



EMERGENCY WINTER WEATHER PLAN 2024-2025



Background

Every year, the Lexington-Fayette County Homelessness Response System meets and plans for all potential emergency shelter needs of those experiencing homelessness. This provides a coordinated response for times when extreme cold weather creates additional, immediate need for expanded capacity to assist those experiencing homelessness in Lexington.

Community response

The Lexington-Fayette County Homelessness Response System will activate its Emergency Winter Weather Plan and declare a “White Flag Day” when measures of extreme temperatures are reached or when other severe weather conditions take place. **Extreme temperature will be defined as any day/night when the temperature low is expected to fall below 32 degrees.**

The wind chill will not be taken into account in determining the temperature. Decisions about severe weather that takes place on days outside of extreme temperature situations will be made by the Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention in consultation with the appropriate authorities.

Any time a “White Flag Day” has been declared and the plan has been activated:

- The Office of Homelessness will notify local media, provide updates on social media, and notify all organizations that work with people experiencing homelessness;
- Emergency day centers and overnight shelters will welcome all persons, including former participants suspended for behavioral or programmatic reasons. Exceptions may include individuals suspended for violence and decisions will be made case-by-case;
- Shelter providers will expand capacity and operate overflow beds to the extent feasible;
- The OHPI will collaborate with providers and other resources to ensure emergency day shelter and overnight shelter are available for anyone in need.

Contact information

Questions related to the Emergency Winter Weather Plan can be directed to the Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention:

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OVERNIGHT EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDERS (BOLD REPRESENTS ADDITIONAL CAPACITY)	SERVICE POPULATION
Arbor Youth 0-17	Children and parenting youth under 18
Arbor Youth 18-24	Youth, 18-24
Catholic Action Center Emergency Shelter	Women and men 18 years and older
Catholic Action Center Mother Theresa Shelter	Veterans Contract Housing
Community Action Council Emergency Family Housing	Families that cannot split up into other shelters for an approved reason
GreenHouse17 Emergency Shelter	Fleeing intimate partner violence and abuse
Hope Center Emergency Shelter	Men 18 and older
Office of Homelessness Winter Shelter Program	Individuals/households with barriers to shelter
Salvation Army	Adult women (18 and over), families with minor children

DAY CENTER PROVIDERS	SERVICE POPULATION
Arbor Youth Services Outreach Center	Youth, 18 to 24 years of age
Lexington Rescue Mission	Everyone
Natalie's Sisters	Serving sexually exploited women age 18+
Nathaniel Mission	Everyone
New Life Day Center	Adults, 18 years and older
New Vista Drop In Center	Adults, 18 years and older
Recovery Café Lexington	Adults, 18 years and older

TRANSPORTATION AND STREET OUTREACH	HOW TO ACCESS INCLUDING RESTRICTIONS, LOCATION, CONTACT INFORMATION
Community Action Council Street Outreach Team	Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. (hours may vary based on weather and client needs)
HopeMobile	Monday through Friday during the day, out in the community
Hope Center Street Outreach Team	Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. (hours may vary based on weather and client needs)
Compassionate Caravan	Operates during emergency activation, at night, out in the community
Lextran	Operates free rides to shelter during emergency plan activation via any fixed route

Arbor Youth Services

Arbor Youth Services will continue to operate their emergency shelter with no extended capacity during the winter. Data shows that capacity for their birth to 17 years of age shelter will be sufficient as currently operating.

Arbor Youth Services will continue to operate their new emergency shelter with no extended capacity during the winter for unsheltered youth 18-24 years of age.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
Arbor Youth 0-17	Open	Call (859) 254-2501 for eligibility screening. Calls received 24/7/365.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Youth must not be a threat to self or others. Shelter is located at 536 W Third St. If youth is in immediate crisis, they can access any Safe Place location. Website: www.arborky.org
Arbor Youth 18-24	Open	Call (859) 254-2501 during weekday business hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shelter is located at 540 W Third St. If evening or weekend, email chris@arborky.org. Website: www.arborky.org

Catholic Action Center

The Catholic Action Center remains at reduced capacity due to COVID-19, operating 102 beds on a regular basis.

Must contact in advance to see if beds are available. Must schedule a COVID-19 test in advance.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
Catholic Action Center Emergency Shelter	Accepting New Residents Case-by-Case When Beds are Available	Call (859) 514-7210 during weekday business hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hospital or institution referrals must be approved. All residents must be able to care for themselves, take care of basic needs such as food and hygiene, take their own medications, etc. No sex offenders. All new residents will be required to complete a COVID-19 test; date/time to be arrange with staff in advance. All new residents will be required to provide proof of current COVID vaccine; flu vaccine encouraged. Must follow all health and safety guidelines.
Catholic Action Center Mother Theresa Shelter	Open	Call (859) 514-7210 during weekday business hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All residents are veterans as part of the VA contract housing. Not open to the general public.

Community Action Council

Community Action Council operates the only family emergency shelter in Lexington. This is a scattered-site apartment model.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
Community Action Council Emergency Family Housing	Open	Call (859) 233-4600 ext. 1429 or (859) 533-8519 Email francia.gonzalez@commaction.org.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of scattered-site apartments and hotel rooms. • Overflow limited to families with children that are unsheltered only and cannot separate into congregate shelters.

GreenHouse17

GreenHouse17 is the only domestic violence emergency shelter in Fayette County. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
GreenHouse17 Emergency Shelter	Open	Call the crisis line: (800) 544-2022 Available 24/7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Priority will be given to those actively fleeing; needs must be assessed in advance of entry. • Needs will be assessed in collaboration with survivor.

Hope Center

The Hope Center operates 160 beds on an average night, with an ability to expand to 180 beds in inclement weather. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the shelter.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
Hope Center Emergency Shelter	Open	360 W. Loudon Ave. Contact intake for information (859) 252-7881	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult men may walk into shelter for services 24/7. • No "out of county" referrals, including from hospitals or institutions. • Hospital or institution referrals must be approved by intake, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m. • All residents must be able to care for themselves, take care of basic needs such as food and hygiene, take their own medications, etc. • All residents must be able to get up and down off a mat on the floor. • No sex offenders or arson convictions. • No drug or alcohol use on property. Anyone who is intoxicated may be allowed to enter the non-medical detox facility. • Must follow all health and safety guidelines.

Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention Winter Shelter Program

The Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention has partnered with supportive service providers to operate a motel-based winter shelter. This program capacity to serve approximately 190 persons. Individuals lacking access to other forms of shelter will be prioritized. Only Fayette County residents are eligible for this program.

All individuals receive daily meals, assistance with basic needs, and case management toward permanent housing while participating in the program.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention in partnership with local supportive service agencies	Open	<p>Applications are currently closed. Information will be updated when applications resume.</p> <p>Application does not guarantee placement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only Fayette County residents are eligible. • Priority given to those lacking access to other shelter. • Individuals must abide by all rules provided at intake. • No drug or alcohol use on property. • All guests must be able to care for themselves, take care of basic needs such as hygiene, eating, and taking their medication. • Only individuals placed by program staff will be accepted.

The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is a congregate shelter within Fayette County that is able to provide overnight emergency shelter for single adult women, single mothers with children, and single fathers with children. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the shelter.

The Salvation Army will make attempts to expand capacity within their facility located at 736 West Main Street, including the use of their lobby, hallways, and TV lounge, to accommodate those seeking shelter on cold nights. Individuals seeking shelter under this warming shelter model will not receive case management or service referrals.

EMERGENCY SHELTER PROVIDER (NIGHT)	SERVICE START DATE	CONTACT INFORMATION	RULES, RESTRICTIONS, PROCESS
Salvation Army	Open	736 W. Main St. (859) 252-7706	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult women (18 & over) and families with minor children may access shelter between 7am and 10pm. Walk-in capacity will be limited. • All guests checking into shelter must pass a standard COVID screening including temperature at or below 100.3. • Hospital or institution referrals must be approved by Mary Okpeholo (859) 351-0916 or (859) 312-5686. • No out of state referrals from hospitals or institutions. • No sex offenders or arson convictions. • All guests must be able to care for themselves, take care of basic needs such as hygiene, eating and taking their medication. • All guests must be able to get up and down off a mat on the floor or a raised bed. • No drug or alcohol use on property. Anyone who is intoxicated will be asked to leave the shelter. • Must follow all health and safety guidelines.

2024-2025 Winter Day Shelter

During the winter months, day time temperatures can remain under 32 degrees. The Lexington-Fayette County Continuum of Care recognizes that it is important to not only provide overnight shelter, but places that individuals and families can seek shelter during the day.

The following details several options for individuals and families to seek warmth, food, clothing, services, showers, bathrooms, and all other basic needs.

DAY CENTER PROVIDERS	SERVICE START DATE	SERVICE POPULATION	LOCATION INFORMATION	MORE INFORMATION
Arbor Youth Services Outreach Center	Open	Youth, 18 to 24 years of age	540 West Third St.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (859) 254-2501 Offers a day shelter for youth ages 18 – 24 from 7 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday – Friday
Lexington Rescue Mission	Open	Everyone	444 Glen Arvin Ave.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (859) 381-9600 https://lexingtonrescue.org/ Adjusted day shelter hours for weather plan activation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8 a.m. – 3 p.m., Monday 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Tuesday – Thursday 8 a.m. – 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. – 1 p.m., Saturday Provides hot meals, water, winter gear (coats, hats, gloves, scarves, etc.), blankets and sleeping bags, hygiene supplies, laundry service, mail service, and assistance connecting to community resources.
Natalie’s Sisters	Open	Serving sexually exploited women age 18+ (intake required on first visit)	667 N. Limestone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (859) 533-5946 Day shelter open 11 a.m. – 2 p.m., M/W/F and 11 a.m. – 1 p.m., T/R Limited indoor/unlimited outdoor services available including breakfast, lunch, community resource referral, and limited clothing/toiletries distributed as available
Nathaniel Mission	Open	Everyone	1109 Versailles Rd., Suite 400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (859) 255-0062 Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. Provides hot meals (Breakfast @ 9am, Lunch @ 12pm), water and coffee, winter gear (coats, hats, gloves, scarves, etc.), blankets, hygiene supplies, and assistance connecting to community resources
New Life Day Center	Open	Adults, 18 years and older	224 N. MLK Blvd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (859) 721-2325 / (859) 252-3012 Day Shelter: 8:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Monday – Friday; Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Pastry breakfast with coffee served daily. Bathrooms, lockers, Wi-Fi, emergency winter clothing, phone, referrals to partner agencies Medical clinic on-site everyday 9 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. End Panhandling Now van operates every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (weather permitting).

2024-2025 Winter Day Shelter (Continued)

DAY CENTER PROVIDERS	SERVICE START DATE	SERVICE POPULATION	LOCATION INFORMATION	MORE INFORMATION
New Vista Drop In Center	Open	Adults, 18 years and older	201 Mechanic Street, 2nd floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (859) 721-8505 • Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. • Serving adults. • Access to private shower and restrooms, mental health services available on walk-in basis, referral to community resources, emergency food-pantry • Onsite primary care with limited walk-in availability • Masks available upon request.
Recovery Café Lexington	Open	Adults, 18 years and older	1109 Versailles Road, #200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (859) 523-0590 • Open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. - 7 p.m. and Sunday, 12 p.m. - 4 p.m. • Offers a warming place, self-serve breakfast all day, meals, coffee, snacks • Meals are Mon, Tues, Thurs at 5:15 p.m. and Wed, Thurs - Sun at 12:15 p.m. • Requirement not to be under the influence. • Winter weather supplies available. • Masks available upon request.

2024-2025 Winter Transportation and Street Outreach Services

Individuals and families without homes rarely have personal, reliable transportation. Many walk miles and miles a day just to access basic needs. With the weather turning colder, we recognize as a community that individuals that are already vulnerable are unable to walk those miles in the cold. We also recognize that some individuals do not have access to up-to-date weather reports to understand how cold it may become during the night. We also know that frost bite is the No. 1 discharge diagnosis to medical respite during the winter.

Due to these factors, community partners will facilitate transportation to shelter. Catholic Action Center will operate the Compassionate Caravan during extreme cold temperatures. Additionally, street outreach teams can help facilitate referrals and transportation to shelter.

TRANSPORTATION AND STREET OUTREACH SERVICES	HOW TO ACCESS INCLUDING RESTRICTIONS, LOCATION, CONTACT INFORMATION
Community Action Street Outreach Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday – Friday, 8:30 a.m. – 5 p.m. (hours may vary based on weather and client needs) (859) 693-5334 or (859) 880-1555 Services include: Referrals to shelter; providing supplies (food, blankets, water, etc.); connecting with community/housing resources
HopeMobile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday through Friday during the day, out in the community (859) 252-7881 Referrals for transportation to emergency shelters, blankets, food, water and other supplies
Hope Center Street Outreach Team	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 10 p.m. (hours may vary based on weather and client needs) (859) 556-1870 or (859) 551-8053 Referrals may also be emailed to outreach@hopectr.org. Services include: Referrals and transportation to shelter; providing supplies (food, blankets, water, etc.); connecting with community/housing resources
Compassionate Caravan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Operates during emergency activation, at night, out in the community (859) 255-0301 caclex2000@gmail.com Referrals for transportation to emergency shelter, blankets, food, water, and other materials
Lextran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Offers free rides to shelter during emergency plan activation via any fixed route

Donations for Winter Weather

Donations to providers always play a crucial role in winter weather response. Every provider accepts basic needs supplies that are important to those without homes. Below are general donations that are always needed. Public donations can be given to participating agencies; however, the public is required to call for donation policies and processes for each agency.

- Blankets
- Hats
- Winter boots/shoes
- Winter coats (children and adult sizes)
- Thermals/long underwear (all sizes)
- Gloves
- Socks
- Scarves
- Hot Hands
- Single ride bus passes (LexTran)
- Backpacks
- Sleeping bags
- Sweatshirts/hoodies (adult men and women)
- New/gently worn women's leggings (contact Natalie's Sisters)
- Bottled water
- Individually packaged snacks

We are also seeking donations of single ride LexTran bus passes to support individuals residing in the Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention's Winter Shelter Program. These donations will support individuals in accessing appointments and facilitate transportation toward permanent housing, employment, and more.

