



2024-2025

LANARK COUNTY

Winter Weather Response
A Homeless-Centred Plan for Keeping
People Safe

Lanark County Winter Weather Response Plan

Effective: November 15, 2024 - March 31, 2025

Overview

Individuals experiencing homelessness are particularly vulnerable to the health risks posed by winter weather hazards due to prolonged exposure to the elements. This risk is compounded by limited access to warm shelters, adequate clothing, nutritious food, and healthcare resources. As Lanark County faces harsh winter conditions and increasingly unpredictable weather events, it is crucial to address these risks effectively.

Purpose

The primary goal of the Winter Weather Response Plan is to mitigate the harmful health impacts of winter weather on individuals experiencing homelessness in Lanark County. Homelessness not only heightens exposure to the cold but also significantly increases the risk of illness and infection. The transient nature of homelessness makes it challenging to provide continuous medical care, particularly for those with pre-existing health conditions that may compromise their immune systems.

Objectives

The Winter Weather Response Plan aims to:

1. **Inform:** Alert individuals experiencing homelessness and those who engage with them about anticipated winter weather hazards.
2. **Activate:** Initiate response actions by agencies to adapt services and protect vulnerable populations from the dangers associated with winter weather.

Plan Components

This plan emphasizes proactive measures to prevent the direct impacts of winter weather hazards. It outlines preparedness and response strategies to safeguard the health and well-being of individuals experiencing homelessness during the winter months.

By implementing these strategies, we aim to foster a safer environment for our community's most vulnerable members and enhance their access to essential resources throughout the winter season.

Winter 2024-2025 Safety Plan for Lanark County

To ensure the safety and well-being of all residents during the winter months, we have identified four key initiatives for the 2024-2025 season:

1. Housing Assistance Program - Emergency Shelter Funds

As part of our Homeless Prevention Program (HPP) investment plan, we are allocating additional funding to enhance Emergency Shelter Solutions. This will facilitate increased hotel and motel stays during winter and allow for rapid responses to extreme weather advisories.

2. Increased Outreach Services

In collaboration with Lanark County Mental Health, we will expand outreach services focused on wellness checks and responding to reports of individuals outside in the cold. This initiative will include providing transportation to shelters and warming locations, as well as distributing blankets, sleeping bags, and warm winter clothing to those living outdoors. Additionally, we have hired a dedicated Harm Reduction Mental Health worker to address the specific needs of the homeless population.

3. Community Awareness Campaign

To raise awareness about winter weather hazards, we will launch a comprehensive campaign using posters, radio ads, social media, and our website. This campaign aims to inform individuals experiencing homelessness and those who interact with them about impending weather risks and available resources.

4. Adult Supportive Housing (ASH) - New Emergency Crisis Bed

Our Adult Supportive Housing portfolio now includes 74 beds, with the recent addition of a new emergency crisis bed, bringing the total to two emergency crisis beds in Lanark County. We will prioritize emergency and non-emergency beds for individuals experiencing homelessness who are unsheltered and listed on the By Name List.

These initiatives are designed to enhance the support and resources available to our community's most vulnerable members throughout the winter season.

Collaboration and Partner Engagement

Effective implementation of the Cold Weather Response Plan relies on strong coordination and collaboration among organizations and individuals involved in education, planning, and response efforts related to cold weather. Lanark County's Winter Response Plan has been developed in partnership with members of the By Name List Committee.

Role of Stakeholders

Committee members contribute to the Winter Response in diverse ways. Some provide direct services to individuals experiencing homelessness, while others offer specialized expertise in areas such as health, safety, weather, and funding resources to enhance service delivery and improve safety during winter months.

By Name List & Winter Response Planning Committee Membership:

- Lanark County Social Services
- Lanark County Interval House
- Lanark County Mental Health
- Lanark Leeds & Grenville Addictions and Mental Health
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- Cornerstone Landing Youth Services
- Victim Services Lanark County
- Lanark County Community Paramedics
- Lanark County Ontario Provincial Police

Shared Responsibilities

All stakeholders are encouraged to:

- **Download the WeatherCAN App:** Consider subscribing for weather warnings from Environment Canada at Canadian Weather - Environment Canada.
- **Develop Response Plans:** Each organization should create its own strategy for responding to weather warnings.
- **Engage Actively:** Participate in committee meetings, consultations, evaluations, and communications. While not every representative can attend every meeting or respond to every email, it is crucial for all stakeholders to have a voice in the development, implementation, and enhancement of plans that protect the health and safety of individuals experiencing homelessness during winter.

In addition to these collective responsibilities, each stakeholder has specific roles to fulfill during different phases of the Winter Weather Response Plan. This collaborative approach is essential to ensuring a comprehensive and effective response to the challenges posed by winter weather.

Appendix A- Community Resource Guide

Appendix B- Poster campaign

Appendix C- Website information

COMMUNITY RESOURCE SHEET

Homeless Response Team, Lanark County Social Services		(613)267-4200			
Homeless Afterhours- Victim Services		(613)206-1486			
OW-ODSP -	1-888-999-1142 Smiths Falls	(613)267-4200 or Ontario.ca/socialassistance (613)283-1165			
LEAP		1-855-487-5327			
Victim Services	Afterhours	(613)206-1486			
Victim Services		1-866-575-0067			
Smiths Falls	Lanark County Mental Health	(613)283-2170	1(866)281-2911		
Carleton Place	Lanark County Mental Health	(613)257-5915	1(866)281-2911		
Perth	Mental Health Crisis Line	(613)345-4600	1(866)281-2911		
Lanark County	Talk Suicide Canada	Text 45645(4pm-midnight)	1(833)456-4566		
Perth	Cornerstone Youth	(613)267-5861	info.cornerstonelandino@gmail.com		
Smiths Falls	Salvation Army	(613)283-3563			203 Brockville St, Smiths Falls ON K7A 3Z3
Perth	Salvation Army	(613)267-6260			95 Wilson St W, Perth ON K7H2P1 299 Bridge St, Carleton Place(baptist church)Free quality clothes to those in need, everything is free. Tuesdays 10-12 and Saturday 2-4
Carleton Place	Carleton Place Clothing Closet	cpclothingbank@gmail.com			
Perth	Perth and Dis-trict Union Library	(613) 267-1224			30 Herriott Street, Perth
Carleton Place	Carleton Place Public Library	(613) 257-2702			101 Beckwith Street, Carleton Place
Smiths Falls	Smiths Falls District Library	(613) 283-2911			81 Beckwith St. N, Smiths Falls
Mississippi Mills	Mississippi Mills Public Library - Almonte	(613)256-1037			155 High Street, Almonte
Pakenham	Mississippi Mills Public Library - Pakenham	(613)624-5306			128 MacFarlane St., Pakenham
Lanark	Lanark Library	(613)259-3068			75 George St, Lanark
Perth	The Table	(613)267-6428			190 Gore Street East, Perth
Lanark	Lanark Highland Food Pantry	(613)259-3285			49B George St, Lanark
Perth	Youth: YAK After- school Program for Youth	(613)264-8381			1881 Rogers Rd., Perth
Perth	ConnectWell: Good Food for Healthy Babies	(613)257-2779 ext 3100	1(888)284-2204		207 Robertson Drive, Lanark
Smiths Falls	Smiths Falls Community Food Bank	(613)283-6695			93 Russell St. E., Smiths Falls
Carleton Place	The Hunger Stop	(613)257-8546			84 Mill St, Carleton Place
Hotel/Motel	Perth	Aquarius Motel	(613)267-4261	1(866)232-2342	17518 HWY 7, Perth
Hotel/Motel	Perth	Colonial Inn	(613)267-3660	1(877)455-2333	17544 Highway #7, RR4 Perth
Hotel/Motel	Perth	Perth Plaza Motel	(613)264-1022	1(833)574-1349	40 Dufferin St., Perth
Hotel/Motel	Perth	Tay Inn	(613)267-3300	1(866)890-9498	125 Dufferin St, Perth
Hotel/Motel	Carleton Place	7West Motel	(613)257-5666		10470 Highway 7, Carleton Place
Hotel/Motel	Carleton Place	Barons Motor Inn	(613)257-4002		10451 Highway 7, Carleton Place
Hotel/Motel	Smiths Falls	Best Inn Motel	(613)284-0464		241 Lombard St, Smiths Falls
Hotel/Motel	Smiths Falls	Best Western	(613)284-0001		88 Lombard Street, Smiths Falls
Hotel/Motel	Smiths Falls	Comfort Inn	(613)283-5150		33 Centre St. Smiths Falls
Hotel/Motel	Smiths Falls	Rogers Motel	(613)283-5200		178 Lombard St., Smiths Falls
Shelter	Ottawa	The Mission	(613) 234-1144	ottawamission.com	35 Waller Street, Ottawa ON K1N 7G4
Shelter	Ottawa	Sheppards of Good hope	(613) 789-8210	sgottawa.com	233, rue Murray Street, Ottawa ON K1N 5M5
Shelter	Ottawa	Salvation Army - Ottawa Booth Centre	(613) 241-1573	ottawaboothcentre.org	171 George St, Ottawa ON K1N 5W5
shelter	ottawa	YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU OF OTTAWA	(613) 729-1000	ysb.ca	2675 Queensview Dr, Ottawa ON K2B 8K2
Youth Shelter	Ottawa	Young Women's Emergency Shelter	(613) 789-8220	ysb.ca	no address given
women	Ottawa	Cornerstone Housing for Women	(613) 254-6584	cornerstonewomen.ca	314 Booth St, Ottawa ON K1R 7K2
Adult Co-ed	Brockville	The Centre The Cooperative Care Centre	613-499-1988		1805 Oxford Ave, Brockville, ON K6V 7B5. First come First serve and only 15 spots.
Adult Co-ed	Kingston	In From the Cold Emergency Shelter	Phone: 613-542-6672 ext. 2		540 Montreal St. Open 24/7. Adult coed shelter
Open 24/7. Shelter for families with children drop-in every night from 8 – 11 p.m. Overnight adult coed drop-in, open 9 p.m. – 8:45 a.m.	Kingston	Lily's Place	Phone: 613-542-6672 ext. 3		333 Kings court Ave.
	Kingston	Concession St. Centre	Phone: 613-542-6672 ext. 310.		218 Concession St.
Overnight, adult coed drop-in 1 – 4 p.m. Monday to Friday with services for coed adults. Overnight drop-in services for men is open 9 p.m. – 8 a.m.	Kingston	Adelaide St. Centre	Phone: 613-483-8580		38 Cowdy St.
	Kingston	St. Mary's Drop-In Centre*	Phone: 613-546-5521 ext. 3		260 Brock St
Youth	Kingston	Kingston Youth Shelter	613-549-4236	kingstonyouthshelter.com	365 Nelson Street
Interval House	Carleton Place	Womens Shelter	1-800-267-7946		
Interval House	Ottawa	Womens shelter	(613) 234-5181		

Homeless? We can help.

Please contact Lanark County Homeless Response Team

Phone 613-267-4200 x 2140

Toll free 1-888-952-6275

Monday-Friday 8:30 am - 4 pm

or

After-Hours Emergency 613-206-1486

LANARK
COUNTY



VICTIM SERVICES
Lanark County



Winter Response Strategy: for the unsheltered homeless

To enhance services & supports available to vulnerable residents, these additional supports are in place:

- Outreach & Case Management supports
- Adult Supportive Housing Beds prioritized to unsheltered
- Emergency Crisis Bed
- Emergency winter supplies
- Emergency shelter solutions: funding for hotel/motel stay

Effective from Nov 15, 2024 to Mar 31, 2025.

Winter Weather Response: Stay Informed, Stay Safe!



To better serve our community's vulnerable residents this winter, we are implementing the following additional supports:

- **Outreach & Case Management:** Dedicated outreach teams will provide essential case management services to connect individuals with necessary resources and support.
- **Adult Supportive Housing Beds:** Priority access to supportive housing beds will be granted to unsheltered individuals, ensuring they have a safe place to stay.
- **Emergency Crisis Bed:** A new emergency crisis bed is available to provide immediate support for those in urgent need.
- **Emergency Winter Supplies:** Distribution of essential winter supplies, including blankets, warm clothing, and other necessities, to help those in need stay safe and warm.
- **Increased Emergency Shelter Funding:** Additional funding has been allocated for hotel and motel stays to ensure immediate shelter options are available during extreme weather conditions.

Effective Dates: November 15, 2024 – March 31, 2025.

These measures aim to enhance the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable residents during the winter months.