



COUNTY OF UNION

DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES

Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director

MEMORANDUM

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To: Members of Union County HSAC & CEAS/CoC Committee

From: Debbie-Ann Anderson, Director *DA*
Union County Department of Human Services

Date: Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Re: **2024-25 Union County Code Blue (CB) Season**

Union County Department of Human Services will again institute a **Countywide Code Blue (CB)** in an effort to prevent death and injury among homeless people during periods of extreme weather conditions with temperatures below 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Last winter, with your help, over 5,000 placements were made in safe secure shelter on a total of 74 CB nights.

During the **CB** period emergency shelters will be expected to increase bed capacity. Once shelters are filled to capacity alternate arrangements will be made by Union County Division of Social Services (UCDSS).

The following are CB Procedures:

- ❖ **CB** will be activated by Union County Department of Human Services (DHS) in conjunction with the Union County Department Public Safety/ Division of Emergency Services.
- ❖ Municipal Police Departments will be notified when a CB is activated by the Union County Police Department.
- ❖ DHS will notify CEAS/CoC organizations when a **CB** is activated by 10:00 a.m. **by notification through the First Alert system.** *It is the responsibility of the member agencies to register for First Alert (instructions on registration are listed below).*

ADMINISTRATION BUILDING

Elizabethtown Plaza

Elizabeth, NJ 07207

(908)527-4808

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We're Connected to You!

- ❖ **Emergency shelters are expected to extend their capacity to highest possible levels on these nights.**
- ❖ All CB placements will be made by the Union County Division of Social Services.
 - Persons seeking CB placement, must have some form of Identification.
- ❖ **Individuals and families should be referred to UCDSS between 8:30 A.M. and 3:00 P.M.**
- ❖ After hours (after 3:00pm) and when County offices are closed, all after hour referrals should be directed to:

NJ 2-1-1 Homeless Hotline: Dial 211 or 877-746-5211.
- ❖ Municipal Police Departments have been asked to transport individuals found on the street during a **CB** to UCDSS.

REMINDER: On days when CB is not activated, after hour referrals should continue to be directed to:

NJ 2-1-1 Homeless Hotline can be reached by dialing 2-1-1 or 877-746-5211 after 3:00 p.m.

As a reminder, to receive the CB Notifications you must be registered for the distribution list. Please follow the instructions below:

All CB alerts will be sent via the **Union County First Alert** system. If you would like to register, please email codeblue@ucnj.org and include the following information: organizations name, your first & last name, your e-mail address and your request to be added to the distribution list. Once provided, you will receive an email containing a registration link allowing you to modify your new account and add your contact information in it.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation and assistance in this most important endeavor.

Should you have any questions, please contact Navin K. Singh at (908) 527-4842 or via e-mail at codeblue@ucnj.org. Thank you.

