

Program Overview and Scope

Hope Center will operate a winter weather shelter for adults over the age of 18, providing shelter, bathroom access and meals to a proposed 160 individuals with a surge capacity of 200 individuals. The winter shelter will be located on the grounds of the North Lexington YMCA on Loudon Ave, across from the Hope Center Emergency Shelter. The shelter will consist of two large tent structures with a large bathroom and shower structure for each tent. The whole structure will be enclosed by chain-link fence.

The shelter will have designated areas for male and female clients with separate entrances and staff in both areas.

The structure will be heated and will provide individual cots for participants to utilize during their stay, including bedding, towels and other basic need items.

Hope Center will provide two staff per shift at the shelter as well as provide two on-site security personnel through a contract with Federated Enforcement Agency. The structure will be staffed 24 hours a day from January 1, 2024 until March 31, 2024.

Meals will be provided 3 times per day, utilizing the Jacobs Hope Cafeteria to provide meals that will be served at the winter shelter.

Services should be available to unaccompanied men, unaccompanied women and couples (although couples may be asked to separate for sleeping and restroom purposes), with an emphasis on low barrier access. Persons otherwise restricted from other facilities shall be permitted access and Hope Center will set circumstances under which someone would not be admitted or otherwise restricted to include an appeals process. Use of alcohol or drugs may not be a reason to deny access except in cases where severity of inebriation may present risk of harm to themselves or others. Possession and/or active use of alcohol or drugs may be prohibited. Due to the proximity to the North Lexington YMCA's child care facility, sex offenders will not be permitted at the winter shelter.

The shelter will accommodate those in need, including those with serious mental illness. The staff will provide support to those with mental illness and also work with other Hope Center staff and community agencies to ensure referrals to mental health services, including outpatient and emergency services.

The shelter staff will also collaborate with Hope Center staff, including Street Outreach, mental health, recovery and employment staff to ensure the appropriate service needs are met.

Hope Center will also provide space for other community agencies who wish to provide support services to those residing in the shelter, including medical care, ongoing case management, housing support or other necessary services to attempt to move these individuals into a more stable, sustainable housing environment.

The facility will operate 24 hours a day through the winter months but will request guests begin the check in and bed assignment process at 6pm each evening. Beds will be assigned on a first come-first serve basis.

Individuals with pets will not be turned away but will be required to keep pets in a kennel. The pet must be cared for by the guest. This does not include registered service animals, who may remain with the guest.

Performance

The project will be measured with the following performance objectives:

- Number of individuals, households and pets served;
- Total nights of shelter provided (total persons each night X number of nights)

The project will serve an estimated 200 unduplicated individuals per month. We estimate a total of 150 households will be served per month and an estimated 10 pets per month. The project will serve an estimated 4,500 shelter nights per month.