LEXINGTON

Office of Homelessness Prevention & Intervention

Emergency Weather Plan 2017-2018

This Emergency Weather Plan provides a coordinated response for times when extreme cold or other weather related circumstances create additional, immediate need for expanded capacity to assist people experiencing homelessness in Lexington. Extreme temperatures often force people to seek shelter who may not otherwise seek assistance. In some cases, people struggling with mental illness may not seek shelter and require additional intervention for their own safety. This plan ensures Lexington is prepared for these situations.

The Emergency Weather Plan will be activated when measures of extreme temperatures are reached or when other severe weather conditions take place. Extreme temperature will be defined as:

- Any day when the temperature low is expected to fall below 32 degrees, or
- Any day when the temperature high is expected to exceed 95 degrees.

The wind chill and heat index will be taken into account in the determining 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 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.

It's important to note that, unless otherwise stated, these shelters and services are always available to people in Lexington who experience homelessness. The Emergency Weather Plan activates some changes such as transportation or extended hours but Lexington is fortunate to have a strong network of shelters and service providers that is able to meet most needs even during weather emergencies. See the table at the end of this document for a full comparison of services available.

24-hour Emergency Shelters

24-hour emergency shelters welcome all eligible people during emergency weather including former residents under suspension for behavioral or programmatic reasons. Exceptions may include individuals suspended for violence and decisions will be made case by case but providers and OHPI will collaborate to ensure emergency shelter is available for anyone in need.

Unaccompanied Women and Women with Children

Salvation Army
736 W. Main Street
Lexington, KY 40508
859-252-7706

- Services Available: emergency shelter, meals, showers, clothing as available.

Unaccompanied Men

Hope Center
360 W. Loudon Avenue
Lexington, KY 40508
859-252-7881

- Services Available: emergency shelter, clothing, meals, on-site HealthFirst clinic, non-medical detox, employment information, access to Hope Center programming (Veteran's Program, Mental Health, Men's Recovery, Employment, Social Services), and other services as needed. Emergency shelter will have expanded capacity during inclement weather.

Unaccompanied Men and Women

Catholic Action Center
1055 Industry Road
Lexington, KY 40505
859-255-0301

- Services Available: emergency shelter, meals, showers, phone service, connection to social services. Emergency shelter will have expanded capacity during inclement weather.

Children and Youth Ages 6 weeks to 17 years

Arbor Youth Services
536 West Third Street
Lexington, KY 40508
859-254-2501

- Services Available: Emergency shelter and individualized attention to secure basic needs and appropriate shelter.

Day Shelters – Daytime Warming Centers

Day Shelters/Daytime Warming Centers are facilities open during daytime hours as a place for individuals over the age of 18 with no other place to seek refuge from emergency weather conditions. Each facility may have its own eligibility criteria for entrance.

New Life Day Center
224 North Martin Luther King Blvd.
Lexington, KY 40508
859-721-2325

- Operating Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 3:00 pm; Saturday 8:30 am to 11:30 am
- Services: Connections to employment, clothing, medical care, Social Security, and other resources; storage lockers available.

Catholic Action Center
1055 Industry Road
Lexington, KY 40505
859-255-0301

- Normal Operating Hours: 24/7/365
- Services: Meals, Showers, Phone Service, Connection to Social Services.

Arbor Youth Services Street Outreach Center
(Youth 18-25 years old and their children)
540 West Third Street
Lexington, KY 40508
859-254-2501

- Operating Hours: Daily 10 am to 4 pm (extended hours as needed – no one turned out to the street)
- Services: Individualized attention to secure basic needs and appropriate shelter.

Transportation

For some people experiencing homelessness, transportation to a shelter or between shelters is a significant barrier. Cost, access, or even knowledge of transportation options could prevent them from accessing shelter and getting out of dangerous weather. The following transportation options are available when the OHPI Emergency Weather Plan has been activated:

HopeMobile Cold Patrol – The HopeMobile is a program of the Hope Center and when winter weather creates significant risk for those on the streets their Cold Patrol hits the streets to visit known locations and camps where people experiencing homelessness can be found. Those located are offered transportation to emergency shelter and, if they refuse, are provided with blankets and other weather appropriate materials.

Compassionate Caravan – Operated entirely by volunteers associated with the Catholic Action Center, the Compassionate Caravan consists of volunteer drivers visiting places people are known to frequent when experiencing homelessness. Caravan volunteers offer people a ride to the most appropriate shelter of their choice. If the individual refuses the ride then volunteers provide blankets and other weather appropriate materials.

Lextran – Any time the OHPI Emergency Weather Plan is activated then people in need of a ride to a homeless shelter may board Lextran buses at no charge. However, riders must state the shelter to which they need transportation, must ride along existing routes, must transfer to a route with shelter access, and must disembark at the stop nearest that shelter. Drivers may ask riders to disembark if they are clearly not riding to shelter.

Emergency Weather Plan, 2017-2018, Summary

	Consistent Services	Additional Emergency Weather Plan Services **Emergency Cold (Low Temp Below 32): __ *days*** **Emergency Heat (High Temp Above 95): __ *days***
24-hour Emergency Shelters	**Women and Women with Children:** *Salvation Army* Meals, showers, warm clothing as available **Men:** *Hope Center* Clothing, meals, on-site clinic, non-medical detox, employment information, programming **Men and Women:** *Catholic Action Center* Meals, showers, phone service, connection to social services **Children Ages 6 weeks to 17 years:** *Arbor Youth Services'* Case management	24-hour emergency shelters welcome all eligible people during emergency weather including former residents under suspension for disciplinary or programmatic reasons. Exceptions may include individuals suspended for violence and decisions will be made case by case but providers and OHPI will collaborate to ensure emergency shelter is available for anyone in need.
Day Shelters	**Adults 18 years and over** *New Life Day Center* Operating Hours: Monday – Friday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm.; Saturday 8:30 am to 11:30 am Employment information, clothing, medical care, Social Security, storage lockers **Youth 18 to 25 years and their children** *Arbor Youth Services Street Outreach Center* Operating Hours: Daily 10 am to 4 pm (extended hours as needed) Case management	
Transportation	None	*Hope Center* HopeMobile Cold Patrol – transportation to emergency shelter; blankets and other materials provided *Catholic Action Center* Compassionate Caravan – transportation to emergency shelter; blankets and other materials provided *Lextran* People in need of a ride to a shelter may board Lextran buses at no charge.