

Wood County Commission Statement on Winter Weather Warming Stations

On Thursday, January 16 at the regularly scheduled Wood County Commission meeting, the Wood County Commissioners met with numerous officials including those from the Wood County Sheriff's office, representatives from the Wood County Homeland Security/Emergency Management office and the Community Health and Threat Preparedness Director for the MOV Health Department to discuss the misinformation surrounding the availability of community options for warming centers in Wood County.

Numerous churches and community facilities have opened their doors this week to those in need of shelter. None have reported turning people away due to overcrowding.

The MOV Health Department's Threat Preparedness Team is sharing information with Wood County residents through social media and public information platforms.

Malcolm Lanham, the Community Health and Threat Preparedness Director, said it's important for people to be aware of the various warming shelters in the area and the Health Department will share that information. Go to the web site at MOVHD.com for warming center locations.

Churches and other organizations that open a warming center or overnight shelters are asked to contact MOVHD's Public Information Officer Amy Phelps at 304-588-9697, to share their location and hours, so this information can be shared more widely with the public. In addition to their web site, organizations are utilizing social media sites to keep the community informed.

Those running the warming centers are also asked to contact MOVHD if they reach capacity.

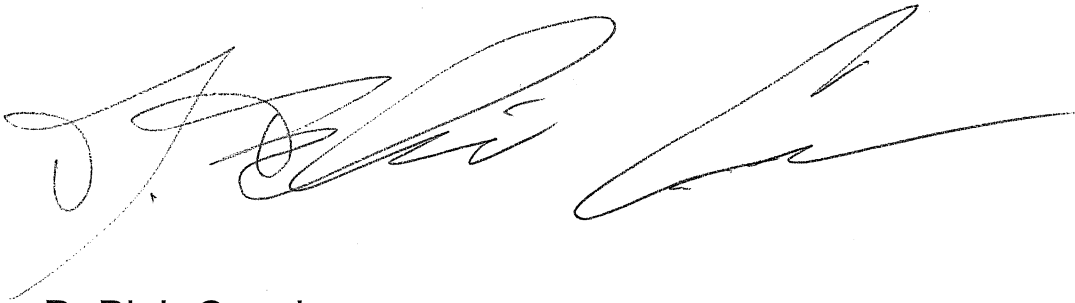
The health department said that if they open a warming center, they will work with the Wood County 9-1-1 Center to put out a countywide message via their Everbridge system.

Those locations currently open in Wood are:

- The Gathering, 1005 14th St., Parkersburg, WV
 - Open for lunch 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday-Friday
 - accepting donations
- Salvation Army of Parkersburg, 534 5th Street, Parkersburg, WV
 - Warming Center once temperature is below 35 degrees
 - Visit on Saturday, from 1-3 PM to apply for a hotel room!
 - Families and Individuals with pets are encouraged to stop by!
 - ***MUST HAVE ID to receive a room at the hotel!*****
 - accepting donations
- Latrobe Street Mission, 1725 Latrobe St., Parkersburg, WV
 - Open 6:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., warming center only
 - Overnight services limited to 3-5 days, until the weather warms up, or you find somewhere else to stay; if you spend 5 nights, you cannot use again until after 15 days

- Meals provided are breakfast, 7:30 a.m., lunch, 11:30 a.m., dinner, 5 p.m. or 6 p.m. daily
- accepting donations
- House to Home, 825 7th St., Parkersburg, WV
 - extending hours during the cold
 - accepting donations

You can always call 304-485-8501, the Wood County 911 non-emergency number.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Blair Couch', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

D. Blair Couch

Wood County Commission President