

HYPOTHERMIA PREVENTION PROGRAM 2016-2017 SEASON



The Hypothermia Prevention Program is an integral part of the Fairfax County program to prevent and end homelessness that incorporates the collaborative work of area faith communities, civic organizations, businesses and individual volunteers. The program represents a shining example of collaborative effectiveness in serving the critical needs of the chronically and vulnerable homeless persons when they are in most danger of exposure to cold weather.

Partners open shelters on a “no turn-away” status effective **November 1** or sooner based on temperatures. The sites are operated by the following providers with their volunteer faith communities. For general questions, contact Tom Barnett in the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness at thomas.barnett@fairfaxcounty.gov.

- Within the South County Route One area - Region 1, **New Hope Housing** operates the Ventures in Community Hypothermia Outreach Program (VIC-HOP), opening its doors on **December 1, 2016** at Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church, located at 8220 Russell Road, Alexandria. The VIC-HOP and New Hope Housing’s Eleanor U Kennedy Shelter Winter Overflow programs **served 421 unduplicated clients** last year. At the Rising Hope shelter location, 24 individuals can be served per night, with shelter coverage provided by a partnership of over 17 faith-based agencies and organizations located in Hybla Valley, Mount Vernon, and the South County area. In addition to supervising the guests, volunteers provide clients a hot meal in the evenings, as well as breakfast items to-go on a daily basis. Rising Hope operational hours are from 6:30 pm - 7:00 am daily. For further information, please contact Sherry Edelkamp at sedelkamp@yahoo.com or Tonya Golden at tgolden@newhopehousing.org or (703) 799-0200.
- Within the City of Falls Church, the **Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter in partnership with New Hope Housing** operates the Falls Church Winter Shelter from **November 15, 2016** to March 31, 2017, providing a warm bed, meals, life skills classes, and case management services to the guests. The shelter is located at 217 Gordon Road, in the City of Falls Church. Last season, the Falls Church Winter Shelter **served 36 guests**. The case management services had a significant impact on the program; several residents were assisted with dental and medical services, with nine residents moved into market-rate housing by the end of the season. The Friends of Falls Church Homeless Shelter utilizes over 150 volunteers to provide a hot meal and breakfast, as well as assist staff with supervising the guests at the shelter. For more information, please contact Tonya Golden at tgolden@newhopehousing.org or (703) 799-0200.
- From **December 1** through March 31 each winter, **Northern Virginia Family Services’ (NVFS)** operates the Bailey’s Crossroads Community Shelter (BCCS) Hypothermia Prevention Program. The BCCS Hypothermia Prevention Program operates in Fairfax County Human Services Region 2, which includes Annandale, Bailey’s Crossroads, and Seven Corners. In winter 2015-2016, BCCS’ Hypothermia Prevention Program helped protect **144 unsheltered individuals** from the elements. During the season, guests assemble at BCCS each evening, where they can access services including case management, meals, hygiene items, laundry and shower facilities, and cold-weather clothing and supplies. Thanks to partnerships with over 15 faith communities in Fairfax County, BCCS is able to expand its ability to serve unsheltered community members. Each night, BCCS transports Hypothermia Prevention guests to local faith communities where they stay overnight in the care of two BCCS staff members. Guests are then transported back to BCCS each morning. The overnight host site rotates weekly among partnering faith communities, many of whom generously offer meals, supplies, and fellowship in addition to overnight accommodations. For further information about the Hypothermia Prevention Program, please contact Milagros Jefferson, Hypothermia Prevention Program Coordinator, at mjefferson@nvfs.org or 703.820.7621. Please see <http://www.nvfs.org/baileys-needs> for a frequently updated list of donations needed to help support BCCS and the Hypothermia Prevention Program, or contact Meagan Perkins, Community & Volunteer Engagement Specialist, at mperkins@nvfs.org or 703.820.7621.

- In the North County area, including Herndon and Reston - Region 3, **Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith)** operates their winter seasonal program out of the Embury Rucker Community Shelter (ERCS). The shelter begins serving clients on a “no turn-away” basis beginning on **November 1, 2016**. (Weather dependent) Individuals are welcome to begin entering the shelter for dinner at 5:00 pm. Beginning **December 1, 2016** the main Hypothermia Prevention Program opens at the North County Government Building. Also on December 1, additional spaces are made available at the main shelter. Last season, the winter seasonal programs **served 332 clients**. A hot dinner, breakfast, bagged lunches, showers, laundry, bus tokens and basic self-care supplies are made available to all clients who participate in the winter seasonal programs. Outreach staff provides basic case management support to provide links to resources and opportunities for housing. In addition, life skills groups including employment skills are made available to all participants. All of the services and supplies provided through Cornerstones are provided through a combination of paid employees and a committed group of volunteers and donors. The winter seasonal programs all end on March 31. For further information, please contact Ken Hinkel at missy.norquest@cornerstonesva.org or (703) 437-1975; or Vincent Jenkins at vincent.jenkins@cornerstonesva.org. To volunteer or donate, please contact Susan Alger at Susan.Alger@cornerstonesva.org.
- In the Western and Central area, including Fairfax and Centreville - Region 4, **FACETS**’ hypothermia prevention season begins on **November 27th, 2016** through the morning of April 1st, 2016, with doors opening at 5:00 pm each evening and closing at 7:00 am each morning, seven days a week. FACETS **served 386 clients** last season. Community members are welcome to participate in the form of volunteering at the current locations or donating items such as food, clothing, etc. FACETS continues to provide case management services, by offering clients a choice between accessing intensive one-on-one case management, legal assistance, life skills classes or a combination of all based on clients’ individual needs. FACETS is also in the process of improving their volunteer and staff trainings with the goal of making sure everyone involved feels safe and confident in providing shelter to our homeless this season. FACETS will offer volunteer trainings to faith partners and will also employ a “train the trainer” method of volunteer trainings which will empower the faith community’s Point of Contact to train their volunteers. In addition, FACETS has set up Memorandum of Agreements with each of the host faith sites that clearly lists the expectations between the organization and their partner sites. FACETS rotates week-to-week between faith community hosting sites and beginning on December 27, 2016, they will operate from two faith community sites each week. For further information, please contact Maria Avila at Mavila@facetscares.org.

Additionally, the **Fairfax County Health Department’s Homeless Healthcare Program (HHP)** has nurse practitioners providing flu shots again this year for Hypothermia Prevention season. Guests will be given the shots free of charge. All guests are encouraged to take advantage of this offer. Outreach workers should plan to visit each venue to enroll clients into the clinics Community Health Care Network (CHCN). Please feel free to contact the nurse practitioner in your area for any medical needs or questions. Contact Lead Nurse Practitioner, Lori Mclean for questions related to the Homeless Health Care Program at Lorraine.Mclean@fairfaxcounty.gov or (571) 455-0585.

Fairfax County, operated by contracted nonprofit organizations, continues to operate the six year-round emergency shelters for individuals and families who are homeless. Families with children who need shelter must contact **Coordinated Services Planning** at (703) 222-0880 between the hours of 8:00 am and 4:30 pm. After business hours, families with children in need of shelter should go directly to the nearest family shelter. The phone numbers and addresses for the year-round shelters [are available on the county webpage](#).

The effective collaboration and partnering of the many other agencies includes the **Community Services Board (CSB), the Police Department, the Fire Marshal’s Office, the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services, and the Office to Prevent and End Homelessness (OPEH)**. These groups support the program and its client’s essential service and safety needs throughout the season.