



LEXINGTON

Homelessness Prevention & Intervention

Infectious Disease Homeless System Response Plan

Addendum A 2020-2021 Winter Response

This version is current as of 11/18/2020.

This will be a changing document based on circumstances and latest guidance from the CDC, Governor Beshear and local public health officials.

Background

Every year, the Lexington-Fayette County Homeless Response System meets and plans for all potential emergency shelter needs of those experiencing homelessness. This year, with the impact of the COVID-19 Infectious Disease Response, the system faced a major challenge.

In general, the system is facing two major barriers to accessing shelter:

1. Reduced capacity due to COVID-19 CDC restrictions.
2. Citizens fear of entering a congregated emergency shelter that could expose them to COVID-19.

Community response

GOAL: Work closely with the Lexington-Fayette Co. Health Dept., LFUCG Emergency Management, the Lexington Police Dept., the Lexington Fire Dept., and all community partners in order to follow guidance and instructions.

Emergency overnight shelters

Emergency night shelters welcome all eligible people during emergency winter weather including former residents under suspension for behavioral or programmatic reasons provided shelter has open space.

Exceptions may include individuals suspended for violence and decisions will be made case-by-case. The OHPI will collaborate with providers and other resources to ensure emergency shelter is available for anyone in need. Stakeholders may contact the OHPI 24/7/365 for planning and arrangements. You can contact the office at (859) 258-3105 or pruddick@lexingtonky.gov.

Emergency day shelters

Emergency day shelters welcome all eligible people during emergency winter weather including former residents under suspension for behavioral or programmatic reasons provided the shelter has open space.

Exceptions may include individuals suspended for violence and decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis. The OHPI will collaborate with providers and other resources to ensure emergency shelter is available for anyone in need. Stakeholders may contact the OHPI 24/7/365 for planning and arrangements. You can contact the office at (859) 258-3105 or pruddick@lexingtonky.gov.

OVERVIEW

2020-2021 Winter Overnight Emergency Shelter Capacity

(Blue represents additional capacity)

Emergency shelter provider (night)	Service population	Total 2020-2021 Winter Capacity
Arbor Youth 0-17	Children and parenting youth under 18	6
Arbor Youth 18-24 unsheltered hotel	Unsheltered youth, 18-24	15
Catholic Action Center Emergency Shelter	Women and men 18 years and older	80
Catholic Action Center Mother Theresa Shelter	Men 18 years and older	80
Catholic Action Center Hotel	Households with pets	2 (units)
Community Action Council Emergency Family Housing	Families that cannot split up into other shelters for an approved reason	4 (units)
Community Action Council Hotel	All with application process	As needed, up to 85 units
GreenHouse17 Emergency Shelter	Fleeing intimate partner violence and abuse	16 (units)
GreenHouse17 Hotel	Fleeing intimate partner violence and abuse	10
Hope Center Emergency Shelter	Men 18 and older	100
Hope Center Sleeper Trailers	Men 18 and older	28
Hope Center Downstairs	Men 18 and older	10
Hope Center Pre-Fab Structure	Men 18 and older	10
Hope Center Warming Emergency Shelter	Men 18 and older	50
Lexington Rescue Mission Hotel	Recently released ex-offenders and sex offenders	5
Room at the Inn	Men 18 and older with application process	12
Salvation Army	Adult women and women with children	145
Volunteers of America Mid-States Hotel	Veterans and veterans and their families	36

DETAILS

2020-2021 Winter Overnight Emergency Shelter Capacity

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.

To assist local shelters with capacity, Arbor Youth Services will be operating a scattered-site hotel program for unsheltered youth 18-24 years of age. This will allow those unsheltered to seek shelter that is developmentally appropriate and trauma informed. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the hotel.

Emergency shelter provider (night)	Service start date	Contact information	Rules, restrictions, process
Arbor Youth Services	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 Unsheltered Hotel	Open	Call (859) 254-2501 during weekday business hours.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> If evening or weekend, email christie@arborky.org. Website: www.arborky.org

Catholic Action Center

The Catholic Action Center has been forced to reduce capacity due to COVID-19, moving from 136 beds to 80 beds on a regular basis.

In order to provide extended shelter space during the winter, the Center was able to complete modification construction on the upper level of their emergency shelter to provide an additional 80 beds and also three quarantine/isolation rooms. This will allow for the Center to provide 160 beds of emergency overnight shelter to adult men and women during the winter.

The Center is completing construction at the time of this release and will be opening November 5. Residents will be required to meet certain testing and vaccines requirements prior to reserving a bed.

Finally, Catholic Action Center does have a small amount of private funding to do limited hotel sheltering for those that have pets. This will only be on extremely cold nights and will only take place if the Community Action Council's hotel program is full. The Center will be working with Mountain Comprehensive Care Center to provide case management and service referrals as well as offers of permanent housing while in the overnight shelter.

Catholic Action Center Emergency Shelter	Open	Call (859) 254-2501 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 tested for COVID-19 on Mondays or Fridays prior to entrance.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All new residents will be required to provide proof of current flu vaccine or will be provided a flu vaccine prior to entrance. • All residents must wear masks and maintain social distance on property. • Masks and sanitizers will be provided.
Catholic Action Center Mother Theresa Shelter	Nov. 5	Call (859) 254-2501 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 tested for COVID-19 on Mondays or Fridays prior to entrance. • All new residents will be required to provide proof of current flu vaccine or will be provided a flu vaccine prior to entrance. • All residents must wear masks and maintain social distance on property. • Masks and sanitizers will be provided.
Catholic Action Center Hotel	Nov. 5	Call (859) 254-2501 during weekday business hours.	

Community Action Council

Community Action Council operates the only family emergency shelter in Lexington. This is a scattered-site apartment model. Due to the design of this program, any overflow capacity will be referred to the Council’s hotel program.

The Council will operate a scattered-site hotel emergency shelter program for the winter starting November 2. This program will reserve up to 85 hotel rooms. It will give priority to those unsheltered and medically vulnerable. Once those individuals have been moved into the hotel, unsheltered families will be prioritized next, and then unsheltered adults living in large encampments. Finally, those that are not able to access emergency overnight shelter at other locations will be prioritized last.

This additional capacity will decrease the strain on congregate shelters and provide a location for those medically vulnerable to practice Healthy at Home. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the hotel.

Community Action Council Emergency Family Housing	Open	Call (859) 233-4600 ext. 1429 or (859) 285-2777 Email francia.gonzalez@commaction.org or marty.jones@commaction.org	Use of scattered-site apartments and hotel rooms. Emergency winter hotel stays generally limited to families with children.
Community Action Council Hotel	Nov. 2	Call (859) 233-4600 ext. 1429; (859) 533-9199 or (859) 576-4194 Email	Access through application only.

		brandy.clark@commaction.org or ronald.clark@commaction.org	
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GreenHouse17

GreenHouse17 is the only domestic violence emergency shelter in Fayette County. Due to the pandemic, domestic violence occurrences are on the rise. In an effort to expand services and emergency shelter for all those fleeing domestic violence, GreenHouse17 is operating a scattered-site hotel program.

This program will allow for the immediate safety of individuals while also allowing for individuals to either quarantine or receive a negative COVID-19 prior to entering the standard shelter. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the hotel.

GreenHouse17 Emergency Shelter	Open	Contact person: (800) 544-2022 crisis line. Available 24/7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must be willing to go to temporary safe housing until safety planning. • COVID-19 testing, GH17 will assist in arrangement. • Needs will be assessed in collaboration with survivor.
GreenHouse17 Hotel	Open	Contact person: (800) 544-2022 crisis line. Available 24/7.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary stay for survivors fleeing recent intimate partner violence; shelter and other resources will be assessed upon initial intake to provide safety.

Hope Center

The Hope Center Emergency Shelter for Men utilizes over 200 beds on the coldest nights in the winter. During the pandemic, the Hope Center has had to reduce capacity in their shelter building to just 100 beds. The Hope Center has taken several unique steps to expand capacity while maintaining all CDC requirements to minimize the risk of COVID exposure.

The Hope Center will add sleeper trailers allowing for those individuals who are working to come and go without exposing individuals in the large congregate shelter to potential risk. The Hope Center will be utilizing areas within their building, like their basement, to add mats while still allowing for social distancing. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the shelter.

The Hope Center also added a temporary pre-fabricated building that will allow individuals to “come and go” or a “do drop by” type of emergency shelter or a warming shelter. This will be limited to 50 individuals that are able to just come for the night as they need, without having to comply with property restrictions and COVID-19 testing (unless they choose). Individuals within this warming shelter will be provided basic needs, but not case management or service referrals. If an individual would like to access services and offers of permanent housing, they are able to work with the intake coordinator at the Hope Center to comply with COVID-19 testing and quarantine so that they can come into the congregate shelter to access a case worker.

Hope Center Emergency Shelter	Open	360 W. Loudon Ave. Contact intake for information (859) 252-7881	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless adult men may walk in to shelter for services 24/7 • No “out of county” referrals • Hospital or institution referrals must be approved by intake, Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.
Hope Center Sleeper Trailers			

<p>Hope Center Extended Downstairs Shelter</p> <p>Hope Center Pre-Fab Intake</p>			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No out of county referrals from hospitals or institutions. • 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 and anyone who is intoxicated may be allowed to enter our non-medical detox facility. • All new residents will be required to provide a negative COVID test or quarantine for a period of two weeks. • All residents must wear masks and maintain social distance. • Masks and sanitizers will be provided.
<p>Hope Center Warming Shelter</p>	<p>Nov. 4</p>	<p>Individuals can contact the Emergency Shelter (859) 252-7881 or come to the shelter for more information.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This structure is designed to provide drop-in shelter for individuals who do not wish to quarantine or stay on property, in accordance with the Emergency Shelter policies. • 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. • Residents who have been previously been restricted for non-violent offenses will be allowed to stay on property during cold weather emergencies. • No drug or alcohol use on property and anyone who is intoxicated may be allowed to enter our non-medical detox facility. • All individuals will be expected to wear masks and socially distance. • Meals will be provided at a designated time and location, served by Jacobs Hope Cafeteria. • Clients will be asked to leave for a designated period each day for sanitizing and cleaning. • Allowances will be made for extreme weather.

Lexington Rescue Mission

Lexington Rescue Mission normally does not operate any type of emergency shelter. A gap in emergency shelter that is routinely found in Fayette County is emergency shelter for those that are registered sex offenders. In order to provide this service, Lexington Rescue Mission has received a grant from FEMA to provide a scattered-site hotel

overnight emergency shelter for those registered sex offenders that are not able to access the system’s regular shelters. This program will allow for an additional five units in the homeless response system for the winter.

All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the hotel.

Lexington Rescue Mission Hotel	Open	Contact Tim Robbins (859) 618-6851 or tim@lexingtonrescue.org .	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must contact Tim Robbins for more information.
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Room In the Inn

This program has operated every winter for the last several years. During prior years, this program has operated at 24 beds, but due to the pandemic will only operate 12 beds for this winter. Every summer, homeless men from the Lexington area apply to participate in this program. Applicants are screened and approximately 12 men are invited to attend. Participating congregations pick up the guests and transport them to their facilities, where they are greeted with a warm meal and a safe place to sleep for the evening. The following morning, guests receive breakfast and are transported back downtown.

Room In The Inn	Nov. 29	Application can be accessed via website at https://ritilex.org/index.php/guest-information/	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guest must have proof of negative TB test, flu shot and Hepatitis A. • Do not accept guests on the state or national sex offender registry or guests who have been banned from the Hope Center or the New Life Day Center.
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The Salvation Army

The Salvation Army is the only congregate shelter within Fayette County that is able to house both single adult women and single mothers with children. Due to the COVID pandemic, this shelter has had to re-think capacity and spacing to comply with CDC requirements.

The Salvation Army will continue to operate their emergency shelter at a limited capacity due to the pandemic. All individuals will be provided case management and referral services including offers of permanent housing while in the shelter.

The Salvation Army will open a warming overnight shelter during extreme cold winter nights. The Salvation Army will make arrangements within their facility located at 736 West Main Street including the use of their lobby, computer room, dining area, and gym to accommodate those seeking shelter on extreme cold nights. Individuals seeking shelter under this warming shelter model will not receive case management or service referrals.

Salvation Army	Open	736 W. Main St. (859) 252-7706	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless women (18 & over) and women with children may walk into shelter for services 24/7. • All guests checking into shelter must pass a standard COVID screening including temperature at or below 100.3. • Must provide verification of Kentucky residency. • No out of State referrals.
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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hospital or institution referrals must be approved by Mary Okpebholo (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 and anyone who is intoxicated will be invited to leave shelter. • All guest must wear a mask and must maintain appropriate social distancing. Masks will be provided.
Salvation Army Warming Center	Emergency Winter Weather Only	736 W. Main St. (859) 252-7706	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When the weather is 32 degrees or below and the city issues the winter weather policy. • Homeless women (18 & over) and women with children may walk into shelter for services 24/7. • Must provide verification of Kentucky residency. • All guests checking into shelter must pass a standard COVID screening including temperature at or below 100.3. • No case management services. • Guests previously asked to leave shelter for non-violent offenses will be allowed to stay during winter weather emergencies. • No out of state referrals. • Hospital or institution referrals must be approved by Mary Okpebholo (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 and anyone who is intoxicated will be invited to leave shelter. • All guests must wear a mask and must maintain appropriate social distancing.

Volunteers of America, Mid-States

Volunteers of America, Mid-States stepped up to provide emergency shelter for all veterans and their families from the beginning of the pandemic. VOA is able to continue this program all winter long in an effort to decrease strain on congregate shelters and to provide rapid referrals to permanent housing.

<p>Volunteers of America Mid-States Hotel</p>	<p>Open</p>	<p>For more information contact our intake coordinator, Tipton Alexander Tiptona@voamid.org (859) 254-3469 Ext. 238</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Temporary emergency housing in hotels is available to eligible veterans and their families enrolled in the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) rapid rehousing program. • Veterans staying in hotels will work with SSVF case managers to develop a permanent housing plan in our service area and must follow all hotel and SSVF rules.
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DETAILS

2020-2021 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 not to 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 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Monday – Friday
Lexington Rescue Mission	Open	Everyone	444 Glen Arvin Avenue	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (859) 381-9600 • https://lexingtonrescue.org/ • Offers day shelter from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., Monday – Friday and 10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. on 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. • Masks are required and social distancing is enforced. • Masks and hand sanitizer are provided.
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 • Limited indoor/unlimited outdoor services available including breakfast, lunch, community resource referral, and limited clothing/toiletries distributed on Mondays as available. • Masks required and will be provided.
Nathaniel Mission	Open	Everyone	1109 Versailles Rd., Suite 400	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • (859) 255-0062 • Monday – Thursday, 9 a.m. – noon
New Life Day Center	Open	Adults, 18 years and older	224 N. MLK Blvd.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Phone number: (859) 721-2325 / (859) 252-2325 • Daytime Shelter 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Monday – Friday; Saturday, 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. • Pastry breakfast with coffee served daily • Capacity during COVID-19 restrictions of 50 individuals inside shelter • Outside seating available for 25 individuals • Bathrooms, lockers, Wi-Fi, emergency winter clothing, phone, referrals to partner agencies • Medical clinic on-site every Tuesday and Thursday

				<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • End Panhandling Now van operates every Monday, Tuesday and Thursday (weather permitting) • Housing assistance through Deposit Program and Eviction Prevention Program available by appointment
New Vista Drop In Center	Open	Adults, 18 years and older	201 Mechanic Street, 2nd floor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday – Friday, 8 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. (Closed for lunch from noon – 1 p.m.) • (859) 721-8505 • Serving adults. Access to private shower and restrooms, mental health services available on walk-in basis, referral to community resources, emergency food-pantry. • Masks required and provided, and social distancing enforced. • Limited indoor congregation.

DETAILS

2020-2021 Winter Transportation Operations Details

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 not able 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, the Continuum of Care partners operates two additional programs. This year, the Hope Center will operate an additional street outreach team to provide on-the-street transportation and case management. Catholic Action Center will again utilize the Compassionate Caravan during extreme cold temperatures.

Transportation and Street Outreach Services	How to access including restrictions, location, contact information
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"> • Hope Center Street Outreach Team • Monday – Friday, 11 a.m. – 7 p.m. (hours may vary based on weather and client needs) • (859) 252-7881—Leave a message with referral and contact information. • Also, you may email referrals to dshadd@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 • Referrals for transportation to emergency shelter, blankets, food, water, and other materials
Lextran	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Offers free rides to those needed to access an emergency shelter

Donations for Winter Weather

Donations to providers have been very limited during this pandemic. Every provider is working to develop ways for the public to contribute to the winter basic needs supplies that are so important to those without homes. Below are some general donations that are always needed. Public donations can be given to a participating agencies; however, the public is required to call for donation policies and processes for each agency. Some agencies have provided details for the public to view prior to donating items.

- Blankets
- Hats
- Winter boots/shoes
- Winter coats, especially size L, XL and XXL
- Gloves
- Socks
- Scarves
- Hot Hands

Hope Center

There is a donation bin outside the emergency shelter. For more information and an up-to-date listing, visit www.hopectr.org.

GreenHouse17

New donations to help meet the needs for GreenHouse17 families can be located on GreenHouse17 website (GreenHouse17.org). The website has links to Amazon for safe purchasing and delivery. Used donations for GreenHouse17 must be preapproved. GreenHouse17 is always in need of kitchen pots/pans and dishware. They ask that used clothing be donated to Goodwill or Salvation Army, who are helpful to their families. Furniture donations are on a case-by-case basis. May refer to Habitat Restore or take donations depending on current needs of our families.

Room In The Inn

RITi accepts donations through our website at <https://ritilex.org/index.php/donate/>. Contact Renee Gibson at riti.lex@gmail.com for drop off information.

Natalie's Sisters

Donations accepted on-site by appointment during operating hours only – call (859) 533-5946 for specific items and to make appointment.