Crisis Cold Weather Shelters operate between November 1 and March 31. There will be two overnight shelters available for adults: one for men and one for women. Shelters announce by 2:00 p.m. each day if they will be open that night. Openings are based on if the National Weather Service overnight (10:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m.) forecast is at or below 32 degrees. If the men’s shelter is open, the women’s shelter will be open. Shelters post openings via their individual Facebook pages and signs are posted at the Springfield Affordable Housing Center. IDs and background checks are not required at either shelter.

Crisis shelter for children is available year-round through Isabel’s House, ages birth – 12, (865-2273) and Great Circle, ages birth – 18, (861-4244).

Men’s shelter is located at East Sunshine Church of Christ, 3721 E. Sunshine St.
- Doors open at 8:00 p.m. except for Monday and Wednesday, when they open around 8:30 p.m.
- Notice of opening posted on East Sunshine Facebook page: East Sunshine Church of Christ Men’s Cold Weather Shelter.

Women’s shelter is located at Grace United Methodist Church, 600 S. Jefferson Ave.
- Doors open at 9:00 p.m. - women are welcome on the property starting at 8:45 p.m. Entrance is on the east side under the blue awning.

Transportation
- On nights when Crisis Cold Weather Shelters are open, Connecting Grounds (1109 E. Commercial St.) will be open as a warming site and pick-up site for transportation from 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.
- City Utilities Transit will provide rides to and from overnight Crisis Cold Weather Shelters at designated times.
  - Rides will be provided to the warming shelters in the evening between the hours of 7:00-11:00 p.m.
  - Rides will be provided from the warming shelters in the morning during the 8:00 AM trip (8:00 - 9:00 AM). Men can access transportation via the bus stop on Sunshine Street.
- Transportation will NOT be available on Thanksgiving, New Years Day, or Christmas Day.

Both Crisis Cold Weather Shelters and the warming site at Connecting Grounds are staffed by volunteers. Individuals and groups interested in supporting these efforts can reach out to the following contacts for more information:
- East Sunshine Church of Christ: Call 889-5455 and leave your name and phone number
- Grace United Methodist/Council of Churches: Email Nancy Crawford at ncr8wad@cozarks.org
- Connecting Grounds: Learn more and sign up at theconnectinggrounds.com/cold-weather-outreach

October 28, 2019