

Support for municipalities wishing to open Winter Emergency Hubs:

The Department of Housing and its partners are available to assist municipalities that have questions about opening Winter Emergency Hubs. The following information provides details for municipalities as they assemble their proposals.

For questions or technical assistance in assembling proposals, please contact:

- Provider Support – Ben Haynie, Department of Housing: benjamin.haynie.ctr@housing.ri.gov
- Facility Support – Lauren Barnes, Department of Housing: lauren.barnes.ctr@housing.ri.gov
- EOHHS Provider Support – Allison Arden, EOHHS: allison.arden@ohhs.ri.gov
- General Support – Jordan Day, RI League of Cities and Towns: jday@rileague.org

Potential facilities: Please note that buildings may need to be activated with limited notice (for example, less than 48 hours). Sites should be in good condition, have restrooms, and at least 3,000 sq ft of space. The Department of Housing is available to provide guidance and support in identifying potential sites. Sites that accommodate approximately 20 to 100 individuals (depending on geography and need) would be preferred. Please note, these are general guidelines and not requirements. The Department is open to all options. Facility examples include recreational and/or community centers, senior centers, VFW Halls, and religious facilities (e.g., churches, synagogues, mosques, etc.) offered on a non-sectarian basis. For assistance with facilities, please contact Lauren Barnes at lauren.barnes.ctr@housing.ri.gov.

Identifying partners and potential provider support: Existing service agencies may be able to provide capacity, guidance, support services, and/or other logistical support. Municipality must coordinate with provider on the specific services the provider is able to offer. For assistance in connecting with a provider, please contact Ben Haynie with the Department of Housing at benjamin.haynie.ctr@housing.ri.gov or Allison Arden with EOHHS at allison.arden@ohhs.ri.gov. A list of providers that have offered to be available for consultation or support is included also provided below.

Anticipated weather triggers: Additional information regarding precise weather triggers and the process for opening the emergency hubs will be provided in the grant agreements for selected awards. It is anticipated that the triggers will be based on public health/emergency criteria and/or National Weather Service forecasts that include sustained multi-day single digit or below zero temperatures or wind chill. Although it is not known the precise number of days the emergency hubs would be opened, we share the following information for planning purposes: there were up to 10 days per year with single-digit temperatures (on the basis of temperature alone, before factoring in wind chill or other winter storms) in the past 3 years. For budgeting purposes, we request that you plan for opening the emergency hubs for 10 days and request that you also provide a per-day rate for opening the hubs on additional days should that be necessary.

Can non-profit partners serve as the applicant? Although this funding is dedicated for municipalities, non-profit partners (e.g., homeless service providers) interested in opening shelters and/or warming centers are encouraged to seek funds through the Consolidated Homelessness Fund process. Information on how to apply is available at <https://ohcd.ri.gov/homelessness/apply-funds-grants>.

Homeless service providers that have expressed an interest in being a resource:

Please feel free to contact additional partners in your area. The following list has expressed interest to date.

Provider Name	Contact	Email	Preferences
Community Action Partnership of Providence County	David Banno	dbanno@cappri.org	Available to support with services in Providence area
Community Care Alliance	Michelle Taylor	mtaylor@communitycareri.org	Northern RI
Crossroads RI	John MacDonald	jmacdonald@crossroadsri.org	Statewide
Haus of Codec	Gem Marley	gem@hausofcodec.org	Providence Area
Newport Mental Health	Lucy Kinsley	lkinsley@newportmh.org	Newport County
Tri-County Community Action Agency	Richard DelFino	rdelfino@tricityri.org	Locations throughout RI
West Bay CAP	Paul Selera	psalera@westbaycap.org	Kent County
Westerly Area Rest Meals (WARM) Inc.	Russ Partridge	rpartridge@warmshelter.org	Washington County

Behavioral health providers

State Agency Contact	BHDDH Division of Behavioral Health Tom Martin Thomas.Martin@bhddh.ri.gov Melissa Holcomb Melissa.Holcomb@bhddh.ri.gov
Umbrella Organization	Laurie-Marie Piscotta MH Assn of RI Laurie.pisciotta@mhari.org
Barrington	Community Care Alliance Kim Griffith 235-7120
Bristol	East Bay CAP Dee Graustein 246-1195
Burrillville	Community Care Alliance Kim Griffith 235-7120
Central Falls	Gateway Beth James 723-1915
Charlestown	Gateway Beth James 723-1915

Coventry	Thrive Carolyn DiDonato 738-4300
Cranston	Gateway Beth James 723-1915
Cumberland	Community Care Alliance Kim Griffith 235-7120
East Greenwich	Thrive Carolyn DiDonato 738-4300
East Providence	East Bay CAP Dee Graustein 246-1195
Exeter	Thrive Carolyn DiDonato 738-4300
Foster	Gateway Beth James 723-1915
Glocester	Gateway Beth James 723-1915
Hopkinton	Gateway Beth James 723-1915
Jamestown	Newport MH David Boscia 846-1213
Johnston	Gateway Beth James 553-1031
Lincoln	Community Care Alliance Kim Griffith 235-7120
Little Compton	Newport MH David Boscia 846-1213
Middletown	Newport MH David Boscia 846-1213
Narragansett	Gateway Beth James 364-7705
New Shoreham	Gateway Beth James 364-7705

Newport	Newport MH David Boscia 846-1213
North Kingstown	Beth James Gateway 364-7705
North Providence	Beth James Gateway 553-1031
North Smithfield	Gateway Beth James 553-1031
Pawtucket	Gateway Beth James 723-1915
Portsmouth	Newport MH David Boscia 846-1213
Providence	Providence Center Jill Pastina 276-4020
Richmond	Gateway Beth James 364-7705
Scituate	Gateway Beth James 553-1031
Smithfield	Gateway Beth James 553-1031
South Kingstown	Gateway Beth James 364-7705
Tiverton	Newport MH David Boscia 846-1213
Warren	East Bay Cap Dee Graustein 246-1195
Warwick	Thrive Carolyn DiDonato 738-4300
West Greenwich	Thrive Carolyn DiDonato 738-4300
West Warwick	Thrive Carolyn DiDonato 738-4300

Westerly	Gateway Beth James 364-7705
Woonsocket	Community Care Alliance Kim Griffith 235-7120