

**PUBLIC HEALTH ORDER**  
**REQUIREMENTS FOR SHELTERING MIGRANT PERSONS IN MOFFAT COUNTY**

The Moffat County Board of Health, hereby issues this countywide Public Health Order setting forth requirements and guidance for entities sending migrant persons to Moffat County for sheltering. The issuance of this Order is necessary for the preservation of public health, safety, and welfare in Moffat County. This order will be valid for a period of one year upon date of signing unless rescinded or extended by order of the Moffat County Board of Health.

**FINDINGS**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to C.R.S. §§25-1-506, 508, and 509, the Moffat County Board of Health ("MCBH"), MCBH Public Health Director, within the territorial limits of Moffat County, have the duty to:

- Administer and enforce public health laws, orders, rules, and standards;
- Investigate and control the causes of communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health;
- Exercise physical control over property and persons as the agency may find necessary to establish and enforce isolation and quarantine;
- Investigate and abate nuisances when necessary to eliminate sources of communicable diseases and conditions affecting public health; and
- Make necessary sanitation and health investigations and inspections for matters affecting public health.
- Issue orders and adopt rules as the Board, or in the case of a public health emergency-the Public Health Director-may deem necessary for the proper exercise of the powers and duties vested in or imposed upon MCBH or the Board; and

**WHEREAS**, on January 10, 2024, MCBH became aware that the City and County of Denver-with funding in part provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security ("DHS"), Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA"), Shelter and Services Program ("SSP")-was, is, and plans to continue housing migrants outside of its jurisdictional boundaries in neighboring Counties; and

**WHEREAS**, there is sufficient cause to believe that the City and County of Denver, or an entity acting on their behalf, have housed migrants in facilities located outside of Denver and other government entities within the state may do so in the future; and

**WHEREAS**, migrant persons, primarily asylum seekers, are a particularly vulnerable population because **(1)** they have traveled from countries with limited or no access to routine healthcare - including vaccination and chronic disease management, **(2)** they have traveled for prolonged periods living in settings that lack hygiene and through countries with potential exposure to disease (e.g., person-to-person, intestinal, vector borne.), **(3)** they are at higher risk for contagious diseases due to unknown or inadequate vaccination status, and **(4)** they have experienced significant trauma and social stressors including unstable/no housing and lack of access to food and adequate medical care; and

**WHEREAS**, minor migrant children are particularly vulnerable in these situations and have unique needs including pediatric healthcare, nutrition, and schooling; and

**WHEREAS**, sheltering settings, especially congregate settings in which individuals may be rooming in mixed groups or having meals together in mixed groups, increase communicable disease risk for this particularly vulnerable population; and

**WHEREAS**, sheltering this population may increase demand on public services within Moffat County including healthcare and emergency medical services, law enforcement, public health services including communicable disease and emergency preparedness, and schools; and

**WHEREAS**, compliance with existing public health and safety laws and regulations, including communicable disease management and reporting, food service, public accommodations, fire code, building code, and emergency preparedness is particularly important when working with more vulnerable populations; and

**WHEREAS**, The Moffat County Board of Health will establish a subcommittee to work with county stakeholders to ensure that it has sufficient policies in place to both protect the public health of any migrants housed in Moffat County as well as the residents of the County;

**WHEREAS**, Moffat County Public Health Department acknowledges the inherent dignity and human rights of every person, regardless of immigration status.

### **ORDER**

Pursuant to the statutory duties and authorities granted to and/or imposed upon MCBH, its Board, and Director, the following is ordered countywide:

#### **I. REQUIRED PUBLIC HEALTH REPORTING TO MCBH**

To address potential and actual communicable disease and emergency situations in Moffat County, any individual, entity, and/or organization ("Program Operator") sending groups of 2 or more migrant persons to be temporarily sheltered in facilities in Moffat County must provide the following information to MCBH in writing at least seven days prior to placing any migrant or within 24 hours of being provided notice of a failure to report prior. To the extent possible, any entities or organizations currently providing shelter or services to migrating persons in Moffat County shall become compliant with the requirements herein:

##### **1. Personal Information for Each Migrant Person, Including Children, Sheltering in Moffat County:**

Either, as provided by U.S./Mexico border cities from which migrant person was transferred to Colorado, or as collected by the Program Operator, including:

- 1) Date of arrival in U.S.
- 2) Date of arrival in State of Colorado
- 3) Date of arrival in Moffat County
- 4) Anticipated date of departure from Moffat County
- 5) Sheltering facility address and business name
- 6) First name
- 7) Last name
- 8) Spouse/Child
- 9) Number of travelers in party