Loudoun County, Virginia



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For Immediate Release November 4, 2022 Media Contact: Glen Barbour, Public Affairs and Communications Officer 703-771-5086, <u>Glen.Barbour@loudoun.gov</u>

Loudoun County Hypothermia Prevention Shelter Opens November 15

The Loudoun County Hypothermia Prevention Shelter will open Tuesday, November 15, 2022, for single adults aged 18 and older in the community who are experiencing a housing crisis resulting in homelessness. The shelter, which provides a warm indoor sleeping environment, meals, laundry and shower facilities, will be open from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., seven nights a week through March 31, 2023. The shelter also provides information on other community resources, such as food, clothing, medical care, mental health care, public benefits, obtaining an ID and employment opportunities.

The Hypothermia Prevention Shelter is located at the Loudoun Homeless Services Center, 19520 Meadowview Court in Leesburg. Due to limited space, all guests will be asked to store personal belongings (outside of limited essential items) in secure storage on site. Note that the Loudoun County firearms ordinance prohibits firearms and ammunition in county facilities.

Additionally, the following Centers for Disease Control and Prevention guidelines for COVID-19 safety are required to be followed by everyone in the shelter:

- Temperature checks and COVID-19 symptom screenings will be conducted by shelter staff prior to entry.
- Masks are always required unless actively eating, drinking or sleeping. Masks will be provided for anyone who does not have one.
- Frequent hand washing and use of hand sanitizer.

Free bus transportation will be provided daily at the times and locations listed below:

- **Sterling**: Loudoun County Transit Bus Route 82 bus stop across the street from the William Watters House, 22365 Enterprise St. in Sterling. Pickup time is 5:30 p.m.
- Leesburg: The front of the Shenandoah Office Building, 102 Heritage Way, NE in Leesburg. Pickup time is 6:30 p.m.
- For more information about transportation, call 703-771-5429.

The county will provide limited morning transportation from the shelter, if needed.

The Hypothermia Prevention Shelter is operated by Loudoun County in partnership with Shelter House and the Loudoun County Continuum of Care (CoC). The CoC is a coalition of public, nonprofit and faith-based organizations that provide a variety of shelter and support services to those experiencing homelessness or people at risk of becoming homeless. Staff support for the CoC is provided by the Loudoun County Department of Family Services.

More information about services available to those experiencing homelessness in Loudoun County may be found at <u>loudoun.gov/homelessservices</u> or by calling 703-777-0420.

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