

Individual Services Committee Meeting Minutes - 12/11/24

In attendance: roughly 30 shelter, housing and community providers

Shelter Updates

- Craig's Doors: full in both sites, but call Craig's Doors at their main number - 256-0704 ext 2 at 8:30 am to see if a bed is open (likely provisional, for one night)
- Craig's Doors is also running a limited emergency hotel stay program during extremely cold weather - determinations to implement program made in the morning (8:30/9 am) based on criteria. Takes referrals from community partners, e.g., Manna, CRESS
- Note: we discussed the possibility of coordinating criteria regionally - we will discuss further after HLC funding has been announced and we are clear on who is operating what resources
- CSO Friends of the Homeless, Springfield - expanded shelter beds from 175 to 182. Currently a couple of openings; they fill fast
- CSO Greenfield: in the process of moving from Wells St to Arch St location (as renovation and expansion at Wells St gets underway)
- CSO Northampton: official ribbon cutting for new site at Industrial Drive is Thursday, 12/19, 11:30 am. Actual opening date is sometime in January.
- Franklin County/N. Quabbin project: will serve 30 communities across the region, anchored by organizations in 4 "hubs"; a compilation of resources is [here](#) in its **Franklin County and North Quabbin Region Winter Response Resources for Unhoused Individuals**
- Samaratin Inn, Westfield: it was noted that they are now charging \$65/week to stay at this shelter. Not funded by state monies (any public funds?)
- Northampton Medical Respite Program Northampton: 3 beds available, contact Mark Jachym at mark.jachym@csoinc.org to pursue further.
- Springfield Medical Respite Program: 2 beds available - contact Olivia Bernstein at obernstein@mhainc.org to discuss further

Criteria for admission into medical respite program:

- Only hospital referrals (the individual can be inpatient or in the emergency department).
- Homeless
- Acute rehabable condition
- Must have MassHealth and be deemed "self-sufficient"

Three County CoC Updates

- **Annual Meeting - Tuesday, December 17, 1-3 pm**, on Zoom, [register here](#)
- Organizing a **candlelight vigil on 12/21 at 4 pm** in Northampton - see [details here](#)
- 3 County Point in Time Count taking place the last week of January, and night count is on January 25. Contact Natalie Burtzos, 3 County CoC, PIT Count lead if you are interested in being involved in any capacity - complete this form to get connected: <https://forms.office.com/r/wM3HYDfuCO>

Hampden County CoC Updates - please [go here](#) for a detailed report by Gerry McCafferty

SMOC update: we met the new SMOC housing director for western MA, Catherine Caney - feel free to reach out to learn more (Pamela will do so and relay housing application info to all). Contact info: ccaney@smoc.org; 774-509-0156

Next meeting date: Tuesday, 1/21, 1 pm