Ramsey County Housing Stability
2022-2023 Cold Weather Plan for Unsheltered Residents
in collaboration with Heading Home Ramsey

Ramsey County will operate warming spaces every night this winter during the months of December, January, and February to supplement existing shelter beds; provide referral and transportation to and from those warming spaces through February of 2023; and provide referral to and transportation between shelters through June of 2023.

Warming Spaces

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Single Adults:</th>
<th>Single Adults:</th>
<th>Youth ages 14-24 and Families:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Union Gospel Mission</td>
<td>Phalen Activity Center</td>
<td>St. Paul Reformation Church</td>
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<tr>
<td>435 University Ave E. (University &amp; Lafayette)</td>
<td>1530 Phalen Dr.</td>
<td>100 N. Oxford St.</td>
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*Opening date TBD*

Opening December 1

- These low-barrier spaces will be open every night from 9:30 P.M. – 6:30 A.M.
- Warming spaces will provide seating, blankets, light snacks and beverages (such as coffee and cocoa), and warming supplies (such as mittens and hats).
- Each location will have two staff plus volunteers on duty every night; plus a floating supervisor.

Transportation

- Van transportation loops will operate every night from 9:00 P.M. – 6:30 A.M.
- One loop will include the adult warming spaces (Phalen & UGM), Safe Space, and the St. Paul Opportunity Center. People will be able to access this transportation only at these locations.
- A second loop will provide transportation for youth and families.

Additional Services

- Referral staff will be on duty from 5:00 P.M. – 1:00 A.M. to refer people to open shelter beds and warming spaces.
- Contact referral staff at 651-266-1050 or ColdWeatherReferrals@co.ramsey.mn.us.
- Family shelter staff can be reached 7:00 A.M. – 5:15 P.M. at chs.fas.shelterteam@co.ramsey.mn.us. After 5:15, people can contact the cold weather referral line or go directly to a Warming Space.
- Shelters may make additional beds available when the temperature is at or below zero degrees and/or the windchill is -15 and below. (For reference, there were 29 nights at or below zero last winter.)
- While the warming spaces are planned for December – February, transportation and referral to shelters will operate through June 30, 2023.
Planning and Engagement

Heading Home Ramsey conducted community engagement for the development of this Cold Weather plan through four public meetings with people with lived experience, outreach workers, and providers. In addition to more emergency beds, the clear feedback was the need for warming centers and transportation. There continues to be a shortage of available shelter, especially for women and families, and some individuals choose not to stay overnight in available shelter beds.

Funding

Ramsey County is funding these Cold Weather warming spaces with American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds allocated by the state for the 2023 fiscal year (ending June 30, 2023), in collaboration with the Heading Home Ramsey Continuum of Care. The youth warming space is being funded by state Local Homeless Prevention Aid.

Contracts funded by last year’s state legislative agenda are executed or expected to be finalized, including new shelter beds through Catholic Charities and a new provider, More Doors; and support for outreach services. Additionally, a Planning Specialist has been hired using ARPA funds to research and develop recommendations for a Single Point of Entry for shelter in Ramsey County.

About Heading Home Ramsey

Heading Home Ramsey (HHR) is the Continuum of Care for Ramsey County. The Continuum of Care is a community-wide partnership committed to the goal of ending homelessness in the cities and neighborhoods of Ramsey County. HHR is a coalition of social service providers, housing providers, philanthropic partners, business, community, government, and citizens working together to create and implement cost effective solutions to ending homelessness. HHR is responsible for planning and implementing the homeless response system in Ramsey County and carrying out specific duties defined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the State of Minnesota.