



November 30, 2023

City of Santa Fe Activates Code Blue Protocols

Staff, community partners offer support, safe spaces to unsheltered people during winter weather

The City of Santa Fe has implemented Code Blue protocols due to the current winter weather conditions reaching the activation threshold.

Cold snaps under 15 degrees or snowfall greater than 6" and/or freezing rain activate Code Blue protocols. When Code Blue is in effect, the City Fire Department's Alternative Response Unit (ARU), in collaboration with Consuelo's Place and the Interfaith Community Shelter at Pete's Place, take action to get unsheltered people into safe, warm places. City Fire Department, Police Department, and Park Ranger staff also monitor outdoor spaces for at-risk persons.

ARU staff, consisting of case managers and paramedics, find and talk with unsheltered people to find out what they need to be safe in the elements, and work to gently persuade them to come inside to a warm and safe place to get out of the cold.

People can go to the Interfaith Shelter or sleep in a warming area at Consuelo's Place, where their pets are also welcome. In both their encounter outdoors with the ARU and with shelter staff, they're met by professionals who sincerely care about them and seek to meet their needs.

If an unsheltered person does not want to relocate, they will still receive a warming kit with hats, gloves, hand and foot warmers and subzero ponchos, along with an open invitation to come to one of the safe spaces whenever they're ready.

In case of emergency, please call 911. Code Blue has been City policy for three years and is based on [Built for Zero](#) principles.