

# Washington County Emergency Sheltering Framework

## About the Project

Washington County has contracted with Hagerty Consulting, on behalf of the Washington County Emergency Management Cooperative (EMC), to develop a comprehensive sheltering framework to address general population emergency sheltering needs in a major disaster. Through the development of this Framework, stakeholders will establish a planning partnership, identify sheltering strategies, and make key decisions about how shelters will be managed.

### What is Emergency Sheltering?

Sheltering is the term that describes the shelter facilities and all related functions to provide disaster survivors with a safe, accessible place to sleep, eat, get information, maintain personal hygiene, and access additional services to assist them on the path towards disaster recovery.

## Additional Sheltering Planning Considerations:

An all-hazards, Whole Community planning approach will ensure that shelter services meet the disaster-caused needs of the community. The planning stakeholder group should include representatives from any entity that will have a role in shelter operations, including government entities; the private sector; and non-profit, faith-based, and community-based organizations. Shelter planning should also consider disability services, logistics, planning, finance and administration, and volunteer and donations management.

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## About Sheltering

The number of shelters open after a disaster can range from a couple to dozens. These shelters can stay open a few days or weeks, depending on factors like the scale of the disaster

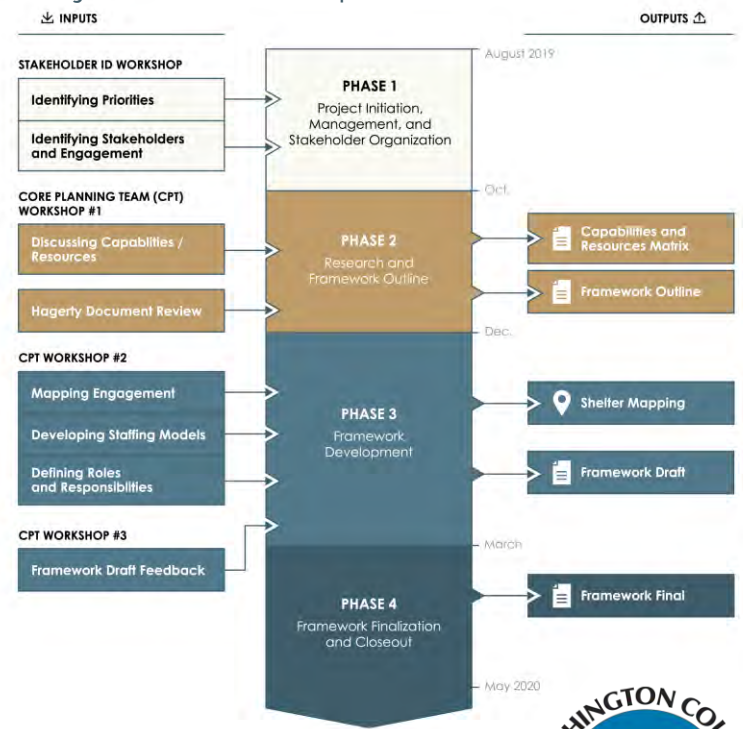
## Management

Designated sheltering stakeholders will work in existing emergency operations centers to manage operations, coordinate strategy and policies, and maintain information and situational awareness.

## Operations

A shelter manager and assistant oversee the on-site activities of individual shelters, including workers that manage the registration, dormitory, feeding, physical health and mental health, and ancillary services like childcare or recovery casework.

## Project Next Steps



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