



# COUNTY OF HUNTERDON NEW JERSEY

## DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Planning, Mental Health, Alcohol & Drug Abuse, Youth Services, Social Services  
Disability Services, Senior Services, Transportation, Housing

Meagan Q. O'Reilly  
Administrator

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October 5, 2020

Re: Code Blue Warming Center

I hope this letter finds you in good health. I am reaching out to advise that The Hunterdon County Freeholder Board, during their September 1, 2020 meeting, approved funding for a Code Blue Warming Center located at Hunterdon Helpline Inc. 1 Maple Ave. Flemington, NJ 08822. This warming center will operate on nights when a Code Blue is declared by the County Office of Emergency Management from the hours of 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. A Code Blue is declared when the temperature will reach 32 degrees Fahrenheit or below.

When a Code Blue is declared, The County Office of Emergency Management Coordinator emails a comprehensive list of contacts which includes municipal OEMs, Police Chiefs, the 911 center, Human Services staff, NJ-211 and Hunterdon Helpline so that the community is aware the declaration has been made and preparations can begin.


Individuals or couples in need of the warming center services can call The Division of Social Services at 908-788-1300 during normal business hours or NJ-211 to receive a referral to the warming center. Families with minor children should call 908-788-1300 during normal business hours or NJ-211 after hours to discuss their housing options.

During business hours callers will be referred to local daytime warming centers which may include County facilities. During adverse weather conditions like ice or snowstorms, County OEM will send out specific messaging regarding the warming center operational hours in consultation with The Department of Human Services.

Although the county has only contracted with Helpline for the warming center services, Helpline advised that they will offer the homeless, who visit the center, case management services through their "Next Door" program which aims to permanently house the chronically homeless in collaboration county staff and local nonprofit service providers.

Visitors to the warming center will be required to wear a mask and follow social distancing protocols. If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to my office at 908-788-1253.

Sincerely,

  
Meagan Q. O'Reilly  
Human Services Administrator