



Incident Name:
COVID-19 Response

Reporting Period:
05/18/2020 08:00 AM - 05/18/2020 04:00 PM

Situation Report Number:
58

EOC Activation Level:
Full Activation



Vermont State Emergency Operations Center

Situation Report

Phil Scott, Governor

Erica Bornemann,
Director
(800) 347-0488
45 State Drive
Waterbury, VT
05671

Background / Current Situation

On May 18, 2020 the Vermont State Emergency Operations Center (SEOC) was fully activated from 0800 to 1600, using a completely virtual structure. The SEOC will be fully activated during the week and partially activated through the weekend until further notice.

Key Updates:

- The next meal distribution site will be held on Tuesday, May 19th, 10am-2pm at Bromley Mountain, 3984 VT Route 11, Peru, VT.
 - The full list of dates and locations can be found at vem.vermont.gov/pods
- Today, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation announced that while there is a plan to open and operate state parks this summer, the VT State Parks will not be able to offer camping at least through June 25, 2020 and will be canceling all reservations prior to that date. Refunds will be issued automatically in the form of a gift certificate. Residents and non-residents coming to Vermont will need to quarantine at home for 14 days prior to visiting a Vermont State Park.

Current status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 5/18/20:

Total positive test results for COVID-19	940
Total tests for COVID-19	23,825
Deaths	54
Total people recovered	815
People being monitored	20
People who have completed monitoring	860
Hospitalized patients with COVID-19	3

These numbers are reported once daily covering a 24-period from midnight to midnight.

5/16-5/17 Call Statistics from 211:

- 211 received 22 calls related to COVID-19 over the weekend, the vast majority (21 calls) from the general public.
 - The most common call topic was testing (16 calls), followed by the executive order (4 calls) (topics are not mutually exclusive, i.e., calls can touch on multiple topics).
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Public Information

- Changes made to <https://vem.vermont.gov/pods> to reflect new messaging language and shift in locations of food distribution sites.
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FEMA

- A Major Disaster Declaration has been approved for Vermont: FEMA-4532-DR-VT
 - FEMA is tracking the following Resource Request Forms (RRFs) in progress:
 - Testing materials, including nasal swabs and test tubes
 - HEPA filters
 - PPE including gloves, coveralls, aprons, boot covers, and N95 masks
 - Boxed meals
 - Powered air-purifying respirators (PAPRs)
 - Outside of the RRF process, FEMA is procuring a donation of bulk sanitizer on behalf of Vermont and securing cloth face coverings.
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Medical Logistics Branch

Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) Update as of Close of Day 5/15/2020:

Daily Workflow Status	
Orders Received	40
Orders Filled	25
Percentage Filled	63%
Total Unfilled Orders	15
Behavioral Health	0

EMS	6
Hospital	0
Long-Term Care	0
Outpatient Care	0
Public Safety	0
Residential Home	2
Other	7

Please Note: These numbers change by the minute and many of these orders may have been filled during the generation of this report. This is just a snapshot in time.

Important Explanations: Orders may be unfilled due to a variety of reasons, such as but not limited to the following:

- Lower priority facility types
- Order requires follow up
- May be in the process of being filled at the time the report was completed
- May have been filled by the time the report was completed
- Requested items we do not have in stock so the order remains unfilled

Other Updates:

- Working with VDH Laboratory to help them obtain gowns/gown alternatives for use in the lab.
- Two members of military cadre for Med Log have had replacements assigned, awaiting two more replacements.
- List of suitable PPE substitutes are being compiled and updated in DLAN to enable a quicker response/turnaround time from FEMA RRFs when specifically requested items are unavailable. This will decrease response times when FEMA has questions about what we can/will accept.
- New Inventory and Forecasting Tracking product is in final stage of review, goal is to have it live by the end of the week.
- Generating a Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for Med Log processes to provide guidance for new branch members as they come on board.

Logistics Branch

- **Resource Requests:**
 - ◊ BGS is working on acquiring portable restrooms and hand wash stations for the additional food distribution sites.
 - ◊ AOT is delivering 2,500 face shields and 47,670 face coverings to the SNS warehouse.
 - ◊ AOT is providing cones to temporary testing sites across the state.
 - ◊ AOT is providing 1 employee to the VDH/ Med Log branch.
- **Vermont National Guard**
 - ◊ Providing distribution of food at various sites across the state, currently scheduled until May 29th.
 - ◊ Providing support to "pop up" sites for COVID-19 testing across the state.

- **Department of Human Resources (DHR):**
 - Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) medical volunteer activity:
 - 63 volunteers, 13 of whom are deployed as screeners at Northeast Vermont Regional Hospital.
 - The Southern Vermont Medical Center asked for volunteers to be Specimen Collection Assistants and Test Schedulers, but has yet to provide final details
 - NVRH has requested additional screeners in the near future.
 - 211 will be reactivating volunteers for the call center.
 - 765 accepted volunteers, 378 since 3/1
 - Temporary Employee Activity:
 - Requested positions- 169, approved and created- 165
 - Applications received -429
 - Offers Made - 6
 - Hired - 6
 - Direct Hires - 17

- **SerVermont:**
 - 28 AmeriCorps, 25 MRC volunteers and 1 spontaneous volunteer are deployed at 211, filling 15-18 shifts a day to support surge operations.
 - 2,029 volunteers have been accepted.

Health & Medical Branch

Health & Medical Branch

Daily summary of hospital bed availability

- Number of COVID-19 patients hospitalized: 3 positive, 19 persons under investigation
- Number of COVID-19 patients discharged from hospital: 0

- Total hospital beds available: 645
- Intensive Care Unit (ICU) beds available: 55
- Medical/Surgical beds available: 318
- Isolation beds available: 131

Hospital resource needs

- **Personnel** - none known at this time, but may require additional personnel for the Offense-minded Testing Strategy.
- **Equipment** - none known at this time, but may require additional equipment for the Offense-minded Testing Strategy.
- **Supplies** - none known at this time, but may require additional supplies for the Offense-minded Testing Strategy.
- The SEOC is securing specific resources for eight all-day, by-appointment-only, pop-up testing operations in Rutland on 5/18, Barre on 5/19, Middlebury and St. Albans on 5/20, Newport on 5/21, Springfield and Morrisville on 5/22 and St. Johnsbury on 5/23.
- Available appointments at pop-up testing clinics are filling up quickly.

Alternate Care Facility Status Report

- No pending resource needs are known at this time for the one COVID-19 positive and three non-

Activation of Crisis Standards of Care

- Personnel measures - none known at this time.
- Equipment / PPE measures - planning to avoid longer term shortages of N-95 respirators, nitrile gloves, surgical gloves, isolation gowns, and goggles.
- A letter reinforcing N-95 supply shortage mitigation strategies (including fit testing to respirators in supply and possible use of N-95 respirator alternatives) is still under development for dissemination by 5/20.

Economic Mitigation and Recovery Task Force

AGENCY OF COMMERCE AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT (ACCD):

- No/Low Contact Indoor Operations & Professional Services (update to be issued 5/18 via ACCD guidance here): <https://accd.vermont.gov/news/update-new-work-safe-additions-be-smart-stay-safe-order>
 - ◊ Services operating with a single worker or small office environments (such as appraisers, realtors, municipal clerks, attorneys, property managers, pet care operators, and others) may operate if they can comply with the mandatory health and safety requirements listed above, with no more than 10 persons (service provider and clients) present at one time.
 - ◊ Remote work is required whenever possible.
 - ◊ Operators must maintain a log of customers and their contact information for 30 days in the event contact tracing is required by the Health Department.
- Download Safe Retail Signage here: <https://accd.vermont.gov/covid-19/business/restart/signage>

Restart Webinars:

- Restaurants - On Tuesday, May 19th, 2020 at 11:00 AM, SCORE Vermont will present "Restarting Your Restaurant Post-COVID". This free webinar will focus on the considerations needed to reopen a food and beverage business, including:
 - ◊ How to prepare and find the resources to become compliant with new sanitation and safety protocols that will affect both costs and revenues;
 - ◊ Determining realistic seating capacities while recalculating revenue projections utilizing a menu engineering approach; and
 - ◊ A financial model to determine future break-even sales level and customer counts.
- Sign up here: <https://champlainvalley.score.org/event/restarting-your-restaurant-post-covid>
- Manufacturing - On Wednesday, May 20th, 2020 at 1:30 PM, Vermont Manufacturing Extension Center (VMEC) will host a live forum with safety, HR, and legal experts for businesses in various phases of reopening. Panelists will provide valuable tips and knowledge to ensure businesses are meeting COVID-19 operating requirements and using current best practices. Sign up here: <https://vsc.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUscu6grTojHtI5NVwB0anIphHWrR0YWnrM>

AGENCY OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND MARKETS (AAFM)

- Economic Impact to the Dairy Industry - AAFM has coordinated an effort to recover milk from being disposed while creating a new, temporary food supply for the Vermont Foodbank. In collaboration with the Vermont Community Foundation, \$60,000 has been made available to purchase this milk and process to products for the benefit of Vermonters. These efforts are particularly important as Vermont's dairy industry, like all sectors, has been challenged by COVID-19 but remain essential to Vermonters' food supply.
- Abbey Group and Willing hands were awarded USDA CFAP contracts to provide food boxes between May 15th and June 30th to families in need. Total value of the awards is \$5.4 million (\$40k Willing Hands, \$5.4 million AG).
 - Willing Hands contract is focused on Upper Valley area, Abbey Group is statewide.
 - Abbey Group partners include Center for an Ag Economy, Green Mountain Farm Direct, Black River/Reinhart, Cabot, Thomas Dairy, Monument Dairy.

Human Services Branch

Gaps in Agency of Human Services (AHS) essential services due to absenteeism: none at this time

Status of Long-Term Care Facilities (Nursing Homes Only):

- Statewide Licensed Capacity: 2,978
- Current Operating Capacity: 2,699
- Census as of 5/18: 2,193 (506 available)
- Resource Needs: None
- Current Outbreaks: No known outbreaks at this time

Status of Isolation and Recovery Sites:

- The Harbor Place isolation and recovery site has a 50-bed capacity, with 7 residents as of 5/17.
- General Assistance Motel Summary, including Econo Lodge in Montpelier as of 5/15: 1,494 rooms; 1,719 adults; 300 children.

Statewide Mass Feeding Plan:

- The next meal distribution site will be held on Tuesday, May 19th, 10am-2pm at Bromley Mountain, 3984 VT Route 11, Peru, VT.

Infrastructure & Emergency Services Branch

Infrastructure -No disruptions of Service

Emergency Services- No issues

Department /Agencies Reports

Vermont State Police (VSP)/Wilderness Search and Rescue -

- VSP is working with local police departments, the Department of Buildings and General Services, and a sheriff's department on traffic control and security at food distribution sites.

Vermont Division of Fire Safety (DFS) - No Disruptions of Service or issues

Public Service Department (PSD) - No Disruptions of Service or issues

Judiciary - No Disruptions of Service or issues.

Emergency Medical Services (EMS) - No Disruptions of Service or issues

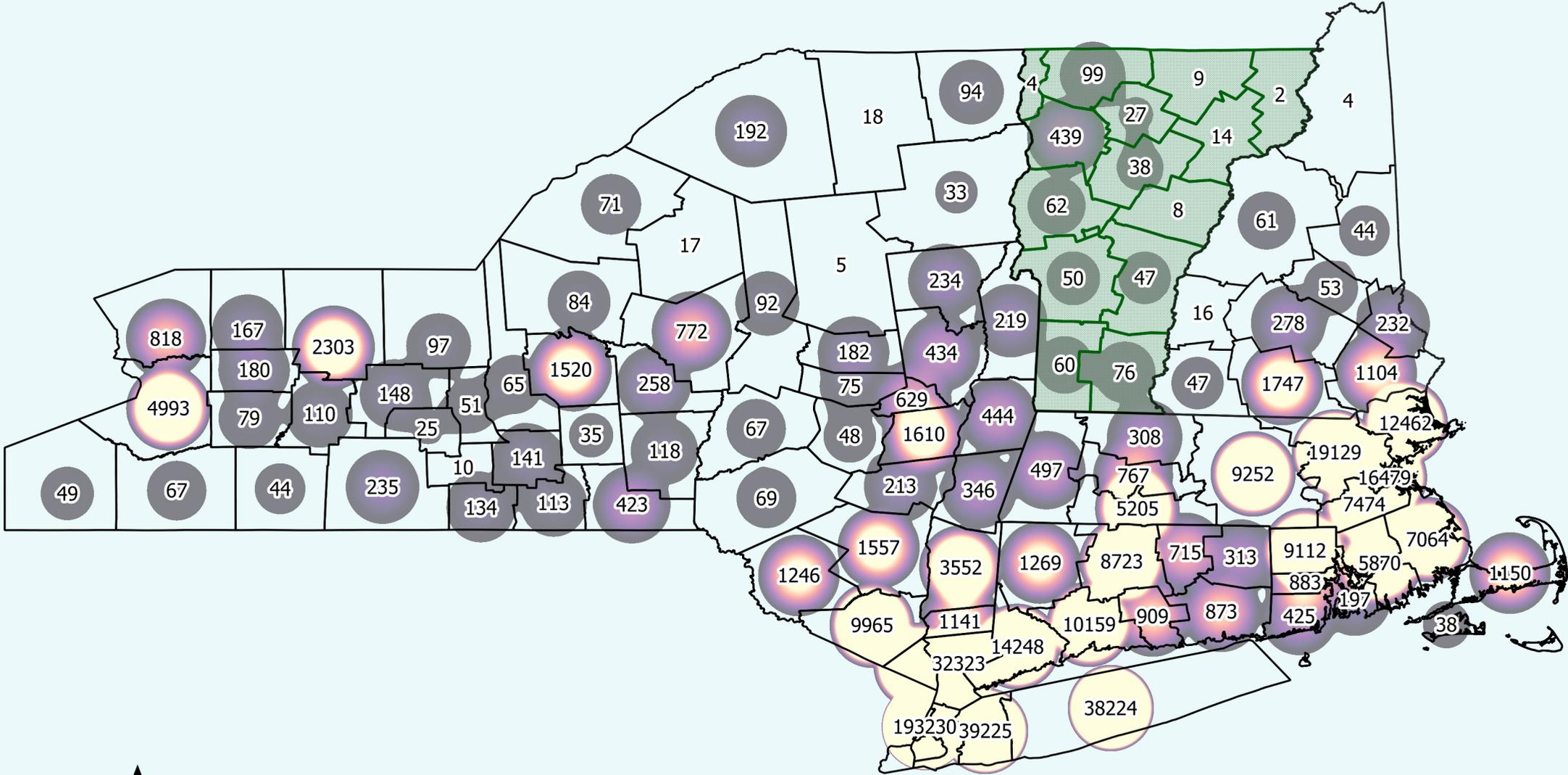
Weather

Five Day Forecast: Vermont - Addison (Eastern Addison) (KTYX)

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
				
Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear	Clear
65 F / 18 C 38 F / 3 C	64 F / 17 C 39 F / 3 C	67 F / 19 C 39 F / 3 C	70 F / 21 C 48 F / 8 C	74 F / 23 C 52 F / 11 C

- **Tonight:** Mostly clear, with a low around 41. Northeast wind 5 to 7 mph.
- **Tuesday:** Sunny, with a high near 67. East wind 5 to 7 mph.
- **Tuesday Night:** Mostly clear, with a low around 41. Southeast wind around 5 mph becoming calm in the evening.

Northeast Cases by County Heatmap



Updated 5/18/20 - Lee Dorf
Data Source: Johns Hopkins University



Executive Summary

COVID-19 Response

May 18, 2020 (1600 EDT)

SEOC Activation Status: Full
HOC Activation Status: Full
SEOC Activation Date/Time:
March 11, 2020 (0730 EDT)

Gubernatorial State of Emergency: Declared 3/13/20
Federal Emergency Declaration: Issued 3/13/20
Major Disaster Declaration: Issued 4/8/20

Community Lifeline Status

Current							
Future							
Key	<p>Red - most unstable or completely inadequate level of service Yellow - functional but inadequate for stability of a consistent level of service Green - stable</p>						

Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

Lifelines: Impacts and Actions

Safety and Security	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VSP is working with local police departments, the Department of Buildings and General Services, and a sheriff's department on traffic control and security at food distribution sites. The Vermont Supreme Court has extended the judicial emergency through September 1st. All jury trials in criminal cases are suspended until September 1st and in all civil cases until January 1st, 2021.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As states begin to lift their restrictions, travel could become more prevalent and lead to an increased risk of virus transmission.
Food, Water, Sheltering	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The combined FEMA Food Box / CFAP food box distribution sites began last week. The next meal distribution site will be held tomorrow, Tuesday, May 19th, 10am-2pm at Bromley Mountain, 3984 VT Route 11, Peru, VT. The Child Development Division is sending out the Department of Children and Families' Restart program guidance and application today to childcare providers. The Agency of Education is working on summer food service planning and a plan to expand school food service to reach under-served communities.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> VAAFM is continuing to track the increasing cost of meal at retail at a national level. VAAFM is receiving reports that retailer costs have doubled over the past four weeks and will continue to increase. This is not a price-gouging issue, but is due to a supply chain challenge with a limited workforce in processing plants, which has created a bottleneck in getting meat processed and to distributors/retailers.
Transportation	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> AOT is staffing border crossings for the State's monitoring of traffic mobility to determine how effective mitigation measures are for reducing travel and also to give healthcare leaders a sense of future healthcare capacity needs. All vehicles (Vermont and out-of-state) are being counted; license plate numbers are not being recorded. For more info: https://vtrans.vermont.gov/vtransparency
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Public transportation is not running under normal operations, and it is unclear when this would return to standard conditions. As industries begin to open up the current social distancing protocols may prove to be challenging on bus routes.

Incident Summary

A novel coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) was first detected in China at the end of 2019. It has now spread to almost every country, with the largest number of cases in the United States. The disease the virus causes has been named "coronavirus disease 2019" (abbreviated "COVID-19").

Northeast Cases by County Heatmap

Updated 5/18/20 - Lee Dorf
Data Source: Johns Hopkins University

Key Information

Current case status in Vermont, last updated by the Health Department at 1100 on 5/18/20:

- Positive test results: 940
- Total tests conducted: 23,825
- Deaths: 54
- Total people recovered: 815
- Hospitalized patients with COVID-19: 3
- Hospitalized patients under investigation for COVID-19: 19

Key Updates:

- Today, the Vermont Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation announced that while there is a plan to open and operate state parks this summer, the VT State Parks will not be able to offer camping at least through June 25, 2020 and will be canceling all reservations prior to that date. Refunds will be issued automatically in the form of a gift certificate. Residents and non-residents coming to Vermont will need to quarantine at home for 14 days prior to visiting a Vermont State Park.

Local State of Emergency: Burlington, Colchester, Johnson, Rutland, Vernon.

Local EOCs Activated (self-reported): Burlington, Chittenden (town), Charleston, Hartford, Johnson, Landgrove, Londonderry, Peacham, Pittsfield, Rutland, Sharon, South Burlington, St. Johnsbury, Strafford, Thetford, Tunbridge, Vernon, Waitsfield, Weston, Woodstock.

Health and Medical	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> State data and modeling indicates spread of COVID-19 continues to slow and Vermont now has the lowest 3-day and 7-day growth rates in the country. One Alternate Care Site is currently operating in Chittenden County with three other sites on standby. The Chittenden County site has one COVID-19 positive patient, and three non-COVID-19 patients. Tomorrow, there will be a pop-up testing site for asymptomatic members of the public in Barre. Registration for the site is full. More such testing sites for the Offense-minded Testing Strategy are planned through May 23rd. Available appointments at pop-up testing clinics are filling quickly. The Medical Logistics Branch and the SNS Warehouse are coordinating PPE and equipment support for the pop-up testing sites scheduled for the month of May. The Medical Logistics Branch is compiling a list of suitable PPE substitutes to enable a quicker response and turnaround time for FEMA RRFs when specifically requested items are unavailable. This will decrease response time when FEMA has questions about suitable PPE alternatives. VDH is in the process of developing a letter reinforcing N-95 shortage mitigation strategies. The letter will be disseminated by 5/20.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Additional guidance will be forthcoming this week to allow for some additional healthcare providers such as dentists, physical therapists and chiropractors to resume operations in a limited capacity.
Other Lifelines	Current Situation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ACCD updated its guidance for non-essential retail and drive-in operations last week. This guidance, developed with the Department of Health and Department of Public Safety, goes into effect today, May 18th and allows for reopening retail operations in a limited capacity with mandatory health and safety requirements. SerVermont reports that 28 AmeriCorps, 25 MRC volunteers and 1 spontaneous volunteer are deployed to 211, filling 15-18 shifts a day to support surge operations.
	Future	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No service disruptions reported at this time.