

Severe Weather Activation Outcomes

King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) activated a Tier 3 Severe Weather response for King County for 8 nights from January 10, 2024 - January 17, 2024. In partnership with the County, various city partners, and service providers across the region, there were more than 1,800 beds/units to shelter our unhoused neighbors. In addition, free transportation was available to those seeking shelter and daytime warming spaces were open to the public.

To learn more about the processes behind a severe weather activation, please see our latest blog: https://kcrha.org/news-what-happens-when-severe-weather-protocols-are-activated/

It's important to remember that more than 53,000 people experience homelessness in King County over the course of a year, and our system does not currently have the resources to meet the need. However, severe weather coordination with city and service provider partners is strong, and together we were able to bring many people in from the cold. Below is a summary of the regional impact across King County during this severe weather activation.

Shetler Bed Capacity

City of Seattle

Between year-round emergency shelters and activated severe weather shelters, there were more than 750 beds and family units within city bounds during the severe weather activation. KCRHA, in collaboration with the City of Seattle and contracted service provider The Salvation Army (TSA), opened the three severe weather shelter locations and increased bed/unit capacity each night to meet the needs of our unhoused neighbors. Shelter openings include TSA's SODO Bay A from January 10-17 (capacity 33), Seattle City Hall on January 11 only (capacity 45), and Exhibition Hall from January 12-17 (capacity increased from 120 to 300). During a Tier 3 activation, the City of Seattle provides access to these city-owned properties, if available, at no cost to KCRHA. These shelters increased capacity by more than 330 beds within the City of Seattle and helped ensure no one seeking shelter was turned away.

North King County

In collaboration with the cites of Shoreline, Lake Forest Park, Kenmore, Bothell, and Woodinville, all of which pooled their funding for an agreement with KCRHA to open a new severe weather shelter, KCRHA opened St. Dunstan's Church in Shoreline, staffed by the Urban League, with a capacity of up to 20 individuals nightly.

East King County

KCRHA does not have contracts for severe weather response in East King County, but does play a coordinating role with cities and service providers. There are more than 580 beds and family units providing year-round emergency shelter in East King County. In addition, Helen's Place expanded capacity for 10 single adult women, and the Eastside Men's Shelter expanded capacity for 25 single adult men.

South King County

KCRHA does not have contracts for severe weather response in South King County, but does play a coordinating role with cities and service providers. There are more than 520 beds and family units in South King County during severe weather activation. Thanks to the cities of Auburn, Burien, Kent, Federal Way and Renton for opening their city-funded severe weather shelters to add more than 200 beds. Each of the South King County city-funded shelters were at or over capacity for the duration of the activation.

Other Resources Available

Warming spaces were open at Seattle Public Libraries, King County Libraries, Union Station in Seattle, The Armory at Seattle Center, and various day centers across the County.

Metro provided transportation to and from shelters for unhoused neighbors.

Seattle Fire Department's Health One and Public Health of Seattle King County transported people living outside and in encampments to Exhibition Hall, and responded to outreach provider calls to bring people to shelters.

Outreach teams across Seattle and King County supported efforts to bring people inside.

During an activation, KCRHA convenes daily coordinating calls with staff and by sub-region, maintains updated real-time information on our website, and provides printable flyers for outreach.

Thank you to all of our partners for helping to bring people in from the cold.

		Shelter Type						Usage Each Night								
		Year Round Emergency Shelter				General Capacity	Expanded Beds									4
Agency Name	Program Name	Severe Weather Only	Subregion	City	Population Served	(pre activation)	(for activation)	Total Capacity	10-Jan	11-Jan	12-Jan	13-Jan	14-Jan	15-Jan	16-Jan	17-Jan
The Salvation Army	SoDo Lighthouse Shelter (Bay-A)	swo	Seattle	Seattle	All Adults	0	33	33	29	33	33	33	33	33	33	33
The Salvation Army	Seattle City Hall Severe Weather Shelter	SWO	Seattle	Seattle	All Adults	0	45	45	-	45		-	-	-	-	-
The Salvation Army	Exhibition Hall Severe Weather Shelter	SWO	Seattle	Seattle	All Adults	0	300	300	-	٠	185	251	267	218	225	228
YWCA	Hotels for Families	SWO	Seattle	Seattle	Families with Children	70	0	70	12	8	14	5	4	2	4	7
Mary's Place	Regrade Family Center	YR ES	Seattle	Seattle	Families with Children	200	0	200	234	234	234	234	234	234	234	234
Angeline's	Day Center and Overnight Enhance Shelter	YR ES	Seattle	Seattle	Single Adult Women	45	0	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45	45
Seattle Indian Center	SIC Men's Shelter	YR ES	Seattle	Seattle	Single Adult Men	40	3	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43	43
Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle	Urban League Youth and Young Adult shelter	YR ES	Seattle	Seattle	Young Adult 18-25	25										
Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle	St. Dunstan's Church Severe Weather Shelter	swo	North King County	Shoreline	All Adults	0	20	20	9	5	11	13	17	19	18	14
The Sophia Way	Helen's Place	YR ES	East King County	Kirkland	Single Adult Women	21	10	31	27	27	28	28	28	28	28	28
The Sophia Way	Sophia's Place	YR ES	East King County	Bellevue	Single Adult Women	40	0	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40	40
Porchlight	Eastside Men's Shelter	YR ES	East King County	Bellevue	Single Adult Men	100	25	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125	125
Catholic Community Service	New Bethlehem Place	YR ES	East King County	Kirkland	Families with Children	52	0	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52	52
Catholic Community Service	New Beth Hotel	YR ES	East King County	Kirkland	Families with Children	10	0	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10
Mary's Place	Bellevue Family Shelter	YR ES	East King County	Bellevue	Families with Children	260	0	260	274	274	274	274	274	274	274	274
Friends of Youth	The Landing	YR ES	East King County	Redmond	Young Adults	15	0	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15	15
Lake WA UMC	Safe Parking Program	YR ES	East King County	Kirkland	Single Women + non-binary	35	0	35	N/A							
Reclaim	River Street Shelter (motels)	YR ES	Snoqualmie Valley	Snoqualmie	Single Adults	15	0	15								
Auburn Food Bank	Sundown Shelter	YR ES	South King County	Auburn	All Adults	35	0	35	-		30	35		32	30	
Auburn Food Bank	Ray of Hope Safe Parking	YR ES	South King County	Auburn	All Adults	15	0	15	-		17	17		16	16	
City of Auburn	Ray of Hope Day Center Overnight	swo	South King County	Auburn	All Adults	0	60	60	-		59	35		40	40	
YMCA	Arcadia Overnight Shelter	YR ES	South King County	Auburn	Young Adult 18-25	16	0	16	12	17	15	16	14	14	14	
City of Burien	Highline United Methodist Church	swo	South King County	Burien	General	0	50	50	-	48	67	78	96	95		
Mary's Place	Mary's Place	YR ES	South King County	Burien	Families with Children	150	0	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150	150
Hospitality House	Hospitality House	YR ES	South King County	Burien	Single Adult Women	9	0	9	-	-	-					
FUSION	FUSION Family Center	YR ES	South King County	Federal Way	Families with Children	29 (units)	0	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29	29
City of Federal Way	FUSION Family Center Great Room	swo	South King County	Federal Way	General	0	14	14	-	-	13	26	35	28	14	
Multi-Service Center	MSC Emergency Shelter	YR ES	South King County	Federal Way	Families with Children	64 (units)	0	64	-	-	-					
City of Kent	Holy Spirit Church	swo	South King County	Kent	Single Adults and Families	0	40	40	-	29	33	34	34	28		
REACH	REACH Overnight	YR ES	South King County	Renton	General	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		
City of Renton	St Anthony's Rec Hall	swo	South King County	Renton	Single Adults and Families	0	40	40	-	31	56	52	72	48	43	-
Enumclaw Overnight Shelter	Plateau Outreach Ministries	YR ES	South East King County	Enumclaw	General					2	3	3	1	2		