



WINTER CONTINGENCY PLAN

INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

2022–2023

*Last updated on 12/22/2022

Approved by the Winter Contingency Planning Committee on 10/17/2022

The Winter Contingency Plan has been developed to provide relief to people experiencing homelessness in Indianapolis and Central Indiana when inclement weather occurs. This plan is intended to serve as a guide to prevent people experiencing homelessness from experiencing serious harm or death during the winter season. This plan will be active from November 1, 2022, through March 31, 2023.

SHELTER COORDINATING AGENCY - WHEELER MISSION

Wheeler Mission – Shelter for Men (SFM) is the coordinating agency for men experiencing homelessness.

Shelter for Men
520 E. Market St.
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Office: (317) 687-6795

Wheeler Mission – Center for Women and Children (CWC) is the coordinating agency for women and families who are experiencing homelessness.

Center for Women and Children
3208 E. Michigan St.
Indianapolis, IN 46201
Office: (317) 687-3630

PROCEDURE FOR MEN

1. The staff of SFM will fill 250 beds available at Wheeler Mission SFM.
2. Once the beds are filled at Wheeler Mission SFM, up to 150 mats will be used on site for additional overflow capacity. Wheeler Mission will assign men to stay at their Men's Residential Center (MRC), 245 N. Delaware St. Indianapolis, IN 46204. During the months of November through March, this facility will house up to 25 men for overflow services. (*Men will be required to arrive at the MRC no later than 6PM and will be required to leave the facility by 7AM*).
3. If necessary, Central Christian Church will be activated (after Jan. 1, 2022) and can shelter up to 50 men. In an extreme temperature situation, the Shelter for Men may also utilize their day room for sheltering up to 50 men overnight.
4. Wheeler Mission will **not** provide shelter or serve as a quarantine and isolation site for those who present positive for COVI-19 and/or Mpox or have pending test results.

PROCEDURE FOR WOMEN AND FAMILIES

1. Regarding sheltering women and families, the CWC will attempt to fill all permanent beds and then call other women and family shelters to shelter women and children. If there is no other shelter available, the CWC will house them overnight and instruct them to begin calling shelters the next morning.
2. The CWC will serve as the point of contact for families seeking emergency shelter from November 1st–March 31st. The CWC has 68 emergency shelter beds for single women and 10 emergency shelter family units. Overflow will be utilized when emergency shelter beds are full. Shelter space at the CWC is not available for men over the age of 18 and fathers with children.

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3. Check-in for Winter Contingency will be between the hours of 4PM–7PM. Those wanting to eat dinner must arrive by 5PM when dinner begins.
4. Families with school age children should speak with Wheeler staff to connect to transportation for their chosen school if they have not organized transportation already.
5. Wheeler Mission will **not** provide shelter or serve as a quarantine and isolation site for those who present positive for COVI-19 and/or Mpox or have pending test results.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Alcohol policy at Wheeler Mission Shelter for Men:

If any man is suspected of being inebriated, he will be given a breathalyzer test before entering the building. If the man records a .08 blood alcohol content level or higher, he will not be allowed entrance into the SFM. If the man appears to be intoxicated beyond the ability to protect himself from any harm, the SFM staff will call IMPD for intervention.

Alcohol policy at Wheeler Mission Center for Women and Children:

Women under the influence of alcohol or drugs will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis at the Center for Women and Children. IMPD will be contacted for any guest whose intoxication would make her a danger to herself or others.

Referrals:

Referrals will be accepted from the police, outreach teams, hospitals, shelters, and other referring agencies on a 24-hour basis.

For men: Please call (317) 687-6795.

For women or families: Please call (317) 687-3630.

Clients with Restrictions:

Please keep in mind that a few clients are barred from some or all shelters. Therefore, it is imperative to call the on-duty staff before bringing a client in. Wheeler Mission will do what they can to work with the outreach teams to seek alternatives for such individuals.

DAY SHELTER ONLY INFORMATION

The following agency provides specialty hours for their day shelter during extreme cold temperatures, and no overnight stays are permitted.

HORIZON HOUSE – SINGLE ADULTS AND FAMILIES

1033 E. Washington St
Indianapolis, IN 46202

Questions? Contact Niki Watson: nikiw@horizonhouse.cc or (317) 396-6358

Horizon House will open for all individuals/families experiencing homelessness during their business hours when temperatures reach a wind chill temperature below 0 degrees, or air temperature below 10 degrees.

Hours of operation:

7AM–3PM Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

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7AM–12:30PM Wednesday

Any individual/family may stay for warmth, but additional services (mail, laundry, showers, storage, clothing requests, and case management) will be provided based on Horizon House’s traditional shifts schedule.

OUTREACH INC – YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS (AGES 14-24)

2416 E. New York St
Indianapolis, IN 46201

Questions? Contact Kelsie: kstringham@outreachindiana.org

Outreach will open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30AM–4:00PM (outside of normal programming hours) for any youth and young adults experiencing housing instability when the air temperature reaches 0 degrees or below. *Note: This is only for the day of and not the night before.*

Individuals may stay for warmth and safety, but traditional services and coaching are not guaranteed. Outreach staff will be available to assist with transportation to shelters at the end of the day.

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This information is for service providers to make connections and should not be shared with clients.

Thank you!

SHELTER COORDINATION

[Wheeler Mission Shelter for Men](#), 520 E. Market Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 687-6795

Contact: Darius Gover (Ext. 214) or William Bumphus (williambumphus@wheelermission.org)

[Wheeler Mission Center for Women and Children](#), 3208 E. Michigan Street, Indianapolis, IN 46201

(317) 687-3630

Contact: Marybeth Hamilton (marybethhamilton@wheelermission.org)

RESOURCE, DAY SHELTER AND RESPONSE TEAMS

[Salvation Army Women's Shelter](#), 540 N. Alabama Street, Indianapolis, IN 46204

(317) 637-5551

Contact: Nydia Botero, (Nydia.Botero@usc.salvationarmy.org)

When to Reach Out? Overflow for one family room that accommodates one family (no restrictions on the number of people in the family) and one single room that holds up to four individuals.

[Horizon House](#), 1033 E. Washington Street, Indianapolis, IN 46202

(317) 396-6358

Contact: Niki Watson, (nikiw@horizonhouse.cc)

When to Reach Out? Any individual/family may stay for warmth, but additional services (mail, laundry, showers, storage, clothing requests, and case management) will be provided based on Horizon House's traditional shifts schedule.

[Outreach Inc.](#), 2416 E New York St, Indianapolis, IN 46201

(317) 951-8886

Contact: Kelsie Stringham-Marquis, (kstringham@outreachindiana.org)

When to Reach Out? Young Adults Only: 18–24 who are experiencing housing instability when the air temperatures reach 0 degrees or below. Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30AM–4:00PM. Staff will be available to assist with transportation to shelters at the end of the day.

[The PourHouse](#)

(317) 507-8982 and (317) 429-1600

Contact: Andrea DeMink

When to Reach Out? Basic outreach and urgent needs such as clothing, food, blankets, and hygiene products.

[Street Outreach \(PBSO/Coordinated Outreach\)](#)

(317) 396-6359

Contact: January Jeter, (januaryj@horizonhouse.cc)

When to Reach Out? To report or request engagement of individuals or families staying in unsheltered situations to support access to shelter, resources, and/or housing.

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[Homeless Initiative Program](#), 3908 Meadows Drive, Indianapolis, IN 46205

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday from 8:30AM–11:30AM

(317) 957-2275

Contact: Lindsay Leonhard, (lindsay.leonhard@indyhealthnet.org)

*Please note: HIP does not have FEMA hotel funding this year. Additionally, they will only operate as a call center and will not offer walk-ins.

When to Reach Out? Triage for emergency needs.

[Street Outreach Animal Response, \(SOAR\)](#). Complete the agency form online at www.soarinitiative.com. Direct link: [Contacting SOAR for Agencies/Hospitals/Vet Clinics \(123formbuilder.com\)](#). The information in the form is needed in order for us to help. Once completed, send a text to (317) 529-4891 to follow up on request.

Contact: Angela Hopson, (317) 529-4891 *Text Only

When to Reach Out? To request assistance for short-term, temporary foster or care for pets while their human accesses shelter.

EXTREME TEMPERATURE PLANNING

Please note that in the event a weather emergency, as declared by the City of Indianapolis in accordance with their Extreme Temperature Plan, other shelter options are available to the community. Contact ema@indy.gov for information on the Extreme Temperature Plan.

COVID-19/MPOX QUARANTINE AND ISOLATION

Referrals for individuals who test positive for COVID-19 or Mpox and are experiencing homelessness can contact Virgil Madden through the Marion County Public Health Department at 317-954-7867 or vmadden@marionhealth.org.

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