

Homeless Shelter Programs

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## **HOMELESS SHELTER PROGRAMS**

The homeless shelter programs offered by the District and covered by the ADA are:

- Severe Weather Shelter [A public or private building that the District shall make available, for the purpose of providing shelter to individuals or families who are homeless and cannot access other shelter in hyperthermic or hypothermic conditions.]
  - Men
  - Women
  - Families
- Low Barrier Shelter [Overnight housing accommodation for individuals who are homeless without imposition of identification, time limits, or other program requirements.]
  - Men
  - Women
- Temporary Shelter [A housing accommodation for individuals who are homeless that is open either 24 hours or at least 12 hours each day or a 24 hour apartment style housing accommodation for individuals or families who are homeless, other than severe weather or low barrier shelter.]
  - Men
  - Women
  - Families
- Domestic Violence Shelter [A housing accommodation for individual women or families who are victims of domestic violence and in need of safe shelter.]
  - Women/Families

## **NON SHELTER SERVICES AND PROGRAMS OFFERED UNDER HOMELESS SHELTER PROGRAM**

The homeless shelter program offers equal access to the follow non shelter services and programs for individuals and families with physical disabilities. Services listed below are offered to individuals with physical disabilities relative to the shelter program referenced in the “accessibility modifications and schedule” below:

Case management (social service professionals that work one on one with individuals and families to connect them will needed services )(all shelters).

Permanent Housing Assistance (all shelters)

Life skills services (e.g. resume writing)

Medical clinics

Mental health services

Substance abuse counseling and education

Computers

GED and literacy classes

Health care

Employment and other mainstream service referrals

**PROXIMITY TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION/LOW INCOME PROGRAMS AND GOVERNMENT OFFICES**

All shelter programs that are identified as accessible either: 1) are located near a major bus route and/or metro stations that are accessible to individuals with physical disabilities, or 2) alternatively offer transportation to the downtown area for better access to services such as drop-in centers, feeding programs, and government offices. The proximity to public transportation, low income programs, and government offices are specifically referenced in the programs outlined in the “accessibility modifications and schedule” below:

**NUMBER OF ACCESSIBLE BEDS**

The following chart identifies the number of beds in each program and the number of accessible beds/units the District plans to make accessible.

<b>Program</b>	<b>Total Beds/Units</b>	<b>Accessible Beds/Units</b>
Severe Weather-Men	465	23
Severe Weather-Women	118	6
Severe Weather-Family	75	4
Low Barrier-Men	950	48
Low Barrier-Women	367	18
Temporary-Men	578	29
Temporary-Women	150	8
Temporary-Family	129	6
Domestic Violence	28	2

**LOCATIONS OF ACCESSIBLE BEDS**

The following chart identifies the current locations of the homeless shelter programs and the proposed locations for the accessible beds/units.

Locations to be made accessible reflect factors of:

- Proximity to public transportation
- Proximity to non-shelter services frequently used by homeless individuals (e.g., meal programs, employment assistance programs, health clinics, legal clinics, government offices that administer benefits programs)
- Equivalent levels of shelter rules and restrictions
- Equivalent levels of shelter services
- Integration of people with and without disabilities

<b>Program</b>	<b>Locations (number of beds/units)</b>	<b>Accessible Locations (number of accessible beds/units)</b>
Severe Weather-Men	801 East – St. Elizabeths, 801 Making Life Better Ln (110)	801 East – St. Elizabeth’s, 801 Making Life Better Lane (14)
	2210 Adams Place, NE (30)	
	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (125)	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (9)
	DC General Building 9 – 1900 Massachusetts Ave. NE (100)	
	Private facilities (100)	
Severe Weather-Women	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (105)	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (7)
	Private facilities (40)	
Severe Weather-Family	DC General (75)	Over the next five years, we will develop four (4) accessible beds/units. Two beds/units will be available next hypothermia season.
Low Barrier-Men	1355-1357 New York Ave. NE (360)	1355-1357 New York Ave. NE (16)
	801 East – St. Elizabeths, 801 Making Life Better Ln. SE (260)	801 East – St. Elizabeths, 801 Making Life Better Ln. SE (16)
	2210 Adams Pl. NE (150)	
Low Barrier-Women	DC General (Building 9), 1900 Massachusetts Ave. NE (100)	Five (5) beds/units will be made available during the timeframe of the plan.
	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (206)	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (10)
	Private Facilities (10)	
Temporary-Men	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (525)	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (13)
	Emery Shelter – 1725 Lincoln Rd. NE (100)	Emery Shelter – 1725 Lincoln Rd. NE (7)
	1355-1357 New York Ave. NE (12)	
Temporary-Women	Federal City – 425 2 <sup>nd</sup> St. NW (18)	
	Madison Shelter – 651 10 <sup>th</sup> St. NE (68)	Madison Shelter – 651 10 <sup>th</sup> St. NE (5)
Temporary-Family	1413 Girard St. NW (20)	One (1) unit will be made available during the timeframe of the plan.
	1861 Corcoran St. NE (1)	1861 Corcoran St. NE (1)
	1626 Kramer St. NE (1)	1626 Kramer St. NE (1)
	Private Facilities (73)	Two (2) units will be made

Program	Locations (number of beds/units)	Accessible Locations (number of accessible beds/units)
		available during the timeframe of the plan.
Domestic Violence	Private Facilities (28)	Two (2) units will be made available during the timeframe of the plan.

**COMMON AREAS AT ACCESSIBLE SHELTERS**

All shelter programs that are identified as accessible have the following common areas that are accessible to individuals with physical disabilities:

- Cafeterias- accessible open areas
- Lounges- accessible
- Multi-purpose areas- accessible

**ACCESSIBILITY MODIFICATIONS AND SCHEDULE**

The following modifications have or will be completed in accordance with the schedule below, absent a finding that the modification would result in a fundamental alteration of the program, an undue hardship on the District, or would be technically infeasible:

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**801 East Shelter – 801 Making Life Better Lane, SE**

801 East Shelter provides Severe Weather shelter for 110 men and Low Barrier shelter for 260 men. This shelter houses approximately 24% of the population of men needing Severe Weather shelter services and approximately 27% of the population of men needing Low Barrier shelter services. 801 East is a housing assistance center offering severe weather, low barrier and Transitional Rehabilitative services for men. Specific services include life skills and substance abuse counseling and education, computer, GED and literacy classes, health care, employment and other mainstream service referrals. The shelter is located on the grounds of St. Elizabeth’s Hospital, and it is on a major bus route and ½ mile from the Congress Heights Metro station. Both Metro buses and trains are fully accessible to persons with disabilities. Additionally, transportation is provided each morning from the shelter to the downtown area for better access to services such as drop-in centers and feeding programs.

801 East Shelter has been temporarily designated as the accessible shelter for men needing Severe Weather and Low Barrier shelter services.

Upon completion of this Comprehensive Plan, 801 East shelter will provide Severe Weather shelter for 7 men with disabilities; and Low Barrier shelter for 16 men with disabilities.

The following modifications have been completed:

- Installation of “van accessible” signage at 3 accessible parking spaces (completed by OPM 6/13/08)
- Provision of signs at inaccessible toilet/shower rooms directing people to the accessible toilet/shower rooms (TCP was tasked with this)
- Replacement of elevator emergency intercom system with a hands-free system and compliant door (completed by OPM 1/5/09)
- 46 beds (individual beds or lower bunks) designated as accessible, providing 32” clearance on both sides
  - 14 Severe Weather (will be reduced to 7 when modifications to Federal City are completed)
  - 32 Low Barrier (will be reduced to 16 when modifications to New York Ave. are completed)
- Provision of 46 accessible storage lockers (will be reduced to 23 when modifications to New York Ave. and Federal City are completed) (Provider responsibility)
- Telephone has been lowered (completed by TCP 6/18/08)
- Although ADAAG does not include a requirement for height of bulletin boards, some bulletin boards have been lowered. (completed by Provider 6/27/08)

The following barriers for the following areas cannot be removed because they would be technically infeasible or would constitute an undue hardship. Alternative methods to ensure accessibility are noted:

- Curb ramp from parking lot to accessible building entrance has 10.1% slope – up to 12.5% slope is permitted in alterations and existing buildings.
- Toilet/Shower Room Undergoing Renovations on Level One – This is not the designated accessible toilet/shower room. Signage will be provided directing people to the accessible toilet/shower room. Placement of permanent room identification has been corrected.

**Federal City Shelter – 425 2<sup>nd</sup> St. NW**

Federal City shelter provides Severe Weather shelter for 125 men, Severe Weather shelter for 105 women, Low Barrier shelter for 206 women, and Temporary shelter for 18 women. Federal City houses 27% of men needing Severe Weather shelter, 72% of women needing Severe Weather shelter, 71% of women needing Low Barrier shelter, and 21% of women needing Temporary shelter.

Federal City Shelter provides severe weather, low barrier and transitional shelter and supportive services. Specific services include access to on-site health care and case management services. Federal City Shelter is located in the downtown area and is fully accessible by bus of Metro. The shelter is in close proximity to other services for the homeless such as Thrive DC.

Federal City Shelter has been temporarily designated as the accessible shelter for men needing Temporary shelter services (Level 1) and for women needing Severe Weather, Low Barrier, and Temporary shelter services (Level 2).

Upon completion of this Comprehensive Plan, Federal City will provide Severe Weather shelter for 7 men with disabilities; Severe Weather shelter for 7 women with disabilities;

Low Barrier shelter for 10 women with disabilities; and Temporary shelter for 13 men with disabilities.

The following modifications have been completed:

- Toilet/shower rooms on Levels 1 and 2 and 3 have been renovated (items completed by OPM as of 10/29/08), including:
  - Flush valve locations have been changed,
  - Toilet seats have been raised or lowered to comply,
  - Seat cover dispensers have been removed,
  - Urinals have been lowered,
  - Shower seats and showerhead hoses have been provided and located at the location nearest the shower entrance.
- Interior door opening force – Door opening force has been adjusted where it does not require replacement of the door. Staff will assist with opening doors when needed.
- A text telephone
  - Provider responsibility
- 21 designated accessible beds (Temporary Men's) have been provided on Level 1 with 32" clear space on each side (will be reduced to 13 when modifications to Emery Shelter are completed)
  - Provider responsibility
- 7 accessible beds (Severe Weather Men's) will be provided on Level 1 with 32" clear space on each side
  - Provider responsibility
- 21 accessible storage areas have been provided on Level 1
  - Provider responsibility
- 20 accessible beds have been provided on Level 2
  - 7 Severe Weather Women's;
  - 8 Low Barrier Women's;
  - 5 Temporary Women's (will be eliminated when modifications to Madison Shelter are completed)
  - Provider responsibility
- 20 accessible storage areas have been provided on Level 2 (will be reduced to 15 when modifications to Madison Shelter are completed)
  - Provider and DHS responsibility
- 1 space on the unstriped lot has been designated as reserved for people with disabilities by addition of a sign
  - Provider responsibility
- Level landing and maneuvering clearance cannot be provided at the entrance door because it would require complete removal and extension of the ramp, and there is insufficient space. However, the main entrance door has been made automatic and activated at the ramp landing and at the lobby.
  - Completed by OPM and approved by ODR on 11/26/08

The following barriers cannot be modified because doing so would be technically infeasible or an undue hardship. Alternative methods to ensure accessibility are noted:

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- Wall-mounted fire standpipe on ramp to Unity Health Care not cane-detectable – It is technically infeasible to move this standpipe. Providing a cane detectable barrier would reduce the clear width of the ramp.
- Changing toilet location is technically infeasible because it would require re-plumbing the building.
- Toilet/Shower Room in Infirmary – Residents with disabilities will be housed on Levels 1 and 2. (ODR confirmed CCNV's compliance)
- Sleeping space in Infirmary – Residents with disabilities will be housed on Levels 1 and 2. (ODR confirmed CCNV's compliance)
- Door hardware – Office doors on Levels 1 and 2 will be blocked open or staff will be available to open doors.
- Drinking fountains – Residents with disabilities will be provided cups.
- Laundry rooms on Levels 1 and 2 – Doors will be blocked open; staff will assist residents with disabilities with laundry when needed.
- Food service line – Staff will deliver food to residents with disabilities in the dining area.

The following modifications will be made by April 2011:

- Main entrance - Handrails will be provided 34" to 38" above the ramp surface; Handrail extensions and returns will be provided;
- Remaining doors will be adjusted or replaced to ensure door opening force of 5 lbs or less and accessible opening width.
- Ramp to Unity Health Care – (Handrails provided by OPM 10/08)
- Pay Phones will be made compliant
- Parking lot – The parking lot is not owned or controlled by the District of Columbia. This is a gravel lot with no striped parking spaces. A paved route exists along the side of the parking lot to the accessible entrance. A sign will be posted beside this route to reserve the space for people with disabilities. (Provider responsibility)
- A text telephone will be provided.

### **Kramer Street and Corcoran Street**

The Kramer Street and Corcoran Street locations are ADA accessible townhomes to be utilized as temporary family shelter placements for those families in need of an accessible unit. The units are staffed by Capitol Hill Group Ministries, which provides case management services to the families. The locations are both accessible by bus transportation.

- Corcoran – lower/bevel thresholds at toilet room door and shower entry.
- Kramer – move laundry machines to upper level; install plumbing for machines on appropriate level.

## **Emery Shelter - 1725 Lincoln Road, NE**

Emery Shelter provides Temporary shelter services to 100 men. Emery serves approximately 16% of men needing Temporary shelter services.

Emery Shelter provides temporary housing accommodation and supportive services to working men. The shelter is located near one block from a major bus route and approximately ½ mile from the New York Avenue Metro Station. Both Metro buses and trains are fully accessible to persons with disabilities.

Upon completion of this Comprehensive Plan, Emery Shelter will provide Temporary shelter to 7 men with disabilities.

The following modifications will be made by September 2009:

- Striping of one (1) accessible parking space with signage.
- Addition of an accessible entrance. The entrance will consist of a sidewalk that will be sloped leading to the basement elevator entrance.
- Elevator will be installed to provide access to all floors. This will provide access to common areas, including the sleeping areas, dining area, laundry room, and clinic.
- A separate laundry facility within the basement bathroom will be provided.
- Toilet Rooms
  - Basement level and 1<sup>st</sup> floor Men's bathroom will have an accessible urinal, toilet, and shower.
  - 1st floor Women's restroom will have an accessible toilet and sink. There is no shower in the bathroom.
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Men's bathroom will have an accessible urinal, shower, toilet.
    - Not included.
    - The building code says an accessible toilet must be provided one floor above or below as long as the travel distance is no greater than 500 feet. There is nowhere on the 2nd floor where the travel distance would be more than 500 feet from the accessible toilet on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
- Shower Rooms
  - 1 accessible shower will be provided on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor and basement level.
  - 1 accessible shower will be provided on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor.
    - The building code says an accessible toilet must be provided one floor above or below as long as the travel distance is no greater than 500 feet. There is nowhere on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor where the travel distance would be more than 500 feet from the accessible toilet on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.
- Detectable posts have been installed on exterior air conditioning cages on 4 windows at circulation paths.
- A lowered counter in the reception area will be provided.
- Doors will be made accessible (including door opening force, clear opening width, and door hardware).
- Kitchen door will be widened and door force will be adjusted.

- Not included. Surveys showed adequate door clearance at the kitchen.
- Compliant door hardware will be installed throughout the facility.
- Visual fire alarms will be adjusted to appropriate height.
- 7 accessible beds will be provided.
- 7 accessible storage areas will be provided.

The following barriers will not be removed because they would be technically infeasible or would constitute an undue hardship. Alternative methods to ensure accessibility are noted:

- The toilet/shower room in the basement will not be made accessible. Accessible toilet/shower rooms on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> floors are provided.
  - Work was performed by TCP's contractor, asking ODR to verify if it is compliant.

### **New York Avenue Shelter - 1355-1357 New York Ave. NE**

New York Avenue Shelter provides Low Barrier shelter for 360 men. It serves approximately 34% of men needing Temporary shelter services. New York Avenue Shelter also provides Temporary shelter for 12 men, representing approximately 2% of the men needing Temporary shelter services.

New York Avenue is a housing assistance center offering severe weather, low barrier and Wrap-Around services for men. Specific services include life skills and substance abuse counseling and education, computer, GED and literacy classes, health care, employment and other mainstream service referrals. The shelter is located on a major bus route and is just over ½ mile from the Rhode Island Avenue metro station. Both Metro buses and trains are fully accessible to persons with disabilities.

Upon completion of this Comprehensive Plan, New York Avenue Shelter will provide Low Barrier shelter for 16 men with disabilities.

The following modifications will be made by November 2009:

- Striping of one (1) accessible parking space with signage

One parking space with ADA striping and symbol on the asphalt is designated for the northeast parking spot in the lot. It will have ADA parking and van accessible signs mounted on a six foot high signpost in front of the parking space.

- Toilet/Shower Rooms
  - One (1) accessible public unisex toilet room will be provided in the lobby (Room 122).

In addition, toilet room 123, which is beside room 122, is being rehabilitated for accessibility.

- One (1) accessible resident toilet/shower room will be provided on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor (Room 115).

Entry to shower room is being modified to provide access. Sinks are being modified with level faucets. Urinal is being lowered to meet ADA guidelines. Shower and toilet stall are having modifications to make them compliant with accessibility guidelines.

- Thresholds will be beveled on all accessible routes.

Thresholds along all accessible routes will be beveled with slopes no greater than 1:2 at the door opening or are being eliminated through gradual floor elevation changes.

- Accessible door hardware will be installed on all accessible interior entrances.

Door will receive lever handle operating hardware. Handles, pulls, latches, and locks and closers along the accessible routes are specified to comply with the requirements of the U.S. Architectural Transportation Barriers compliance Board's ADA Guidelines.

- Accessible signage has been installed designating permanent rooms and spaces and will be located properly.

The current construction project includes signs for accessible toilet and shower rooms and for the accessible parking space.

- Door opening force on accessible doors will be adjusted or doors will be replaced at all accessible interior entrances.

Contract work includes adjusting newly installed closer devices so that they require an operating force of less than 5 lbf perpendicular to the door. Adjusts to existing closure is a maintenance item outside the scope of work for this construction contract.

- 16 accessible beds will be provided. To be provided by Provider.

- 16 accessible storage areas will be provided. To be provided by Provider.

- Visual fire alarms will be adjusted to appropriate height.

Visual fire alarms are being relocated.

- Rear ramp has 10% slope, without handrails, small landing, and inaccessible door hardware. This is not a public entrance. The main entrance on New York Avenue is accessible.

The construction contract work includes the installation of a new ramp and landing that meets accessibility guidelines.

The following barriers will not be removed because they are not necessary to achieve program access, would be technically infeasible, or would constitute an undue hardship. It is also financially imprudent to divert funds to achieve ADA compliance in the homeless shelter program to make private offices not utilized by clients ADA compliant:

- Entrance to the private office where residents do not enter will not be made accessible.

### **Madison Shelter – 651 10<sup>th</sup> Street, NE**

Madison Shelter provides Temporary shelter for 68 women, representing approximately 80% of women needing Temporary shelter services.

Madison Shelter for women provides temporary housing accommodations and supportive services. Specific services include linkage to mainstream resources for employment, health care, substance abuse and mental health services. The shelter is located on a major bus route and is less than a mile from the Union Station and Gallaudet Metro stations.

Upon completion of this Comprehensive Plan, Madison Shelter will provide Temporary shelter for 5 women with disabilities.

The following modifications will be completed by March 2010:

- An accessible sloped walk entrance will be provided on G Street at grade.
- An elevator will be installed, providing access to the Basement and 1<sup>st</sup> floor, including to sleeping areas, kitchen, dining areas, and laundry facilities.
- Toilet/Shower Rooms
  - An accessible toilet/shower room will be provided at the 1<sup>st</sup> floor dorm area.
  - An accessible toilet room will be provided on the basement level.
- Accessible door hardware will be provided on accessible routes.
- Door to laundry room will be replaced to provide clear opening width.
- Visual alarms will be adjusted to appropriate height.
- 5 accessible beds will be provided.
- 5 accessible storage areas will be provided.

The following barriers will not be removed because they would be technically infeasible or would constitute an undue hardship. Alternative methods to ensure accessibility are noted:

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- The 2<sup>nd</sup> floor will not be on the accessible route or have accessible spaces or elements. Individuals with disabilities will be housed on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor.

