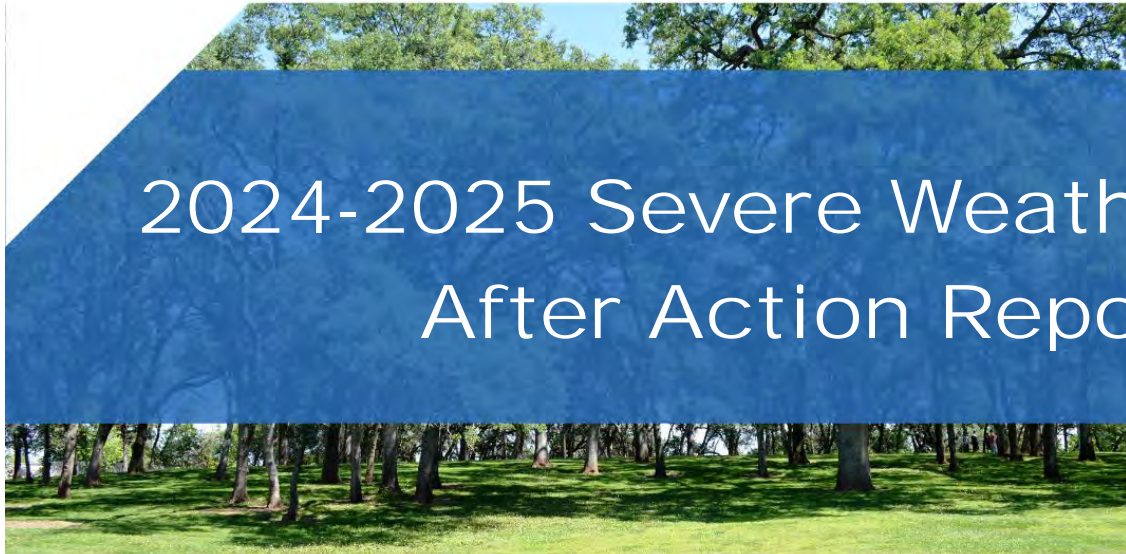




OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES



2024-2025 Severe Weather – Cold After Action Report



May 1, 2025

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report evaluates some of the successes of the activation as well as opportunities for improvement. Some of the key successes and improvement opportunities are:

Key Successes

The Severe Weather Guidance was activated for unusually low temperatures, which posed a risk to the public for several days. Successes included coordination calls and coordination of supplies for the efficient operation of warming centers.

The Sacramento County Department of Homeless Services and Housing's contract with First Step Communities to operate warming centers was a great step in established locations ready to quickly activate. It also provided a location staffed with professionals experienced in working with the unhoused community.

Sacramento Regional Transit (SacRT) worked with the County and Cities to offer free ride vouchers for residents traveling to and from cooling centers to make them more accessible. SacRT flyer was translated into Spanish and revised to include a QR code to Sacramento 211 webpage for increased accessibility and accuracy.

Key Improvement Areas

Standardized Reporting: Guest registration and attendance count policies for cooling, warming, clean air centers and shelters are not standardized between facilities or between county and city departments, or partner agencies. Standardizing helps ensure we capture and report the same numbers in the same format. When volunteers transition between the types of facilities there is more familiarity and less training required.

ACTIVATION OVERVIEW

Incident Name	2024-2025 Severe Weather Cold
Incident Dates	N/A
Operational Area	Sacramento County
OES Region	Inland Region IV
Hazards	Severe Weather – Cold
Activation Status	Duty Officer
Health Officer Advisory	None
Sponsor	Sacramento County Office of Emergency Services
Participating Organizations	Located in the Appendix B
Point of Contact	Nicole Benson Assistant Emergency Operations Coordinator Sacramento County Office of Emergency Services Bensonnn@saccounty.gov (916) 876-3145 office

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KEY CHRONOLOGICAL EVENTS

November 1, 2024

Phase I meeting with Operational Area (OA) partners to begin planning for winter warming center operations. The purpose of the call is to go over roles/responsibilities of each agency, severe weather guidance and a time for the NWS to provide us an overview of the seasonal predictions and any new information pertinent to Sacramento County.

January 14, 2025

Phase II meeting with Operational Area (OA) partners to discuss actions for upcoming cold temperatures; forecasted 35 degrees or below for three consecutive days. Department of Homeless Services and Housing and City of Sacramento had warming centers available. OES severe weather thresholds were not met.

January 27, 2025

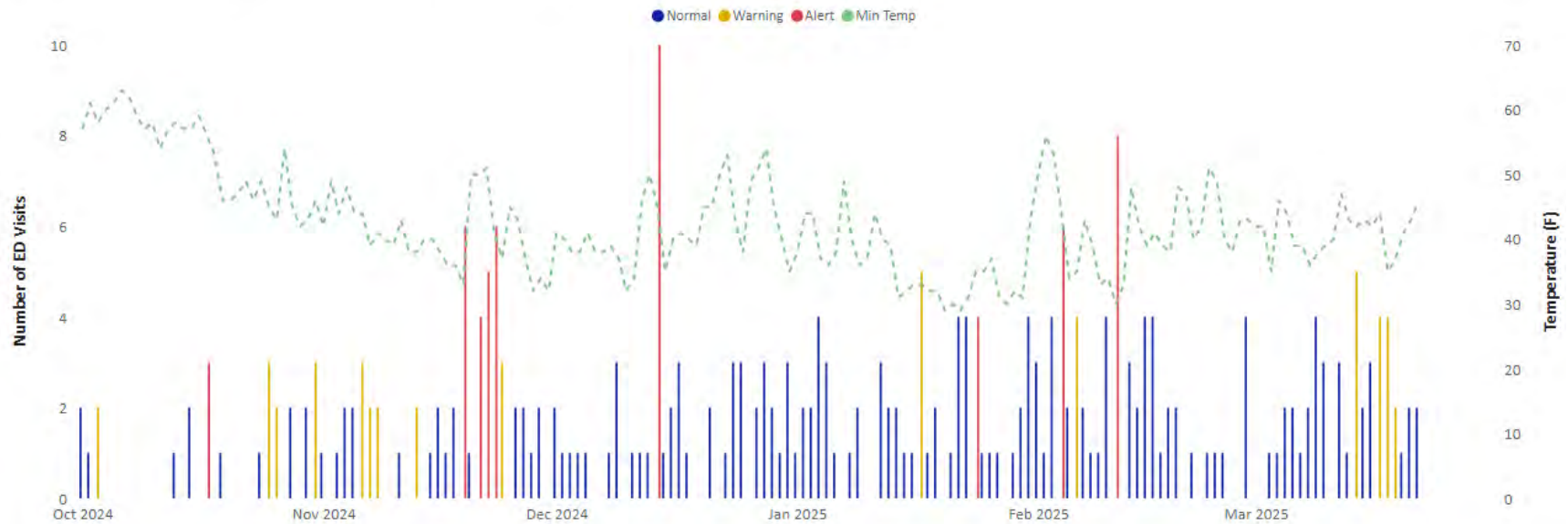
Phase III meeting with Operational Area (OA) partners to discuss actions for upcoming cold temperatures. NWS initially forecasted 32 degrees or below for three consecutive days, but later forecasts showed the Phase III criteria was not met. Department of Homeless Services and Housing, City of Sacramento, and City of Elk Grove had warming centers available.

February 7, 2025

Phase II meeting with Operational Area (OA) partners to discuss actions for upcoming cold temperatures; forecasted 35 degrees or below for three consecutive days. Department of Homeless Services and Housing and City of Sacramento had warming centers available. OES severe weather thresholds were not met.

Public Health Emergency Department Visits (10/1/24 – 3/22/25)

Cold-Related Emergency Department Visits and Minimum Temperature



Coroner Report

At the time of publication, the County Coroner determined the following deaths during 2024/2025 winter were, or possibly were, cold related. The Coroner may verify additional deaths later and remains the official source of death reporting for Sacramento County.

Description
25-00583 2/4/2025: 62 year old unhoused female was brought in by EMS from an unknown shelter. She arrived at 0925 hours in asystole, and death was pronounced at 1004 hours. No trauma was reported. The decedent was reportedly cold and outdoors. She arrived at a shelter and had a witnessed collapse with agonal breathing. The Emergency Dept. had the same trouble getting a temperature because it was too low, but they did get one reading of 23.7 C. The call came in at 0839 hours from Loaves and Fishes (1321 N C Street) for cold exposure. Methamphetamine Intoxication OSC Chronic Hepatitis C with Cirrhosis; Hypothermia (Hypothermia is not cause of death, but contributed to death).
25-00666 02/08/2025: 65 year old unhoused male found deceased inside his collapsed tent on Bannon Street. Decedent's arms and legs were cold to the touch but some parts of his torso were still warm. The back of his clothing was damp/wet/soiled and the items inside his tent were the same. Evidence of alcohol use. Hypothermia OSC Methamphetamine Intoxication
25-01058 3/3/2025: 57-year-old unhoused male with medical history and substance abuse disorder, was found deceased outdoors and his clothes were damp. The weather had a low temperature of 39 degrees Fahrenheit and a high of 61 degrees Fahrenheit.
25-01357 3/22/2025: 61 year old unhoused male with no known medical history. On 3/22/25, the decedent was found unresponsive in the shed where he sleeps and medics were called. Per weather underground, the high temperature was 67 degrees with a low of 49 degrees.
25-01502 4/2/2025: 35 year old unhoused male found deceased outdoors in the City of Rancho Cordova. The outdoor temperature measured 43 degrees Fahrenheit. The decedent was observed lying supine on the ground at the north end of the parking lot. His body temperature measured 52.5 degrees Fahrenheit. The decedent was cold to the touch.

STRENGTHS

Partnerships

First Step Communities' contract with the Department of Homeless Services and Housing has been a great step forward in providing weather respites for the unhoused community.

Strength 1.1: They are able to provide known locations, staffed with experienced professionals, and offer on-site services.

Sacramento County partners with SacRT and Sacramento 211 for clear and consistent information on weather respite centers.

Strength 1.2: SacRT Flyer is released is developed and released in coordination with Sacramento County, containing a QR code to Sacramento 211's page.

AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

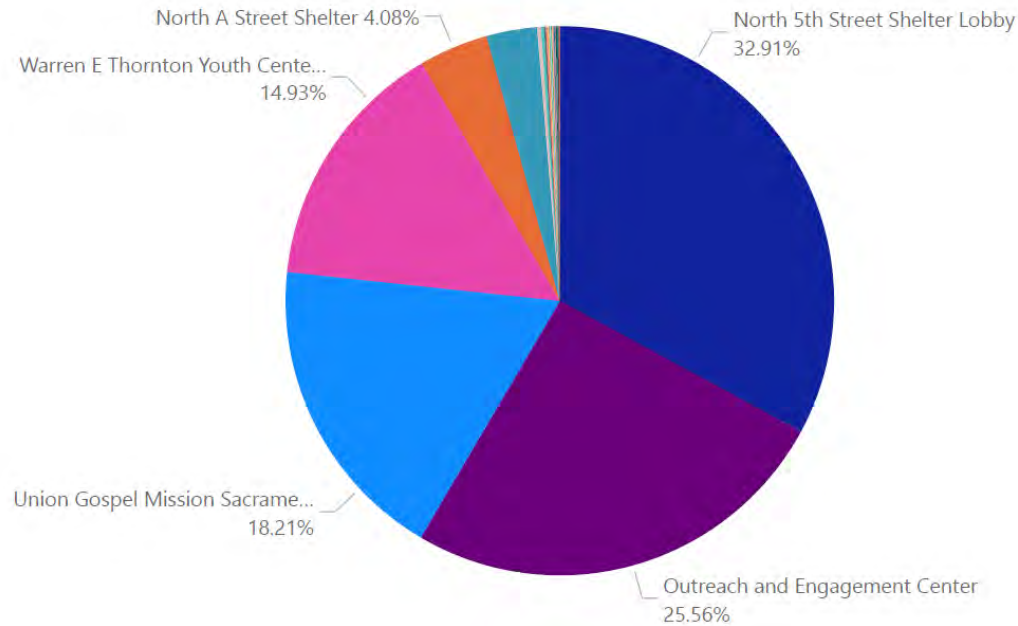
Standardized Reporting

Guest registration and attendance count policies for cooling, warming, clean air centers and shelters are not standardized between facilities or between county and city departments, or partner agencies. Standardizing helps ensure we capture and report the same numbers in the same format. When volunteers transition between the types of facilities there is more familiarity and less training required.

Improvement 1.1: Standardize documents in applicable plans and annexes and distribute them throughout the Operational Area.

2-1-1 REPORTING

Referrals Made



1,550

Unique Calls

1,833

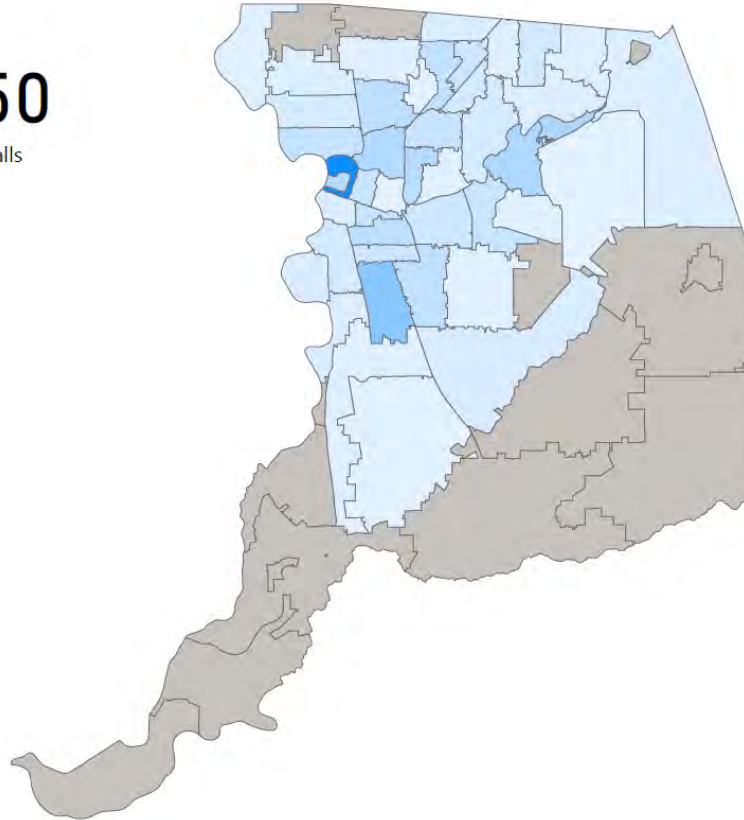
Expressed Need

1,741

Referrals Made

Callers by Postal Code

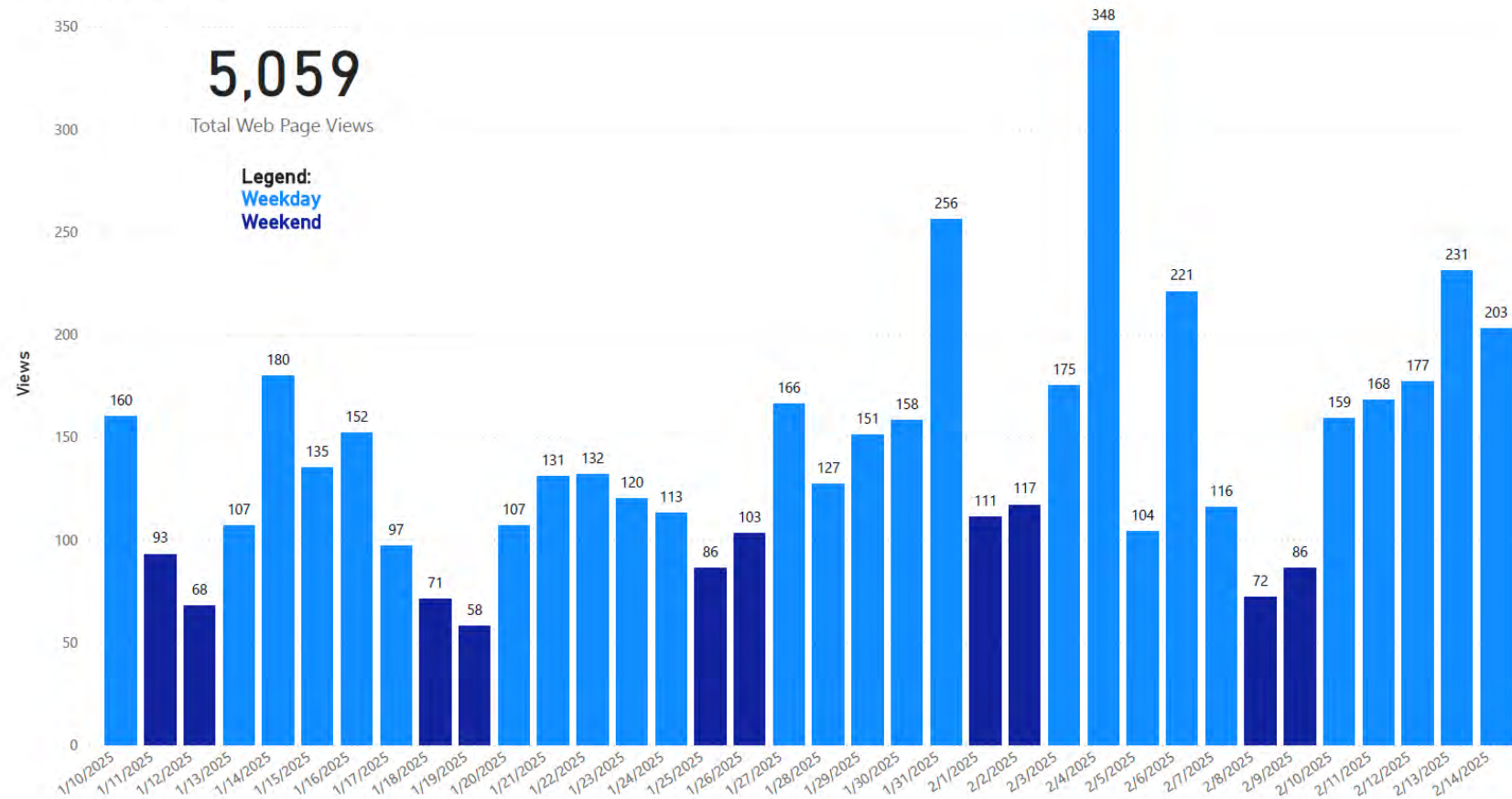
1,550
Unique Calls



PostalCode	Count
95811	242
95823	103
95670	61
95815	56
95814	53
95825	49
95820	44
95838	44
95660	39
95828	39
95833	34
95821	33
95817	32
95816	31
95827	31
95824	27
95842	27
95826	25
95610	19
95841	19
95822	18
95608	16
95834	16

PostalCode	Count
95624	12
95831	12
95843	11
95818	10
95832	10
95835	9
95628	8
95630	8
95662	7
95621	6
95673	6
95758	6
95655	4
95829	4
95837	4
95864	4
95757	2
95812	2
95819	2
95609	1
95652	1
95742	1

Web Page Views by Day



APPENDIX A: IMPROVEMENT PLAN

This IP has been developed specifically for Sacramento County because of the 2024/2025 Severe Weather. All corrective actions are entered into WebEOC for tracking over time.

Corrective Action Area	Issue/Area for Improvement	Corrective Action	Primary Responsible Organization	Organization POC	Start Date	Completion Date
2.1	Standardized Reporting	Standardize registration and attendance count policies between county and city departments as well as between the different types of facilities. Use Red Cross policies as a starting point.	Sac OES	N. Benson	June 2025	Nov 2026
2.2	Standardized Reporting	Standardize documents in applicable plans and annexes and distribute them throughout the Operational Area.	Sac OES	N. Benson	Nov 2025	As Updated

APPENDIX B: PARTICIPATING ORGANIZATIONS

- 2-1-1 Sacramento
- American Red Cross
- California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
- City of Citrus Heights
- City of Folsom
- City of Folsom Fire
- City of Galt
- City of Rancho Cordova
- City of Sacramento
- City of Isleton
- Cosumnes Community Services District
- Cosumnes Fire District
- County Library
- First Step Communities
- Howe Park
- Medical Reserve Corps
- National Weather Service, Sacramento
- Regional Parks
- Regional Transit
- Sacramento County Animal Care and Services
- Sacramento County Department of Health Services
- Sacramento County Department of Human Assistance
- Sacramento County Department of Homeless Services and Housing
- Sacramento County Department of Technology 3-1-1
- Sacramento County Sheriff’s Office
- Sacramento Food Bank
- Sacramento County OES
- Sacramento Metro Fire
- Sacramento Metropolitan Air Quality Management District
- Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- United Cerebral Palsy
- Volunteer Organizations Active in Disasters
- Wilton Fire Department
- Sacramento Self Help Housing
- ParaTransit

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