Severe Weather Response: Sheltering our Unhoused Neighbors

East King County & Snoqualmie Valley

Role of KCRHA in Severe Weather

To provide an emergency system of services, including opening safe, short-term emergency day and nighttime shelters, and coordinating outreach to unsheltered people.

Stages of Response

- **Monitoring**
- **Pre-Activation**
- **Activation**
- **Operations**
- **De-Activation**
- **Post Event**

Where People Go

- **Existing Emergency Shelters with Drop-In** *

- **Existing Emergency Shelters with Expanded Capacity** *

- **Stand-Up Severe Weather Shelters**

- **Stand-Up Warming Centers**

- **King County Library Locations** *

- **Family Shelter Intake Line** *

Severe Weather Response – Activation Thresholds

Tier 1

≤ 45° Daily High

72 Hours

WERC (Internal)
Outreach
Communication
Supplies & Funding

Tier 2

≤ 40° Daily High

≤ 35° Daily Low

72 Hours

Snow/Rain **2 in.**

Tier 1 + Daily Coordination Calls
Expanded Shelter Capacity
Food/Supply Distribution

Tier 3

≤ 35° Daily High

≤ 30° Daily Low

Single Day

Snow/Rain 4 **in.**

Tier 1 & Tier 2 +
Expanded Transportation, storage, warming centers, & possible hotel stays.

https://kcrha.org/resources/severe-weather-shelter/

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Pre-Activation
- Alert cities & providers of upcoming activation. Request expansion of shelters and day center hours.
- Alert EKC community of upcoming activation.

Activation
- Daily huddles with core EKC Severe Weather Stakeholders.
- Daily emails to EKC community of any updates or changes. Sharing flyers, website, and resources.
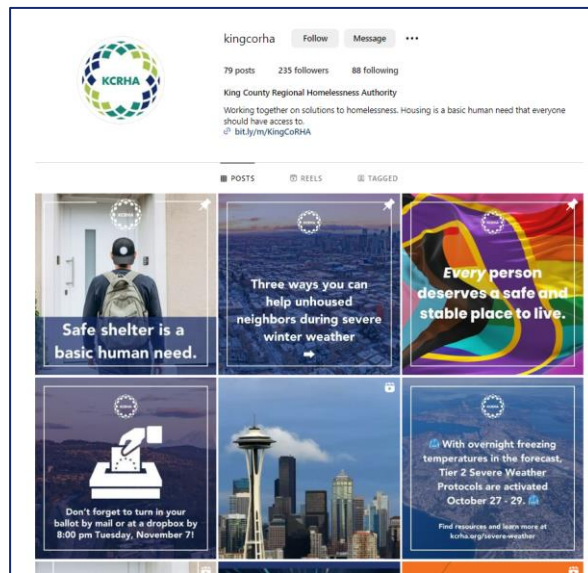
Post-Activation
- Collecting utilization numbers from shelters.
- Requesting feedback from shelters and community.
- Processing reimbursement requests for added operational costs.

KCRHA

General Public Comms

Information about severe weather activations is shared widely:

- KCRHA Website & Social Media

- Emails to providers, outreach teams, libraries, and other system partners.

Improving our Response

- Five-Year Plan Severe Weather Activities:
    - Expand number of Severe Weather Shelters
    - Coordinate & Centralize the Severe Weather Response Countywide
    - Expand Outreach During Severe Weather Events
    - Incorporate Severe Weather Funding into Existing Contracts
    - Improve Guests Connections to Services During & After Activation
- Shift to Seasonal Shelters
- Shoring up funding & reimbursement processes
- Exploring partnerships to equip and deploy community volunteers and to identify additional shelter host sites.