

# INCLEMENT WEATHER SHELTER FY23 UPDATE

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# Introduction

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The following presentation provides an overview of the FY23 IWS and preliminary data on utilization of the congregate sites as well as non-congregate component implemented during the Arctic Blast Weather Event in December 2022.

The City continues to employ a multi-departmental approach, while collaborating with the GRCoC and year-round shelter providers.

# FY23 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

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## RECAP

Two (2) temporary sites were in operation until December 31, 2022.

In response to a severe weather event, the Arctic Blast, a Non-Congregate (Hotel) component was opened at the Richmond Inn Hotel on December 23, 2022.

This component ended on February 28, 2023. A total of **25** rooms were available under this component. 24 rooms were used to shelter families, the elderly and medically-vulnerable. One additional room was used as an onsite office.

# FY23 IMPLEMENTATION STRATEGY

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The IWS Initiative was implemented in two (2) funding phases.

- Phase I of the initiative provided operational funding for a total of **60** beds at one site (*CCC*), along with the renovation of all four (4) sites (*CCC, RVA Sisters Keeper, United Nations Church and Fifth Street Baptist Church*).
- Phase II included funding for operations of the remaining three (3) sites (*RVA Sisters Keeper, United Nations Church and Fifth Street Baptist Church*).

# The FY23 IWS Locations, Operators and Usage

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United Nations Church, 1901 Wall Street  
60 beds available  
Serves single adult males

Total persons served 11/13/2022-  
03/4/2023: **6,253**  
Daily Average: **55.8** persons

# The FY23 IWS Locations, Operators and Usage

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RVA Sisters Keepers, 2807 Hull Street

40 beds available

Serves single adult females and mothers with children

Total persons served 11/13/2022-03/4/2023: **3,395**

Daily Average: 30.3 persons

**Also served 334 families with 675 children**



# The FY23 IWS Locations, Operators and Usage

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Commonwealth Catholic Charities  
1900 Chamberlayne Parkway

60 beds

Serves single adults of all identities

Total persons served 01/3/2023-03/4/2023:

**3,570**

**Daily Average: 56.7 persons**

# The FY23 IWS Locations, Operators and Usage

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Richmond Inn Hotel – RVA Sisters Keepers  
6346 Midlothian Turnpike  
Up to 24 rooms and 1 office

Served families, the elderly, and medically-vulnerable populations.

**A Snap Shot of Persons Served 12/23/2022-2/28/2023:**

**Elderly: 13 (unduplicated count)**

**Families: 25 including 57 children (unduplicated count)**

**Medically Vulnerable: 10 (unduplicated count)**

The Non-Congregate component opened during the Arctic Blast Weather Event.



# The FY23 IWS Locations, Operators and Usage

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Fifth Street Baptist Church  
2800 3rd Avenue  
30 beds proposed  
Serves single adult males

This location had to secure the approval of the City Council for a Special Use Permit. This location was not operational in FY23.

# Proposed Short and Mid-Term Plans

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## *Short-Term (FY24 and FY25):*

- Contract for emergency shelter capacity for at least **150** beds for the upcoming winter by August 2023.
- Identify locations and providers this spring.
- Beds available nightly, on a first-come, first-serve, walk-in basis. Provide two (2) meals per day. Other services would be more limited. Participants would be entered into the regional system for housing placement services.
- Provide up to **25 rooms** through a Non-Congregate setting for families, the elderly and medically vulnerable.

# Proposed Short and Mid-Term Plans Cont'd

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## *Mid-Term (FY26):*

- Add a minimum of **50** permanent shelter beds to the current capacity of 260+ in the region. Services will be available 24 hrs/day, 7 days/week, 365 days/year.
- Provided to persons with the most urgent and critical needs, prioritized like existing shelters. Offer a range of services with a goal for permanent housing placement in less than 2 months.

Would enable 350-450 more homeless persons to be served each year.

# Proposed Short and Mid-Term Plans Cont'd

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- The Greater Richmond Continuum of Care (GRCoC) recently established a workgroup to address each of these two (2) immediate concerns. Private service providers and funders, public agency staff, and recipients will develop options and recommendations.
- Options identified by the City will be included in the deliberations. The final identified emergency shelter options is anticipated to be ready in 2-3 months.
- The extreme weather response recommendations are anticipated to be finalized in 3-4 months.

While the shelters likely would be located in Richmond, this should be a regional solution supported with funding from all the region's localities.

# Questions and Answers

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# Thank You!

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The Inclement Weather Shelter sites will close on **April 15, 2023**. A final report will be provided by June 30, 2023.

