

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CITY OF CHICAGO UPDATE ON 60 DAY SHELTER POLICY

CHICAGO - The City of Chicago 60-day shelter stay policy to help accelerate resettlement efforts with new arrivals has been paused for individuals who entered shelter on or after November 17, 2023. Due to winter weather advisories and wind chill warnings issued by the National Weather Service, shelter exits scheduled to start January 16, 2024 through January 31, 2024, are extended through February 1, 2024. The City of Chicago is extending the pause based on inclement weather, an extension previously cited as an extenuating circumstance. Case managers are currently assessing how many of the 1,929 individuals in this group may request a new shelter placement.

If other arrangements have not been made and the resident is not eligible for an extension at the end of their 60-day stay, they may return to the landing zone and request a new shelter placement. The City is working closely with the State to leverage the intake center it recently erected at the landing zone to support outmigration and family unification efforts as a part of exploring alternatives to requests for new shelter placement. In addition, the City will continue to provide warming buses, meals, blankets, and on-site medical mobile teams to perform public health screenings and attend to emergent and urgent medical care.

New arrivals who entered shelter between January 1, 2023 and July 31, 2023 or arrived in shelter on December 4, 2023 received a 60-day stay notice that ends on February 2, 2024. There are approximately 961 people in this group. In summary, by the end of February, 6,239 new arrivals will have exited shelters via resettlement, out migration, request new shelter placement at the landing zone, or may be eligible for an extension.

Several extenuating circumstances are applicable for extending shelter stays. Temporary extensions will be offered for households in progress toward permanent or more stable

housing, households experiencing changes in their familial circumstances, medical crises, or extreme cold weather. Information on the extensions policy is forthcoming.

State funded partners including Catholic Charities and New Life Centers have successfully resettled or assisted outmigration for more than 11,300 new arrivals as part of the New Arrivals Mission, including more than 2,469 households into long-term housing and reuniting more than 3,935 new arrivals with friends, family, or verified sponsors. Permanent or long-term housing is a crucial step on the path to self-sufficiency and resettlement.

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