfast, lunch, and dinner – delivered to rooms
- ✓ Telephonic support for guest social and mental health well-being
- ✓ Laundry service and fresh linens, as needed
- ✓ Prescription delivery from Kinney Drugs
- ✓ Cleaning supplies (hand sanitizer, disinfecting wipes, paper towels)
- ✓ Personal hygiene items can be purchased by guests for delivery by Kinney Drugs
- ✓ Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) (facemasks, gloves)

¹ For most current criteria: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/hcp/disposition-hospitalized-patients.html>