

CITY OF MADISON TEMPORARY MEN'S SHELTER

City of Madison
December 2020





HOMELESSNESS CONTEXT

- Families
 - About 90 families currently sheltered in local hotels
 - New shelter planned for 600 block of East Washington
 - Temporary facility to provide bridge to new shelter
- Vulnerable Population Hotels
 - Public Health-guided criteria
 - 210 rooms in local hotels
- Isolation and Quarantine Hotels (Medical Respite)
 - Confirmed positive test for COVID-19 infection
 - Exhibiting common symptoms
 - Known contacts of positive cases



HOMELESSNESS CONTEXT

- Single Women
 - TSA shelter can serve up to 65 women
- Men
 - Downtown venues served up to 170 men
 - Warner Park
 - Capacity to shelter 135
 - Currently serving 90-95
- Unsheltered Homeless
 - Peaked in September at about 210
 - Current estimate about 110



MEN'S OVERNIGHT SHELTER

- 35 years in downtown church basements
- Forced to close due to health and safety concerns (COVID-19)
- Warner Park offered needed space and capacity
- First Street offers even more capacity
- It is intended to provide bridge to planned new men's shelter



ANTICIPATED TIMELINE

- First Street Facility
 - Scheduled to open Wednesday Dec 16
 - Will vacate to allow for renovation, expected to take place in Q4 2021, for Madison Public Market
 - Porchlight Inc. will continue as operator
 - Other City functions at the site will continue



SHELTER OPERATION

- Expect to function as overnight shelter only
- Shelter hours 5 p.m. to 8 a.m.
- Daily bus transportation at open and close
- On-site parking
- Indoor intake and health screening
- Dinner and breakfast served



CITY CONTACTS

- Jim O’Keefe
 - Community Development Division Director
 - jokeefe@cityofmadison.com
 - 608 266-7851

- Linette Rhodes
 - Community Development Grants Supervisor
 - lrhodes@cityofmadison.com
 - 608 261-9240

PORCHLIGHT

FIRST STREET SHELTER COMMUNITY MEETING – 12/9/20





PORCHLIGHT SERVICES

- ❖ Eviction prevention program
 - ❖ Street outreach team
 - ❖ Transitional program for Veterans
 - ❖ Day shelter for individuals with mental illness
 - ❖ Supportive employment program
 - ❖ Over 350 units of low-income housing
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- ❖ Men's Drop-In Shelter
 - main provider of emergency overnight shelter for male-identified individuals in Dane County





MEN'S DROP-IN SHELTER (DIS)

- ❖ Started in winter 1984 at Grace Episcopal, remained in the basement at Grace Church until 2020
 - ❖ 2nd space in the basement of St. John's Lutheran
 - ❖ 3rd space in the basement of First United Methodist



CDC Guidelines, Best Practices for Congregate Shelter

- ❖ Physical distancing
- ❖ Cleaning/sanitization
- ❖ Emergency staffing plans



SHELTER AT WARNER PARK

- ❖ Overwhelmingly positive experience for Porchlight
 - ❖ Established a great working relationship with the North Side Police District
 - ❖ Communicated biweekly with the area alders
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- ❖ Spaced cots 6 feet apart, promoted physical distancing
 - ❖ Cleaned the facility, laundered linens daily
 - ❖ Provided catered, individually packaged meals
 - ❖ Consolidated staff into one location





SHELTER AT WARNER PARK

Policy Changes

- ❖ Paused enforcement of 90-day shelter limit
- ❖ Increased access to individuals under influence of substances
- ❖ Decreased length and frequency of suspensions

New Staffing Pattern

- ❖ Health Assessment Coordinator
- ❖ Shelter Assistants
- ❖ Support Specialist
- ❖ Case Managers





SHELTER AT FIRST STREET

What to Expect

- ❖ 15-20 different staff members on-site throughout the week from approximately 3:30pm – 8:30am each day
- ❖ 80-200 guests per night
- ❖ Guests arriving via car, shuttle, Metro bus, or on foot primarily during intake hours (5:00pm – 8:30pm, nightly)
 - ❖ Guests with jobs may arrive after hours with permission
 - ❖ Guests may not leave the facility and return the same night
- ❖ Guests departing via car, shuttle, Metro bus, or on foot starting as early as 5:00am, until close at 8:00am
 - ❖ Majority of guests will arrive and depart on the shuttle





SHELTER AT FIRST STREET

What to Expect

- ❖ Occasional emergency personnel
 - ❖ Medical attention
 - ❖ Transport to detox
 - ❖ Removal from property in extreme cases
- ❖ Staff from other agencies/programs
 - ❖ Public Health & UnityPoint Health – Meriter
 - ❖ Street outreach (Porchlight, CFC, MACH, FSSF, Tellurian)
 - ❖ VA Homeless Program
 - ❖ UW MEDiC Program





CONTACTS

Preston Patterson

Drop-In Shelter Manager

ppatterson@porchlightinc.org

(608) 416-1446

Kim Sutter

Director of Services

ksutter@porchlightinc.org

(608) 257-2534 ext. 39

Karla Thennes

Executive Director

kthennes@porchlightinc.org

(608) 257-2534 ext. 14

For More Information:

www.porchlightinc.org/mens-emergency-shelter/

We will soon update this page with more information on the shelter operation at First Street, including an updated version of the Shelter Policies & Procedures.

You can also refer to the website (www.porchlightinc.org) for updates regarding Porchlight's ongoing pandemic response.