

**Priority:** Basic Needs  
**Program Offer Type:** Innovative/New Program  
**Related Programs:**  
**Program Characteristics:**

**Lead Agency:** County Human Services  
**Program Contact:** Mary Li

**Executive Summary**

The Family Warming Center provides basic life and safety services for homeless families with children during the winter months, November through March. Following a successful pilot during FY 08-09, establishment of on-going service capacity for homeless families has become an important component of a fully functioning safety net. In FY 08-09, approximately 2,000 households - 2,112 adults and 4,488 children - accessed a safe, warm alternative to the streets, cars and camping.

**Program Description**

The Family Warming Center is one of two sites - one designated for single adults and the other for families with children. The two sites represent a cross jurisdictional collaboration to keep homeless people safe and out of the cold during the winter months from November through March. The purpose of the Family Warming Center is safety for children and their parents/caregivers who would otherwise find themselves sleeping on the streets, in cars and/or places not meant for human habitation.

Based upon the FY 08-09 One Night Shelter and Street Count, 600 families and 1400 individuals are living on the street or in other substandard situations on any given night. Year-round shelter capacity is 21 slots for families and 407 beds for individuals. Existing winter shelter capacity is 12 slots for families and 218 beds for individuals. During severe weather events, there is no additional capacity for families and 250-300 beds for individuals. At maximum capacity, there is a significant shortage of both beds and access to them in a variety of locations, particularly in East County.

**Program Justification**

The Family Warming Center addresses the Basic Living Needs (BLN) priority goals. Shelter from the weather in order to avoid serious health consequences and/or death from exposure meets the most basic human need.

Homeless families with children need shelter from the weather every night during winter. Current housing funding is inadequate to meet that need. The Family Warming Center builds upon the successful experience operating a pilot project last winter, better closing the gap between need and service.

**Performance Measures**

Measure Type	Primary Measure	Previous Year Actual (FY07-08)	Current Year Purchased (FY08-09)	Current Year Estimate (FY08-09)	Next Year Offer (FY09-10)
Output	# of bed nights provided, December - March	0	0	0	6,600
Outcome		0	0	0	0

**Performance Measure - Description**

The Family Warming Center is by definition temporary. Effectiveness is defined by the existence and delivery of the services themselves. The ultimate outcome for this service will be that no one dies or experiences serious health consequences due to exposure to winter weather, but this is not measurable.

**Legal/Contractual Obligation****Revenue/Expense Detail**

	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds	Proposed General Fund	Proposed Other Funds
<b>Program Expenses</b>	2009	2009	2010	2010
Contracts	\$0	\$0	\$150,000	\$0
<b>Subtotal: Direct Exps:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$150,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>
Administration	\$0	\$0	\$20,809	\$0
Program Support	\$0	\$0	\$13,116	\$0
<b>Subtotal: Other Exps:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$33,925</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Total GF/non-GF:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$183,925</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Program Total:</b>	<b>\$0</b>		<b>\$183,925</b>	
Program FTE	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
<b>Program Revenues</b>				
Program Revenue for Admin	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

**Explanation of Revenues**

County General Fund - \$150,000

**Significant Program Changes**

**Last year this program was:**

This is a new program offer.