

Presentation title:

## Community responses to changes in the emergency shelter delivery system: A case study of Anchorage, Alaska

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The system for emergency shelter of people experiencing homelessness in Anchorage, Alaska, was quickly and significantly restructured by the immediate need to "decompress" the homeless population to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Parts of the city that had little prior experience with negative off-site impacts of these facilities were suddenly affected and residents mobilized to take steps to protect their neighborhoods from perceived increases in crime and disorder associated with the influx of this new population. This presentation focuses on one group of community activists and how they organized and were able to bring about changes to policing practices in response to a threat from a new, large emergency shelter in their neighborhood.