



***Interagency Council on Homelessness***  
***Emergency Response & Shelter Operations***  
***(ERSO) Committee***



***September 27, 2023***



**Convention for Recording ICH Committee Meetings:**

- ❖ Recording for purposes of complying with the open meeting act requirements
- ❖ Available for anyone who requests a copy at [ich.info@dc.gov](mailto:ich.info@dc.gov).

# National Preparedness Month

## EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS GUIDE

## September is National Preparedness Month

Stay prepared by signing up for text alerts with [alert.dc.gov](https://alert.dc.gov)

Obtain resource information at [Ready.dc.gov/resources](https://ready.dc.gov/resources)

Preparing for emergencies doesn't have to be time-consuming or expensive. Follow these tips from ReadyDC to prepare now:

### General Preparedness

- Develop an emergency communications plan with important contact information for you and your family that can be shared with neighbors or close friends.
- Sign up for free email or text alerts from District officials on weather, traffic, public safety, and more with AlertDC: [alert.dc.gov](https://alert.dc.gov).
- Review free ReadyDC resources available in the District's 6 languages: [ready.dc.gov/resources](https://ready.dc.gov/resources).

### Critical Infrastructure

- Before a storm arrives, check gutters and downspouts to make sure they're clear of debris.
- During a water emergency, it's critical to understand the different advisories that may be issued. Visit [dcwater.com](https://dcwater.com) to learn more about drinking water advisories.
- When possible, store at least one gallon of water per person for several days for drinking and sanitation use during an emergency.

### Health and Medical

While the first thing you may think about when preparing for emergencies is food, flashlights, or family photos, it's important you don't forget about:

- Collecting medical insurance cards and physician contact information to save valuable time if you need emergency care.
- Having at least a week's supply of your medications along with a list of all your prescriptions, dosages, and allergies.
- If you or someone you care for has a disability, make sure you have plan for needed equipment, such as a wheelchair or other assistive devices.

### Insurance and Storm Recovery

Severe weather and flooding can happen anywhere, at any time. It's critical to know how to keep yourself and your family, home, or business safe and prepared.

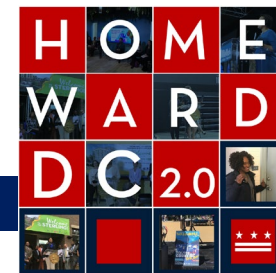
- Flood insurance is a great way to protect your home or business. You can learn more about how to purchase insurance at [disb.dc.gov/flood](https://disb.dc.gov/flood).
- Create a home inventory for insurance purposes by capturing images of your home and emailing your information to yourself for easy access.
- Store physical copies of your insurance policies and keep electronic copies in your email or digital cloud.

# Meeting Agenda



- I. **Welcome & Agenda Review (5 mins)**
  - a) Intros & Call for Announcements
  - b) Adopting Meeting Notes & Managing the Listserv
- II. **Discussion Items (80 mins)**
  - a) Heat Plan Debrief (25 mins)
  - b) Winter Plan (55 mins)
- III. **System Check-In (as needed)**
  - a) PEPV Demobilization Updates
  - b) End of ISAQ – Effective 10/1 **\*NEW\***
- c) **Announcements & Reminders (as needed)**
- IV. **Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)**
  - a) Upcoming Meetings –
  - b) 10/17 ICH Full Council from 3 – 4:30 (pre-meeting from 1 – 2:30 pm)
  - c) 11/29 ICH ERSO CMTE Mtg from 1- 2:30 pm (shift in Nov due to Thanksgiving Day)

# Intro & Call for Announcements



## ❖ Intros:

- Chat intros for attendees: name, pronouns, org, title/role
- Quick round of hellos from Co-Chairs and ICH staff with formal roles leading or supporting meeting

## ❖ Callers:

- Use \*3 to raise your hands
  - ✓ So we can see you and call on you to introduce yourself
  - ✓ This allows us to check that your audio works and that you can hear us.
- Use \*6 to mute and unmute yourself

## ❖ Call for Partner Announcements/Reminders:

- Please “chat” any significant partner announcements, especially those changes/updates that impact the system
- We will make time on the agenda, as appropriate, or include in the notes

# Adopting Notes & Managing the Listserv



## ❖ Adopting Prior Meeting Notes:

- Automatically adopted unless meeting attendees flag issues
- Generally, ICH team sends out meeting notes within a week
- Please review as soon as possible and flag any errors/issues
- If we don't hear back within a week, assuming good to adopt

## ❖ Managing the Listserv:

- Meeting materials are only distributed to listserv members
- If you are not on the listserv, you will not receive materials
- To join the listserv, email [ich.info@dc.gov](mailto:ich.info@dc.gov)

# Notes on Agenda & Housekeeping



## Feedback:

...

## Q&A:

- ❖ Q: ...
- ❖ A: ...

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# Heat Plan (Hyperthermia) Debrief



## Purpose:

- ❖ Identify what worked well this hyperthermia season

## Background/Context

- ❖ During the summer, the District experienced numerous weather events that affected all District residents, especially our unsheltered citizens, including:
  - Heat Waves – several days with temperatures or heat index above 100 degrees.
  - Poor air quality due to the fires in Canada.
  - Numerous thunderstorms, which included high winds and heavy rain.
  - Tropical Storms

# District Response



Situation	Response
Heat waves (lasting 4 days or more)	Cooling buses deployed throughout the city
Poor air quality alerts (codes red & purple)	Day Centers extended operational hours
Heavy rain & high wind (associated with fast-moving thunderstorms or tropical/hurricane storms)	Limited Response. Significant challenge.  Issues Identified: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DCPL and DPR closed early</li><li>• Day Center operational hours were not extended.</li><li>• Shelters near full capacity, thus limiting access to low-barrier shelters</li></ul>



# Feedback from 08/23 ERSO and 09/22 CEWG Mtgs

## Ms. Umi:

- ❖ I was directly affected by DCPL shutdown. Police closed down DCPL very quickly and very rudely.
- ❖ Need better planning for closure of glass buildings (several DCPL sites) are being shutdown.
- ❖ Why could not go to basements? Resorted to Metro stations.
- ❖ Why did we follow the federal govt status?
- ❖ HSEMA should be part of the response and this planning.

## Reginald Black

- ❖ Significant communication breakdowns before and during extreme weather events.
- ❖ The decision to shutdown facilities, including DCPL left people who use DCPL in the daytime with nowhere to go.
- ❖ Not sure what the status of transportation during that time and where else to go during shelter-in-place alert.
- ❖ Important to think about alternatives in an emergency – for example day centers are not open on Sunday mornings.

## Outstanding Questions

- ❖ In DC's emergency management plan are their designated places for the unhoused people to go?
- ❖ Is there HSEMA training for agencies?
- ❖ What is the alternative plan if the library cannot be used?

# Notes on Hyperthermia Debrief



## Feedback from Ms. Umi:

1. Cooling buses were very much appreciated and needed.
2. One thing to note for future coordination is that the Farmers Market blocked the buses in Columbia Heights on Wednesdays.
3. One instance of having to switch buses and move when bus was not ready. Recommendation not to wake people up or have people move until the second bus is there and available for the switch.
  - **FDBK from QG (DHS):** Buses do need to be switched and refueled, but agree intention is not to interrupt sleep, etc.
4. Frustration on closure of DCPL during weather alert due to glass and building design and impact on people who are unhoused.
5. There was no help to prepare and move to higher ground. My community is unsheltered and in tents. Guidance on how unhoused people can prepare would be appreciated. When things get saturated, it takes a long time to dry, and then have to wash it.

# Notes on Hyperthermia Debrief



- ❖ **Q from HSEMA:** Does the unhoused population subscribe to Alert DC alerts?
  - **A from Umi:** Many of us are subscribed and spread the word, including Ward
  - **ICH:** Due to the late notification in the most recent storm 09/22, there was not as much time to prepare. One recommendation for the future is to designate areas of refuge and staff who are able to stay late and accommodate the site.
  - **DHS:** Timing for the alerts and storms is critical, so pre-planning these types of accommodations is a good thing to focus on.
  
- ❖ **FDBK from RB:** These are all instances to improve support for effective emergency planning. We have a resiliency plan which addresses things like climate change, but it does not include anything specific to assisting people who are unsheltered. These conversations are critical in this forum.

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# Roadmap & Key Discussion Questions



## Roadmap

- ❖ Most Significant Changes
- ❖ Other Significant Changes
- ❖ Changes by Section
- ❖ Adopting the Winter Plan

## Key Discussion Questions:

- ❖ What creates the most angst for you?
- ❖ Any deal breakers?
- ❖ Are we ready to adopt the plan?
  - Can we reach a consensus?
  - Do we need to activate our voting slate?

# Basics of Hypothermia Season

- The season is from November 1<sup>st</sup> through March 31<sup>st</sup>
  - Official start is the first alert, generally expected around 11/15
  - It is predicted to be a wet and cold winter
- A hypothermia alert is activated when
  - the temperature plus windchill is forecasted to be 32 degrees or below
  - OR
  - when the temperature is forecasted to be 40 degrees Fahrenheit or below AND the chance of precipitation is 50% or greater.
- UPO operates 24/7 during hypothermia season
  - **Scheduled transportation:** 6:30 – 9:30 am, 2 pm, and 4:30 – 8:30 pm
  - **On Demand:** outside of scheduled transportation hours
- DHS will open and close overflow sites for single adults on a rolling basis
  - Based on utilization thresholds



# Most Significant Changes



- ❖ **No longer in DPR Recreational Centers**
  - DPR Recreational Centers are critical for violence prevention efforts among youth and young adults
  - Significant effort to expand hours of operations late into the evenings (9:30 pm) conflict with hours of operations for overflow locations (7 pm – 7 am)
  
- ❖ **Strategy for getting out of DPR Recreational Centers**
  - Partnerships with Faith Based/Mission Driven Orgs &
  - Leveraging underutilized resources in homeless services inventory
    - ✓ Apartment Style Family Shelters (Naylor Road Apartments) &
    - ✓ Federal City Shelter (North 1)

# Leveraging Federal City Shelter (1 North)



## Immediate Upgrades

**Federal City Shelter Section 1 North** – Portion of CCNV with capacity for **200** residents.

### **Requires:**

- Approximately \$1.2M is needed for plumbing and lighting repairs for Section 1 North and HVAC performance covering the entire Federal City Shelter.

### **Actions:**

- Approximately \$1M has been deployed for CCNV to support its use during hypothermia season.
  - **Exterior Wall Overhead Protection** – To manage the risk of tiles falling to the ground from the upper portion of the building.
  - **HVAC Remediation Services** – Actively procuring emergency services to help maintain CCNV's HVAC system through hypothermia season.

# Other Significant Changes



- ❖ **Deployment of Warming Busses (WMATA Partnership)**
  - Tested last year based on the number of unsheltered individuals outside
  - Well received, so included in the Winter Plan
  
- ❖ **Housing Services & Supports, including Launch of Front Door Navigation Tool**
  - Effort to promote diversion and rapid exit resources (Project Reconnect)
  - 60 clients referred in first week of launch!

# Note about COVID-19

- ❖ Under §5 for Services, proposed section for COVID-19 & Respiratory Illness integrates
  - DC Health’s Fall/Winter Plan (see poster)
  - DHS guidance specific to homeless services
- ❖ Other protection measures:
  - 24/7 LBS operations at key LBS locations is still in place
  - References to COVID-19 shelter densities are minimized as shelter densities are up for the 5 locations listed below

Location	FY23 Capacity	FY24 Capacity
Adam’s Place (men)	125	150
CCNV Drop-In Center (Men)	67	134
Emery	100	130
Harriet Tubman (women)	155	165
CCNV 2 South (women)	24	48

## What You Need to Know About Fall and Winter Respiratory Illnesses COVID-19, Flu and RSV

*Fall is in the air, which means cough and cold weather viruses are too!*  
 Some of the most common and dangerous viruses this time of year are flu (influenza), COVID-19 and RSV (respiratory syncytial virus). The good news is that these illnesses can be prevented by vaccines.

Here is how you can protect yourself and your family from Flu, COVID-19 and RSV this fall:

- Wash your hands
- Mask in crowded areas
- Stay home when sick
- Cover your cough
- Get the vaccines recommended for you

Please refer to the following immunization information for children and infants, older adults, and the general population:

	INFLUENZA (FLU)	COVID-19	RSV
Infants*	✓	✓	✓**
General Population 2–59 Years	✓	✓	✗
Older Adults (60 and up)	✓	✓	✓

*Please Note: It is important to contact your insurance carrier before making any vaccination appointment. Currently, the RSV vaccine requires a prescription from a medical provider.*

Please contact your primary care provider or pharmacist with any additional questions about the vaccines.

\*Influenza and COVID-19 vaccines are for ages six months and up. \*\*The RSV immunization for infants/young children is a monoclonal antibody and is recommended for all infants 8 months and younger, and children up to 18 months with special medical conditions.

### Vaccine Exchange For Flu or COVID (not RSV)

DC Health connects community groups with vaccine providers. Community groups can learn more at [request.vaccineexchange.dc.gov](http://request.vaccineexchange.dc.gov).

### Home Vaccination Program

- Providers will visit residents who:
1. Have difficulty leaving their home
  2. Mostly communicate in languages other than English
  3. Have insurance through Medicaid or the Healthcare Alliance
- This program can be accessed at 1-855-363-0333.

### Additional Information

- District government agencies and nonprofits can request free COVID-19 tests, free KN95 masks and PPE supplies from the Office of Contracting and Procurement ([ocp.dc.gov/page/federal-surplus-property-program](http://ocp.dc.gov/page/federal-surplus-property-program)).
- Residents can also purchase KN95 and COVID-19 tests at pharmacies or online.
- DC Health continues to monitor the spread of these respiratory illnesses in the District and will provide updated guidance as needed.



# Changes by Section



Section	Overview of Changes
Introduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>References to COVID-19, MPX, &amp; OMS tweaked as appropriate</li></ul>
§2. Process for Calling Alerts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimal;</li><li>Standard templates for communicating shifts in operations are recommended</li></ul>
§3. Emergency Shelter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Most significant changes captured here</li></ul>
§4. Transportation Schedule	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Minimal changes</li></ul>
§5. Service Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Alignment with actual activities (e.g., meals)</li><li>Expansion of key services (e.g., detoxification services available)</li></ul>
§6. Unaccompanied Minors & TAY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Alignment with what is actual happening</li></ul>

# Introduction



- ❖ COVID-19 Protection Measures:
  - Most significant COVID-19 protection still in place is 24/7 operation at most low barrier shelter
  - References to COVID-19 shelter densities are minimized as shelter densities are slightly up for 5 locations

Location	FY23 Capacity	FY24 Capacity
Adam's Place (men)	125	150
CCNV Drop-In Center (Men)	67	134
Emery	100	130
Harriet Tubman (women)	155	165
CCNV 2 South (women)	24	48

- ❖ Monkey Pox references have been removed
- ❖ OMS language in the introduction is untouched.

# §1. Process for Developing, Publicizing & Updating



- ❖ 1.1 Publicizing: adjusted dates to indicate campaign will begin Nov 1, 2023
- ❖ 1.2 Updating: Focused role of ERSO on tracking implementation of Winter Plan and providing critical updates.

# §2. Process for Calling Alerts



2.3 Standard templates recommended for communicating shifts in operations related to

- ❖ Hours for facilities, including Day/Drop-In Centers, LBS, and Overflow shelters
- ❖ Hours and locations for Warming Buses or other critical infrastructure supports
- ❖ Transportation Schedule Updates



# Preparation for Hypothermia Season

DHS realizes this hypothermia season will look differently this year.

For example:

1. No DPR sites
2. Securing sites with new organizations/agencies
3. DHS will open and close overflow sites for single adults on a rolling basis

Potential concerns:

1. First-timers who need an orientation to shelter services during the season
2. Longer term clients who may take some time getting used to new locations

Establishing standard templates for shifts in operations will allow us to

1. Educate first-timers about why the District provides shelter during the season
2. Direct clients to various locations throughout the District

# §3. Emergency Shelter



## 3.1 Shelter for Individuals: Access, Type & Hours of Operation

- ❖ For the second year in a row, there are no seasonal shelters for the single adult subsystem
- ❖ Only overflow that comes online when low barrier shelters are at or near capacity:
  - Men: a total of 20 vacant beds
  - Women: a total of 10 vacant beds

## 3.2 Shelter for Families: Access, Type, and Hours of Operation

- ❖ Updated information for Virginia Williams

# §3. Emergency Shelter



## 3.3 Estimating Shelter Capacity

### Recommendation from Shelter Capacity Workgroup

**Table 3: Comparison of TCP Utilization & DHS Forecast Model**

<b>Timing</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Utilization Data</b>	<b>Forecast Model</b>
Start of Hypo	Men	1,294	<b>1,366</b>
	Women	483	<b>500</b>
Height of Hypo	Men	1,350	<b>1,419</b>
	Women	<b>569</b>	549

# §3. Emergency Shelter



## 3.3.2 Men

### ❖ Goals

Men	
<b>Target</b>	<b>Beds</b>
<b>Start</b>	<b>1,366</b>
<b>Height</b>	<b>1,419</b>

Plan for Expanding Capacity (Men), Count in Beds				
Name of Facility	Provider	Year Round	Overflow	Total
801 East Shelter	Catholic Charities	332	40	
New York Avenue	Catholic Charities	225		
Adams Place Shelter	Catholic Charities	150		
Emery	Coalition for the Homeless	130	60	
Blair	Coalition for the Homeless	72		
CCNV Drop-In Center	Community for Creative Non-Violence		134	
Living Life Alternatives (LGBTQ+)	Coalition for the Homeless	28		
Federal City Shelter 1 North	TBD		200	
<b>Naylor Road</b>	<b>TBD</b>		<b>40</b>	
Salvation Army (Sherman Aven NW)	TBD		40	
Church of the Epiphany	TBD		30	
Georgetown Ministries/St. Paul's	TBD		30	
<b>Total Capacity</b>		<b>937</b>	<b>574</b>	<b>1,511</b>

[1] 801 East location includes 192 low barrier beds, 140 specialized beds, and 40 overflow beds at the Day Center.

[2] Assumes a 70/30 split, meaning that 70% of the facility will likely serve individuals previously utilizing facilities for men.

DELIBERATIVE PUR

# §3. Emergency Shelter



## 3.3.3 Women

### ❖ Goals

Women	
<b>Target</b>	<b>Beds</b>
<b>Start</b>	500
<b>Height</b>	569

Plan for Expanding Capacity (Women), Count in Beds				
Name of Facility	Provider	Year-Round	Overflow	Total
D.C. General Building 9-Harriet Tubman	Catholic Charities	165		
Patricia Handy Swing Space	N Street Village	140		
Saint Josephine Bakhita (formerly Nativity Shelter)	Catholic Charities	20		
CCNV 2 South	Community for Creative Non-Violence		48	
Living Life Alternatives (LGBTQ+)	Coalition for the Homeless	12		
Adam's Place Day Center	DHS		40	
<b>Naylor Road</b>			<b>40</b>	
Salvation Army Harbor Light			40	
United Church of Christ			40	
<b>Total Capacity</b>		<b>337</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>545</b>

[1] Assumes a 70/30 split, meaning that 30% of the facility will likely serve individuals previously utilizing facilities for women.

# Reminder: Leveraging Federal City Shelter (1 North)



## Immediate Upgrades

**Federal City Shelter Section 1 North** – Portion of CCNV with capacity for **200** residents.

### **Requires:**

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### **Actions:**

- Approximately \$1M has been deployed for CCNV to support its use during hypothermia season.
  - **Exterior Wall Overhead Protection** – To manage the risk of tiles falling to the ground from the upper portion of the building.
  - **HVAC Remediation Services** – Actively procuring emergency services to help maintain CCNV's HVAC system through hypothermia season.

# §3. Emergency Shelter



## 3.3.4 Families

- ❖ Model takes into account
  - Actual number of families served over the last two years
  - Average entries and exits over the last two years PLUS a 50% anticipated surge is calculated
- ❖ Demand: Max is 239 families served in November
- ❖ Capacity: 311 STFH + 48 Apt Style = 359 Units

# §3. Emergency Shelter



## 3.4 Warming Buses & Sites

### ❖ Background:

- 4 warming buses were deployed last year
- Feedback from the community that this was an important intervention

### ❖ Recommendations:

- Maintaining the number of buses deployed last year
- Adding a staffing component to address challenges identified last year
- Working with Front Door Services monthly to identify hot spots (a prioritized list of potential locations for placing warming buses)



# §4. Transportation Schedule



The section comprises of:

- ❖ 4.1 Coordinating Transportation Resources & Outreach
- ❖ 4.2 Scheduled Transportation from Single Adult Shelters (Mornings)
- ❖ 4.3 Scheduled Transportation to Day Centers and Single Adult Shelters (Afternoon & Evenings)
- ❖ 4.4 Transportation for Minors and Transition Age Youth (TAY)

Minimal edits made:

- ❖ Morning LBS pick-ups
  - From 6:30 – 9:30 am to SOME, APDC & DDSC
  - Note: most locations have multiple runs
- ❖ Afternoon run between SOME, APDC, & DDSC at 2 pm
- ❖ Drop off to LBS & overflow shelters from 4:30 – 8:30 pm

# §5. Service Coordination



- ❖ Housing Services & Supports
  - Concern that overflow shelters are not adequately supported/connected to CAHP process
  
- ❖ Front Door Navigation Tool
  - Homeless Services Hotline launched in June
  - Short questionnaire to support Hotline Staff determine if someone is a good candidate for diversion or rapid exit.
  - Referral to Project Reconnect

# §5. Service Coordination

## COVID & Respiratory Illness

- ❖ General DC Health guidance regarding COVID-19, flu, & RSV incorporated – vaccination is key!
- ❖ DHS Guidance
  - Masks & antigen tests available
  - Report positive cases amongst Clients to DHS
  - Follow CDC guidance for isolation & quarantine on-site ([Guidance on Management of COVID-19 in Homeless Service Sites](#))



### What You Need to Know About Fall and Winter Respiratory Illnesses COVID-19, Flu and RSV

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*Please Note: It is important to contact your insurance carrier before making any vaccination appointment. Currently, the RSV vaccine requires a prescription from a medical provider.*

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### Additional Information

- ▶ District government agencies and nonprofits can request free COVID-19 tests, free KN95 masks and PPE supplies from the Office of Contracting and Procurement ([ocp.dc.gov/page/federal-surplus-property-program](http://ocp.dc.gov/page/federal-surplus-property-program)).
- ▶ Residents can also purchase KN95 and COVID-19 tests at pharmacies or online.
- ▶ DC Health continues to monitor the spread of these respiratory illnesses in the District and will provide updated guidance as needed.

# §5. Service Coordination



## 5.1 Meals

### Reminder:

- ❖ We were hoping for 3 meals per day (as part of 24/7 operations)
- ❖ Currently serving 2 meals a day, so need to align language in Winter Plan to minimize confusion.

# §5. Service Coordination



## 5.5 Mental Health & Detoxification Services

- ❖ Significant expansion in voluntary detoxification services
  - Previously, the only option was PIW
  - Can now access services at 2 additional locations
    - ✓ Federal City Recovery Services &
    - ✓ Regional Addiction Prevention (RAP) Inc

# §6. Unaccompanied Minors & TAY



- ❖ Introduction:
  - Minimized references to Solid Foundation DC
- ❖ 6.1 Unaccompanied Minors (<18 Years of Age)
  - Removed references to ICH monitoring utilization of beds for minors to align with actual activities
  - Moved capacity overview (table) for Minors into this section (previously provided under section 6.2)
- ❖ 6.2 TAY (18 – 24 Years Old)
  - Again, minimized references to Solid Foundation DC
  - Moved capacity overview (table) for Minors from this section into the appropriate section (moved to section 6.1)
- ❖ 6.3 Outreach & In-Reach Services for Youth
  - Updated language to reflect the current reality that the Youth CAHP By Name List includes every young adult, regardless of where they are accessing shelter

# Adopting the Winter Plan



- ❖ What creates the most angst for you?
- ❖ Any deal breakers?
- ❖ Are we ready to adopt the plan?
  - Can we reach a consensus?
  - Do we need to activate our voting slate?

# ERSO Voting Slate: 13 Leaders!



## ERSO Voting Slate from 2020 updated for Transitions

Category	Representative
Co-Chairs	Reginald Black (PFFC)
	Anthony Newman (DHS)
Government Seats (5)	Department of Behavioral Health
	Department of Human Service (filled via co-chair)
	Department of General Services
	Homeland Security & Emergency Management
	Metropolitan Police Department
Collaborative Applicant (TCP)	Candyce Coates
Community Seats Including service providers (3), advocates (2), and/or business/philanthropic entities (0)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Kate Coventry, DCFPI</li> <li>2) Amanda Chesney, Catholic Charities</li> <li>3) Mike Ferrell, Coalition for the Homeless</li> <li>4) Abby Sypek, Everyone Home DC</li> <li>5) Dervin Brown, UPO</li> </ol>
Constituents w/ lived experience (2)	Reginald Black (filled via co-chair)
	Qaadir El-Amin



# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Q&A:

- ❖ **Q from RE:** What is the Winter Plan protocol for UPO shelter van pickups?
- ❖ **Q from RB:** Is the UPO app going to be up and running? What is the escalation process for UPO if the request is not being met?
  - **A from DHS:** There is no UPO app. We do have some UPO improvements for operations generally. We can work on an escalation protocol.
  - **A from UPO:** Do have an internal app, a hotline homeless hotline database app which will be used.
    - ✓ **ICH:** Look forward to proactive updates from UPO through this forum.
  - **FDBK from Ms. Umi:** Echo this, because have personal experience of requesting blanket, but never received them.
- ❖ **Q from RW:** Transportation is definitely an issue. There are often contradictory statements on whether or not services are 24hrs, on demand services, taking breaks, etc.
  - **A from ICH:** We can be clear on these items in the communications.
- ❖ Any concerns regarding UPO/Hotline transportation or safety items distribution to the homeless community - please escalate concerns to Dervin Brown: [dbrown@upo.org](mailto:dbrown@upo.org) or phone: 202-238-4696.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Follow up on client specific concern:

- ❖ **Dr. Mayaalla:** - Updates as of yesterday when I saw that lady again this time by Tenley station and I called UPO for blankets for her and they said they didn't have any blankets or socks or clothes. They said they were going to come there to her, but I am not sure if anyone did and transportation to shelter.

## Feedback:

- ❖ **RB:** My angst is that we are moving away from using DPR and the narrative is that violence is the reason why i feel this is untrue and we have caved to ongoing community pressure against using the rec centers whether we use rec centers or not I fully expect the same level of crime just because in my opinion there is a direct link between gentrification and the violence that we see, this does not have anything to do with homeless people.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Q&A:

- ❖ **Q:** Do you have projections in terms of the timeline? How early will we be able to get into Federal City Shelter?
  - **A from DGS:** Anticipate work will not take more than 60 days. Site will not be available at the start of the season, but by December.
- ❖ **Q from WH:** Concerned about the timeline since this is the bulk of the overflow planning.
  - **A from DGS:** Working with office of Budget to ensure the funds are available. In terms of supply chain, we do not see the repairs that are needed there as items that would be affected by what we have observed throughout the construction industry. Do believe we can accomplish this in 60 days.
- ❖ **Q from TS:** Is there a buffer in the 60-day projection?
  - **A from DGS:** Once the funding is available the team will be deployed. We are familiar with the site and the work that needs to be done. There is some buffer for the holidays in November as well.
- ❖ **Q from RH:** What parts of the building are set for repairs, are they the sections dedicated for hypothermia beds?
  - **A from DGS:** We can not say definitively that we will stick to hypothermia spaces only, but will do what we can.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Q&A:

- ❖ **Q from SP:** Is it possible to open certain sections of the shelter or do we need to wait to open the whole site?
  - **A from DGS:** Will work with DHS to determine if this is feasible and what areas to start and focus efforts.
- ❖ **Q:** In addition to the timing concerns, do we have assurances that these repairs will have the site in \*good\* condition? Concern about the quality to accommodate the volume of people there.
  - **A from DGS:** Primary aim is to address lighting, bathroom areas. As move through the space, if there are other areas to be addressed such as ceiling tiles, we will be sure to take care of those things. Can not guarantee the space will look brand new. We are still working within limited budget and time. Intent is to ensure the space is livable and dignified.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Feedback:

- ❖ **RB:** My angst about warming buses not being properly staffed and not having data to assist us match and work with ppl.
  - **A from ICH:** It is included in the Winter Plan as intent, but funding is not confirmed.
  - **A from DHS:** Will try to get as many warming buses as we can. We have to negotiate with WMATA and work through these details.
- ❖ **WH:** Given the delays we have seen in other shelter renovations/repairs, I think the timing of this shelter being ready for overflow is very concerning.

## Q&A:

- ❖ **Q from RB:** Has DHS had a discussion about having some form of outreach to the warming buses with WMATA?

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Q&A

- ❖ **Q from AW:** Can this guidance be included in the Winter Plan?
  - **A from ICH:** Absolutely, it is included with a focus on vaccines.
  - **A from DC Health:** The new vaccine is targeted to the new strain. Recommend ensuring you receive the new vaccine called “mono” variant vaccine.
- ❖ **Q from RB:** Have you looked at our capacity numbers for shelter this year .....what is the ideal occupancy levels that your department recommends?
  - **A from DC Health:** For congregate settings, CDC has not shared new guidance over the last 9 months. We can work with DHS and agencies to take this into account and take a standard approach. This is what we have done with schools. Everything right now is more recommendation and best practice – i.e. keep distant if sick, test and isolate if positive, etc.
  - **A from DHS:** its a question of manpower. Outreach is generally deployed to respond to individual encampments and direct client engagement.
  - **ICH:** Recommend we refer this to the Health Care CMTE and get started on this ASAP so it can be included with the proposal at 10/17 Full Council.
- ❖ **Q from RE:** This vaccine makes me nervous if it has not been people tested, especially if have chronic conditions.
  - **A from DC Health:** To be safe, get a recommendation from your health provider who knows you best and advise based on your conditions.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Q&A

- ❖ **Q from AS:** Can you provide clarity on how positive cases will be treated in LBS now that ISAQ is ending?
  - **A from ICH:** Details are included in Section 5 of the Winter Plan as well as in the ERSO CMTE slides under System Check In.
- ❖ **Q from WH:** Per Reggie's question, shouldn't the shelter capacity assessment from Anil have occurred before we increased the capacity of existing shelters for the Winter Plan?
- ❖ **Q from RH:** Is the ICH going to make a recommendation to the District government regarding the vaccine for our population?
  - **A from ICH:** It is likely best to work with all partners to take advantage of the resources available to distribute and have access to the vaccine.
- ❖ **Q from JC:** Will we have to worry about another strand even if we get this vaccine?
  - **A from DC Health:** It is like the flu, every year there are different strains. We are tracking how it changes. The immunity from the old vaccine starts to wane. We do not know for sure, but will continue to provide the latest information at each step.
- ❖ **Q from AC:** To clarify, it doesn't sound like the DC Department of Health is advising us to return to increased precautions at congregate settings at this time. Is that correct?
  - **A from ICH:** That is correct. CDC is not advising us for increased precautions.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Q&A

- ❖ **Q:** Is it pertinent to take the new vaccine even if just took a vaccine two months ago?
  - **A from DC Health:** There is a key component in the new vaccine. You may need to clarify which vaccine you got. If it is not the mono variant vaccine, recommend do get the new one.
  - **A from ICH:** We can look to include this in the hot topics at the Full Council.
- ❖ **Q from N & QEA:** Request for transparency around the vaccine and its medical effects.
  - **FDBK from BH:** I got my vaccine at CVS yesterday and currently if you've gotten a previous one they said you only needed the one booster shot, i believe currently there is a Pfizer vaccine and a Moderna vaccine.
  - **FDBK from Dr. Mayaalla:** You will get two shots – the flu and COVID.
- ❖ **Q from AC:** Can we get handouts to distribute at shelters and for outreach as well?
- ❖ **Q from Ms. Naomi:** Can we expect a Shelter Migrant issue like currently in NY?
  - **A from ICH:** This is addressed in the introduction of the Winter Plan. OMS is the lead on migrant response. The promise in the Winter Plan is to provide services and shelter to prevent cold weather injury. Can ask DHS to consider bringing updates once a quarter to ERSO CMTE.
- ❖ **Q from RB:** What happens if we get a freeze before 1 North is online? I think we should have a plan b for the gap here in capacity.



# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



- ❖ **Q from WH:** Concern that modeling for family shelter may be too low since recent occupancy
- ❖ **Q from AS:** I have a couple questions about the CCNV overflow beds. Who will be operating the services for the overflow beds? What are the hours of operation? (Will they be 24-hour access?) Are there any unique parameters/rules enforced by CCNV? (I remember folks needing to be escorted into the building by UPO in years past.)
  - **A from ICH:** Not able to confirm since not all contracts are finalized. Escorts were in regards to women, the beds are now planned for men.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



- ❖ **Q from KC:** What about the logistics of having 200 people line up for shelter?
  - **A from ICH:** DHS – is there an opportunity to operate CC the federal North 1 shelter on a 24/7 basis like we operate other LBS?
  - **A from DHS:** That is not the plan due to budgetary and staffing issues. Will work with CCNV.
- ❖ **Q from RE:** Will there be enough resources for those who don't do shelters?
- ❖ **Q from QEA:** Maybe setting up something for people that don't want to take the vaccine and they can have a safe place for them to go
  - **A from ICH:** Understand the intent, but likely not feasible given the persistent capacity challenges we are already facing.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Feedback to Reach Consensus:

- ❖ **QEA:** Request for transparency on vaccine and additional guidance on understanding risks and benefits of vaccine.
- ❖ **WH:** Timeliness of when Federal City North 1 will be complete. Would feel more comfortable if plan included language or guarantee from DGS.
  - **ICH:** Can work with DGS to ensure there is a feedback station at Full Council to understand more details. This gives addtl 3 weeks to gather more concrete details and timeline.
- ❖ **RE:** Need to address concerns on meals.
  - **ICH:** Will flag this for Shelter Solutions WG, this is not something that can be addressed in the Winter Plan.
  - **DHS:** The removal of the mid day meal was part of the budget cuts to continue 24hr shelter.
- ❖ MPD related adjustments to be made in the plan.

# Notes on Winter Plan Discussion



## Outcome:

- ❖ ERSO CMTE has approved the Winter Plan, with contingencies and remarks to ensure satisfactory answers.
- ❖ ICH will work with partner agencies to bring updates to the 10/17 Full Council meeting.

# Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome & Agenda Review (5 mins)
- II. Discussion Items (80 mins)
- III. **System Check-In (as needed)**
  - a) PEPV Demobilization Updates
  - b) End of ISAQ – Effective 10/1 **\*NEW\***
  - c) Announcements & Reminders (as needed)
- IV. Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)



# PEP-V Demobilization Updates

September 27, 2023

# PEP-V Client Phases and Exit Streams

Exit Stage	Skyline
Phase 1 = Short term respite/Not matched to subsidy (will exit to shelter)	10
Phase 1a (High Level of Care/Exit to NF,ALF,CRF/ 3-6 months to exit)	27
Phase 2 (Housing Subsidy Matched/ 4 months to exit/ May move to Bridge Housing)	7
Phase 3 (Housing Subsidy Matched and Provider Assigned, 3 months to exit)	14
Phase 4 (DCHA Application approved, viewing units 45 days to exit)	31
Phase 5 (Approved for Unit, RFTA, Inspection, 30 days to exit)	56
Phase 6 (Inspection Passed, Lease Up, Move in 10 days to exit)	10
Total # of Clients Remaining at PEPV	155

# PEP-V Extension

- The one remaining PEP-V site at Skyline that was slated to close in September 2023, will close in December 2023
- HOWEVER, clients actively participating in case management will have their stays continue on a month-to-month basis. For example:
  - Clients matched to a subsidy and actively searching for housing and due to no fault of their own, has had housing delayed;
  - Clients that have been assigned a PSH Provider and whose voucher application is being completed or is complete and under review with DCHA;
  - Clients that are matched to a housing unit and the RFTA is being completed or under review or the RFTA has been approved and the client is awaiting an inspection;
  - Clients that have a housing unit that has passed inspection, a lease-up is being scheduled, a HAP contract is being requested, furniture for their housing unit is being requested and the client will soon get their keys.



# PEP-V Extension

(Continued)

- DHS may issue thirty day notice to exit for clients who are not actively engaged in their housing plans or case management. For example:
- Clients who are not meeting with their onsite case manager weekly;
- Clients who are not participating in the DHS weekly housing unit viewings on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays;
- Clients who have not selected a housing unit after viewing at least two eligible housing units, where one has been deemed rent reasonable;
- Clients who fail to comply with other requirements listed in their PEP-V Site Agreement;

# A Note on Notices

- DHS may issue ten day notice to exit for clients who are not engaging
- If a client re-engages and follow through with their housing plan the 10 day notice will be rescinded
- If a client does not re-engage they will be terminated from the pep-v program and given transport to the LBS with an available bed

# Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome & Agenda Review (5 mins)
- II. Discussion Items (80 mins)
  - III. System Check-In (as needed)
    - a) PEPV Demobilization Updates
    - b) **End of ISAQ – Effective 10/1 \*NEW\***
  - I. Announcements & Reminders (as needed)
- IV. Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)

# End of ISAQ at 801 E (Effective 10/1) **\*NEW\***

With the end of the federal public health emergency, combined with the accessibility of the COVID-19 vaccine and the District's return to standard operations, the Department of Human Services (DHS) will end the Isolation and Quarantine (ISAQ) site at 801 East shelter effective October 1, 2023.

## Updated Guidance:

- 1. Ensure that masks and COVID antigen tests are available in your facility. You can request supplies [HERE](#).
- 2. Notify DHS of any confirmed positive COVID cases of clients by filling out [THIS FORM](#).
- 3. Ensure that anyone who has tested positive for COVID is wearing a mask at all times and follow the CDC's recommended guidance for isolation and quarantine on-site – below.

See the CDC [Guidance on Management of COVID-19 in Homeless Service Sites](#) for additional considerations.

# Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome & Agenda Review (5 mins)
- II. Discussion Items (80 mins)
- III. System Check-In (as needed)
  - I. **Announcements & Reminders (as needed)**
    - a) DC Central Kitchen Engagement **\*NEW\***
    - b) DC DDS, RSA, DCHR Career Day **\*NEW\***
    - c) End of ISAQ – Effective 10/1 **\*NEW\***
    - d) Friendship Place: Anti-Racism Training
    - e) HCS: RELiEF Program
    - f) Homeless Youth Count (HYC) 2023 **\*Underway Now\***
    - g) ICH: Full Council Call for Nominations **\*Extended to 10/20\***
- IV. Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)

# DC Central Kitchen Engagement \*NEW\*



Special event for agencies who partner with DCCK in order to promote DC Central Kitchen's Culinary Job Training program, assisting individuals in learning culinary skills to become self-supporting.

**Please RSVP via email if you will be attending:**

- [lcornin@dccentralkitchen.org](mailto:lcornin@dccentralkitchen.org)
- [tvinson@dccentralkitchen.org](mailto:tvinson@dccentralkitchen.org)



Learn about the Culinary Job Training program, meet current students & staff, tour the building, and enjoy delicious appetizers prepared by our students.

**OCTOBER 6, 2023**

**1:30- 3:30 PM**

**THE KLEIN CENTER FOR JOBS & JUSTICE  
2121 FIRST ST. SW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20024**

**RSVP TO:  
LACHELE CORBIN, [LCORBIN@DCCENTRALKITCHEN.ORG](mailto:LCORBIN@DCCENTRALKITCHEN.ORG)  
OR  
TONY VINSON, [TVINSON@DCCENTRALKITCHEN.ORG](mailto:TVINSON@DCCENTRALKITCHEN.ORG)**



# DC DDS, RSA, DCHR Career Day \*NEW\*



- ❖ **What:** Career Day event for Job Seekers with Disabilities. Sponsored by Department on Disability Services (DDS), Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) in conjunction with the DC Department of Human Resources (DCHR).
- ❖ **When:** Friday, October 13th from 9:00 am - 3:00 PM.
- ❖ **Where:** DDS/RSA located at 250 E Street, SW.



In recognition of National Disability Employment Awareness Month  
The DC Rehabilitation Services Administration &  
The DC Department of Human Resources (DCHR)

will host a  
**Career Day**

for Job Seekers with Disabilities  
**Friday, October 13, 2023**  
9 AM - 3 PM  
250 E Street, SW

This event celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Rehabilitation Act and provides an opportunity for people supported by DDS/RSA to engage with District Government recruiters to learn about existing and future job openings within their agencies.

Click [here](#) to register your agency by September 26. For more information, contact DDS/RSA Business Relations Specialist [Sylvia Bailey-Charles](#) at [sylvia.bailey-charles@dc.gov](mailto:sylvia.bailey-charles@dc.gov).



# Friendship Place: Anti-Racism Training



Join Friendship Place this fall for the [2023 Anti-Racism Training Series](#), to learn how we can grow and advance anti-racist causes in our shared community.

- ❖ [Session 1: Sept 13 - Defining Racism](#)
- ❖ [Session 2: Sept 27 - Re-defining the Timeline and Progression of Racism and White Supremacy](#)
- ❖ [Session 3: Oct 11 - White Privilege & White Fragility/Guilt](#)
- ❖ [Session 4: Oct 25 - Global Perspectives: Native-American Issues](#)
- ❖ [Session 5: Nov 1 - Global Perspectives: Latino Issues](#)
- ❖ [Session 6: Nov 8 - Global Perspectives: Asian-American Issues](#)
- ❖ [Session 7: Nov 15 - What is Anti-Racism?](#)





# HCS: RELiEF Program

## Background:

- ❖ Housing Counseling Services (HCS) financial education and rental incentive program
- ❖ Recommending as resource for households exiting RRH and/or otherwise independently leasing
- ❖ Program can serve up to 80 households, only 18 are enrolled so far!

## Referral Process

- ❖ Referral form will be sent with ICH meeting materials,
- ❖ You can also email [relief@housingetc.org](mailto:relief@housingetc.org) for more info and to submit referrals

**Timeline:** Program ends 12/31 so aiming to enroll households quickly so that can receive full 3 months of assistance.

**Housing Counseling Services:** Participants must be willing to engage in one counseling session which will include a credit pull (soft pull and no cost to the client).

## The RELiEF Program

RELiEF (Rental Emergency Lifeline/ Eviction Fund) is a financial education program to help tenants in DC to stabilize their housing and develop savings habits. **The program will award participants who make on time rental payments \$600 per month up to a total of \$1,800 over a three month period.** This money can be used to start an emergency savings fund to prepare for unexpected expenses and minimize their impact on your housing.

### How it works:

Once enrolled, RELiEF will award participants \$600/month (up to a total of \$1,800) for each month during the 3 month period of enrollment for which proof of an on-time rental payment is provided. Participants must work with a certified housing counselor on budgeting, saving, banking, and credit repair. Housing counselors will assist participants in the creation of an individualized savings plan with concrete next steps, with the goal of using the incentive payments to start an emergency savings fund.

### Program requirements:

To be eligible to participate in the RELiEF program, you must meet the following:

- Live in DC and have lived in your current unit for a minimum of 6 months
- Demonstrate ability to make on- time rental payments going forward
- Commitment to work with a housing counselor to develop a housing plan, credit report evaluation, individualized budget and savings plan
- Commitment to share rental payment history for 12 months after the program ends
- Document housing instability at some point within the last 12 months
- Currently at or near a \$0 rental balance
- Household income no greater than 60% area median income
- Have rent that is no more than 50% of your monthly income
- You may not participate in the program if you pay income based rent

\*Enrollment into the RELiEF program is extremely limited, HCS will evaluate applications on a rolling basis until all spots are filled. Application submission does not guarantee enrollment.

### Contact us to find out more today!

✉ Email us at [relief@housingetc.org](mailto:relief@housingetc.org)

☎ Call us at 202-900-9461

This program is generously supported by the Wells Fargo Foundation and National Housing Trust



Housing Counseling Services, Inc.

2410 17th St., N.W. • Suite 100 • Adams Alley • Washington, D.C. 20009  
Serving DC, MD and VA 202-667-7006 • [www.housingetc.org](http://www.housingetc.org)

# Homeless Youth Count (HYC)

- ❖ The 2023 HYC is underway for young adults aged 18 – 24 who are homeless or experiencing housing instability.

Visit <https://www.youthcountdc.org/> for more details!

# YOUTH COUNT | DC

*Your Story Matters!*

Eligible  
participants  
can get a  
GIFT CARD

**ARE YOU 24 OR YOUNGER?**

**STAYING PLACE TO PLACE OR IN A SHELTER?**

**WORRIED ABOUT GETTING KICKED OUT?**

**DON'T KNOW WHERE YOU WILL STAY TONIGHT?**

**WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!**

**TAKE A SURVEY SEPTEMBER 16<sup>TH</sup> – 30<sup>TH</sup>**  
because your story matters.

TO FIND OUT MORE VISIT: **YOUTHCOUNTDC.ORG**



Use keyword:  
youthcount

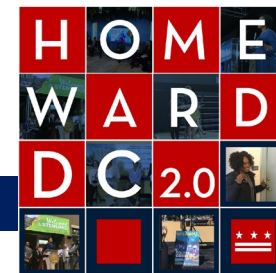
#YouthCountDC

**YOUTHCOUNTDC.ORG**



WE ARE WASHINGTON  
GOVERNMENT OF THE  
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
MURIEL BOWSER, MAYOR

# ICH: Full Council Call for Nominations



**Purpose:** Announce the process for official membership as a community representative on the ICH Full Council convened quarterly.

**Background:** Four (4) categories of voting members represent the community, and the following seats are vacant or expiring across the four categories:

- ❖ **2 advocate seats** to represent organizations that advocate for the District's homeless population;
- ❖ **2 business/private sector seats** to represent organizations that have resources or expertise to contribute to addressing homelessness in the District;
- ❖ **2 lived experience seats** to represent homeless or formerly homeless individuals;
- ❖ **5 service provider seats** to represent organizations providing services within the District's Continuum of Care for homeless services.

**Details:** [Click here for the Nomination Submission Form](#) open until 10/20! Self-nominations only, please.

# Meeting Agenda



- I. Welcome & Agenda Review (10 mins, includes 5 min icebreaker)
- II. System Check-In (25mins)
- III. Discussion Items (60 mins)
- IV. Announcements & Reminders (as needed)
- v. **Summary & Adjournment (5 mins)**
  - a) Upcoming Meetings –
  - b) 10/17 ICH Full Council from 3 – 4:30 (pre-meeting from 1 – 2:30 pm)
  - c) 11/29 ICH ERSO CMTE Mtg from 1 - 2:30 pm (shift in Nov due to Thanksgiving Day)

