

**St. Joseph County – Region 2a**  
**Homeless Regional Planning Council**  
**Weather Amnesty Service Plan**  
**2025 – 2026 Winter Season**

- 1) Project's Purpose:** On behalf of Region 2a, the Center for the Homeless provides additional seasonal beds for unsheltered men, women, and families.
- 2) Project's Service Plan:** In response to the community need for additional emergency shelter space during freezing winter weather conditions, the Center for the Homeless agrees to provide the following overflow beds:
  - 74 beds for men
  - 19 beds for women
  - 2 rooms for mothers and their minor children
  - a) Weather Amnesty goes into effect beginning **November 1, 2025**, and continuing until **April 30, 2026, regardless of temperature**. Check in begins at 8pm, unless otherwise announced. All persons seeking shelter are expected to arrive promptly at 8pm, as they cannot be guaranteed shelter if they arrive after 8pm. **All agencies are encouraged to call ahead to determine capacity before sending a referral.**
  - b) Weather Amnesty is for **overnight shelter only** and concludes at 8:00 AM each morning, unless otherwise announced. The Center for the Homeless reserves the right to extend Weather Amnesty operational hours in the instance of extreme weather.
  - c) **Weather Amnesty is a “damp” living program.** CFH understands that addiction is a medical and/or behavioral issue, and substance use outside of WA hours should not be considered a reason to exclude someone from overnight shelter. However, in order to have a safe and harmonious community we must insist that everyone makes every effort to behave safely appropriately during program hours. **We will not tolerate the use of alcohol or drugs in our building or anywhere on our property.**
  - d) For the safety of the community, potential guests must be able to **verify their identity**. Full name and date of birth may be sufficient to run a background check. Those with **sex offense and/or arson/firesetting charges are ineligible** for the program. Additionally, individuals who have been **permanently barred from CFH are also ineligible** for WA. There is an appeals board for those who want to pursue a reconciliation. Please call the Center during the day to discuss this possibility and the steps required.
  - e) WA guests are subject to rules and community expectations throughout their stay, and refusal or inability to observe these rules may result in being asked to leave, minimally for one night and at worst for the entire season. Extreme rule violations that threaten the safety of the community will result in a permanent bar from WA and all other CFH services.

f) In the event the main CFH location reaches capacity, R2a has identified overflow locations and has a transportation plan in place.

**3) Warming locations:**

a) **St. Joseph Public Library**

304 S. Main Street (corner of Wayne & Main)  
M-Th 9am-8pm, F-Sa 9am-5pm, Su 1-5pm  
Information, Resources, meeting rooms, Social Worker.

b) **Century Center**

120 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd  
Seating and restrooms open to the public. Limited hours

c) **Howard Park Event Center** *winter hours Dec 1-Mar 29*

219 S. St. Louis Blvd  
Monday-Thursday: 8am-8pm, Friday 8am-10pm,  
Saturday: 9am-10pm, Sunday: 11am-8pm  
Seating and restrooms open to public

d) **Charles Black Center**

3419 W. Washington St., South Bend, IN 46619  
- Monday-Thursday: 9am-9pm  
- Friday: 9am-5pm  
- Weekends: Open only for Event

e) **YMCA O'Brien Fitness Center**

312 E. Walter St., South Bend. IN 46614  
Lobby and bathroom available.  
- Monday-Thursday: 5am-9pm  
- Friday 5am-7:30pm  
- Saturday: 9am-4pm  
- Sunday: 9am-2pm

f) **Martin Luther King Jr DREAM Center**

1522 W. Linden Avenue, South Bend  
- Monday-Friday: 9 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
- Saturday: 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
- Sunday: 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

***ID required***

g) **United Way 1Roof**

405 E Dubail Ave, South Bend, IN 46613  
Monday-Friday 8am-5pm

h) **Kroc Center**

900 W Western Avenue, South Bend

Monday, Tuesday & Friday 9am-12pm

i) **Unity Gardens**

3701 Prast Blvd, South Bend  
- Monday-Friday 9am-7pm  
- Saturdays and Sundays 9am-5pm.

4) **Extreme Weather Emergencies:** In the event of an officially declared Extreme Cold Weather, the St. Joseph County Emergency Management Agency (SJCEMA) will coordinate with South Bend Venues Parks & Arts to provide additional emergency shelter and warming centers as needed. The City of South Bend Homeless Coordinator will coordinate this effort with SJCEMA