

New North County Winter Shelter Programs – The County committed over \$1 million in new funding for cold weather shelter programs for the North County area in October. Since that time, staff of the County, North County cities, and several nonprofit agencies have been meeting regularly to prepare to implement the new programs, which began operation on December 1.

The following new shelter resources have been made available by the County specifically for North County clients, providing a total of 130 new shelter beds nightly, more than the capacity of the former Sunnyvale winter shelter facility:

- 5 beds at the Hotel de Zink rotating church shelter in Palo Alto
- 10 beds at the Project WeHOPE shelter in East Palo Alto
- 74 motel beds for North County clients through Downtown Streets Team and InnVision Shelter Network
- 29 beds at the Boccardo Reception Center in San Jose
- 12 beds at the Commercial Street Inn in San Jose

Shelter in these facilities may be accessed using a new North County referral process described below. In addition, new outreach and transportation services are being provided in North County with the new County funding.

In addition to the new programs above, the following shelter resources are available for county- wide clients:

- 100 beds at the Gilroy Armory Shelter
- 50 additional beds at the Boccardo Reception Center

In addition to the new shelter capacity, the County also provided funding for new outreach programs provided by Valley Health Care for the Homeless and several of the shelter providers. The County Office of Emergency Services will also implement an Inclement Weather Program to provide additional outreach, shelter, and safety services in periods of severe weather.

After the first night of operations, agencies reported that most of the new beds were fully occupied. Some of the nonprofit shelter providers have indicated that additional motel bed spaces could be provided this season if additional public or private sector funding were made available. Housing staff hosted a meeting on Wednesday, December 3, with all participating agencies to discuss ongoing implementation issues and continue coordination efforts.

North County Referral Process:

In order to access the new shelter programs, Sunnyvale clients should contact any of the agencies listed below for a referral. A staff member of each agency will complete the referral form, contact available shelter resources, and confirm that a bed or motel voucher is available or provide the client with information about other options and/or shelter waitlists:

Sunnyvale Community Services (families/couples): (408) 738-4321
Downtown Streets Team (single adults): (650) 847-0523

HomeFirst: (408) 539-2100, option 1
Mountain View Community Services Agency: (650) 968-0836
Project WeHope (single adults): (650) 462-1131
City of Sunnyvale Housing Division: (408) 730-7250

Sunnyvale Referrals by Client Type:

Families or Couples

To access the family motel vouchers and/or shelter units provided by InnVision/Shelter Network, Sunnyvale families may contact Marie Barlahan at Sunnyvale Community Services at (408) 738-4321, ext. 205. InnVision will provide transportation to shelter resources on weekdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., with stops at Sunnyvale Community Services (725 Kifer Road), the Opportunity Center in Palo Alto, and various motel and shelter destinations. Clients may also contact the City of Sunnyvale Housing Division at 408-730-7250 for assistance and referrals.

Single Individuals

To access motel vouchers for singles, clients may contact Downtown Streets Team by attending weekly meetings: in Sunnyvale at 12:30 p.m. on Tuesdays at 477 N. Mathilda Avenue; or in Palo Alto at All Saints Episcopal Church at 555 Waverly Street at 1 p.m. on Thursdays. For more information, call 650-847-0523 or 650-690-5551. Clients may also contact the City of Sunnyvale Housing Division at 408-730-7250 for assistance and referrals.

Nightly Shelter Sites:

Clients may visit the following shelters without a referral, but space is not guaranteed. To check on space availability, clients may call the numbers below or contact any of the agencies above for a referral:

Boccardo Reception Center (BRC)
2011 Little Orchard St., San Jose, 95125
Near "The Plant" shopping center
408-510-7502

Clients must be onsite by 3:30 p.m.
Space limited to 50. Adults only.

Gilroy National Guard Armory
8490 Wren Avenue Gilroy, 95020
Near Las Animas Park
408-712-0453

Clients must be onsite by 6 p.m. for intake.
Space limited to 100. Adults and families served. There are some offsite nights each month due to Guard exercises.

Project WeHope (Single Adults Only)
1858 Bay Road, East Palo Alto
650-462-1131

Family Shelters provided by InnVision require a referral from one of the agencies listed above.

Outreach:

Several agencies will be providing regular outreach at various locations in the county, including Fair Oaks Park in Sunnyvale:

Downtown Streets Team
Valley Health Care for the Homeless
HomeFirst
InnVision/Shelter Network

Volunteer/Donor Opportunities:

All of the participating agencies gladly accept donations of time, money, and in many cases, certain types of goods and household items. For more information about donor and volunteer opportunities, please see the websites of the agencies serving the Sunnyvale area, listed below in alphabetical order:

[Downtown Streets Team](#)
[HomeFirst](#)
[InnVision/Shelter Network](#)
[Project WeHope](#)
[Sunnyvale Community Services](#)
[West Valley Community Services](#)

Regional Policy Efforts:

[Destination Home](#)
Destination Home has recently published a new [Community Plan to End Homelessness](#) prepared with participation by many public sector and private agencies within the county. The plan is currently being circulated for public review.