

Community Shelter Board Single Adult Winter Overflow Plan

October 2023 to April 2024

During the Winter Overflow period, individuals should call the Homeless Hotline (1-614-274-7000) to request shelter. Staff at the Homeless Hotline will assess and attempt to divert all callers to any other safe, appropriate housing per usual practice. After eligibility is determined, adults experiencing literal homelessness will be assigned to a program shelter bed within the system. If not available, adults experiencing literal homelessness will then be assigned to an overflow bed within the system.

System Overflow, Men and Women (10/2023-4/2024)

Additional capacity for 190 men and 54 women will be added to YMCA Van Buren Center. Beginning November 8, 2023, these beds will begin to ramp up. Additional capacity for 10 men has been added at Friends of the Homeless. Maryhaven Engagement Center will add capacity for an additional 6 women. Last, additional capacity for 8 men and 6 women will be added at Faith Mission. Single Adult Overflow for men and women will officially be in effect on the first night it is 32 degrees or below in November. When it is 32 degrees or below there will be no waitlist for shelter and Overflow will run continuous until spring (see details below).

Additional Winter Overflow capacity for single women at the YMCA Van Buren Center will remain open until April 15, 2024. Overflow shelter at Van Buren may continue to be provided after April 15, 2024, based on weather conditions and YMCA capacity. If the temperatures increase and remain above 32 degrees at night overflow may close earlier than April 15, 2024.

Additional Winter Overflow capacity for single men at the YMCA Van Buren Center will remain open until April 15, 2024. Overflow shelter at Van Buren may continue to be provided after April 15, 2024, based on weather conditions and YMCA capacity. If the temperatures increase and remain above 32 degrees at night overflow may close earlier than April 15, 2024.

Overflow programs will close out by attrition in the spring. Clients in overflow beds will be transitioned to program beds in the system. No one will be exited from an overflow bed into a situation of homelessness when overflow beds are taken offline.

Individuals who have a health and safety restriction can appeal these restrictions with the shelter that initiated the restriction. The goal is shelter access for everyone who needs shelter but to also mitigate any safety concerns for shelter clients and staff. Overflow programs at the Van Buren Center are from 8:00 pm to 8:00 am.

Additional Overnight Capacity planned to begin in December, 2023

Plans are being developed for additional overnight shelter options for individuals experiencing chronic homelessness and other specific populations who may not choose to enter traditional emergency shelter. This information sheet will be updated with this information when all plans are confirmed.

Extreme Weather

Emergency Shelters operate 24-hours per day. Overflow Clients are encouraged to utilize Warming Centers during the day but in the event of a Winter Weather Advisory or Winter Storm

Warning, clients are encouraged to remain inside during the day and do not have to leave the shelter setting.

Sex Offenders (Tier III), 11/2023-4/2024

Tier III sex offenders, and some Tier II sex offenders in need of shelter will be referred to safe shelter by the Homeless Hotline once they are determined to be literally homeless and their sex offender status is verified through the sex offender registry. Clients will be provided the specific location and address upon calling the Homeless Hotline when they are assigned to a bed there. Overflow shelter for sex offenders will only be open when the temperatures are at 32 degrees or below and the operating hours are 8:00 pm to 8:00 am.

Questions about the Single Adult Overflow Plan can be directed to Steve Skovensky, Director of Programs and Planning, at sskovensky@csb.org and Natalie Zimmerman, Systems Manager, at NZimmerman@csb.org.