

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Crisis Cold Weather Shelters Schedule

**October 31, 2023:** Plummeting temperatures, ice, and snow create life-threatening conditions for those experiencing homelessness in our community. Providing overnight shelter during the harsh winter months is the mission of eleven area churches/organizations in our community, opening their doors to individuals each night when temperatures drop below freezing. These include:

Shelter	Population
East Sunshine Church of Christ – 3721 E. Sunshine	Men
Grace UMC – 600 S. Jefferson	Women
Unity of Springfield – 2214 E. Seminole	Anyone
Sacred Heart Catholic Church – 2 days/week 1609 N.	Men
Summit	
Revive 66 – 3839 W. Chestnut	Anyone & pets
YouthConnect Center – 425 W McDaniel St	Ages 13-18
The GLO Center – 2 days/week 518 E. Commercial St	Ages 19-24
Brentwood Christian Church – 1900 E. Barataria	Anyone
Venues 425 – Overflow - 425 W. Walnut	Anyone
Eden Village 1 – <b>Overflow</b> - 2801 E. Division	Anyone
Harbor House – <b>Overflow</b> - 636 N. Boonville	Men with ID

These volunteer-run shelter sites create a safe space for individuals to seek solace during cold winter nights. Crisis Cold Weather Shelter season starts November 1<sup>st</sup> and runs through March 31<sup>st</sup>. As these organizations prepare for the expected upcoming cold weather, volunteers are critical in making sure our homeless community is cared for during freezing weather, and overnight volunteers are needed. Shifts run from 7:30 p.m. to 7:30 a.m.; volunteers are always paired with another volunteer and can sleep for part of the night.

If you can help, please fill out the Volunteer Interest Form at <a href="https://forms.gle/W6aK12vMF6MTMXdK8">https://forms.gle/W6aK12vMF6MTMXdK8</a> This form is a shared sign-up across all Crisis Cold Weather Shelter sites. You can also email <a href="mailto:OAEH@cpozarks.org">OAEH@cpozarks.org</a> for more information.

Anyone needing to access Crisis Cold Weather Shelter may get a free meal, sign up for shelter and be picked up at Grace United Methodist Church, located at 600 S. Jefferson. Meals, shelter sign-up and transportation (when shelters are open) begin each night at 5:30 p.m.

Crisis Cold Weather Sheltering is made possible through the City of Springfield's Declaration of Economic and Housing Calamity ordinance. Businesses, churches and other entities address overnight shelter needs by hosting additional overnight emergency shelter beds in their buildings. This ordinance allows entities to host overnight emergency shelter beds after completing health and safety inspections with the City of Springfield.

Community Partnership's Ozarks Alliance to End Homelessness works closely with host sites to coordinate other logistics involved in hosting a shelter, including training, volunteers, transportation and supplies.

Interested parties can learn more about these needs by visiting <a href="www.cpozarks.org/ccws">www.cpozarks.org/ccws</a>

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## **ABOUT COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OF THE OZARKS**

The mission of Community Partnership of the Ozarks is to facilitate and promote the building of resilient children, healthy families, and strong neighborhoods and communities through collaboration, programming, and resource development. For more information on the Partnership's collaborative efforts and programs, visit <a href="https://www.cpozarks.org">www.cpozarks.org</a>.