

Cold Weather Resources for Homeless Individuals & Families

In extreme weather, safety is our highest priority. Our hospital is open 24/7, so homeless individuals seeking a place to escape winter weather may find their way to our door.

Please advise them to seek shelter immediately. Our Social Work staff will assist those seeking help with identifying the community resources that are available.

Evening Entry - Resources for Men (Cold weather walk-ins allowed until 8 PM from 12/15 to 3/15):

- The *Overflow Shelter* (open as of 11/15) at 226 Cedar St., New Haven, ph: 203-772-4200 x2103
- The *Emergency Shelter* (year-round) at 645 Grand Avenue, New Haven, ph: 203-777-2522

Evening Entry - Resources for Women (Cold weather walk-ins allowed until 8 PM from 12/15 to 3/15):

- Prior to January 3rd, women should be referred to InfoLine (211) for a CAN interview*. During the interview, women may: (1) be diverted back to their pre-existing resources, (2) receive an available CAN bed, or (3) if no shelter beds are available, during times of extreme weather, be considered for brief hotel stay.

**Columbus House* at 586 Ella Grasso Boulevard, New Haven, ph: 203-401-4400, may be able to accommodate women until their imminent CAN interview appointment.

Overnight Entry - Resources for Adults (Walk-ins allowed after 10 PM)

- The Bethel AME overnight winter *Warming Center* at 255 Goffe Street in New Haven will open the evening of December 15th to April 1. Hours of operation will be 10 PM to 6 AM.

Daytime Entry - Resources for Adult Men and Women:

- *Fellowship Place* (for those with mental illness), 441 Elm Street, New Haven, ph: 203-401-4227
- *Safe Haven Day Program* (Liberty Community Services), 210 State Street, New Haven, ph: 203-492-3546
- *Taking Initiative* (Marrakech), 514-516 Whalley Avenue, New Haven, ph: 203-772-4200, 203-389-2970 x1307

These services are not shelter facilities and therefore cannot accommodate overnight stays.

Youth Resources (ages 16 – 23):

Youth Continuum at 924 Grand Avenue in New Haven, ph: 203-777-8445

Family Resources: Families should be referred to InfoLine (211) for a CAN interview. During the interview, families may (1) be diverted back to their pre-existing resources, (2) receive available CAN beds, or (3) if no shelter beds are available, during times of extreme cold, they may be considered for brief hotel stay.

During *severe* cold weather events, the City of New Haven may coordinate with local libraries and the train station to make additional warming areas available during their normal work/service hours. Please check for announcements during these times. A severe cold weather event has historically been defined as sustained cold temperatures and winds that constitute a wind chill index of 15° Fahrenheit or lower for a period of at least 12 hours.

Depending upon the hour of day, social workers can offer homeless individuals either bus passes or a taxi ride to the above locations. Adult men can walk to the Overflow Shelter on Cedar Street, as it is a short walking distance from the York Street campus. Hospital Protective Services do not transport to shelters. Please encourage New Haven police officers NOT to drop off homeless individuals at the Emergency Department looking for shelter, only those individuals needing medical attention.

Please encourage staff and homeless individuals to recognize the signs & symptoms of hypothermia: fatigue, drowsiness, uncontrolled shivering, cool bluish skin, slurred speech, clumsy movements and irritable or irrational and confused behavior. Anyone exhibiting these symptoms should seek help and be triaged for an assessment.

Current as of 12/13/2016. As protocols and resources change, updates will be issued.