

## **Housing & Community Development**

Office of Unhoused Solutions

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Date: Month Day, Year

To: Recipient

From: Office of Unhoused Solutions

Subject: 13th and Spruce Encampment Response Strategy

The Office of Unhoused Solutions has established an encampment prioritization matrix, which ranks encampments by risk of grievous injury and premature death. The matrix assesses encampments in the following domains: location, internal safety, external safety, environmental health, and solid waste. The encampment on 13th and Spruce met the criteria for critical risk to life due to violent outbursts and the trafficking of humans, weapons, and drugs onsite, and was scheduled for clearance and closure on October 26, 2023.

## **Encampment Response**

From August 2022 to September 2023, the encampment received the following intensive coordinated outreach and engagement activities:

- More than 14 organizations were involved in outreach and engagement with over 100 outreach interactions documented, and 4 Project Outreach Connect Events.
- Services offered included Housing Assessments and applications, diversion, shelter, and treatment options; vital documents (birth certificate, ID); medical assistance; harm reduction supplies; basic needs (i.e., food).

## **Encampment Clearance and Closure with Support Outcomes**

On October 24th, a final Project Outreach Connect event was held with the following outcomes:

- 17 organizations provided 149 total services to meet the needs of the remaining encampment inhabitants.
- Services included assessment and diversion (37), documents (10), shelter (13), treatment (2), phones (18), legal services (4), mental health enrollments (16), storage (10), and other appropriate services (34).

The 13th and Spruce encampment was scheduled for clearance and closure on October 26, 2023.

- City departments and outreach workers were informed and briefed on their roles.
- Signage posted and encampment residents informed, two weeks in advance.
- The clearance of 169,100 pounds of waste.
- Closure assisted by 5-7 KCPD officers.

## Partner Agencies and City Departments

ACT Team Peer Support Lived Experience Advisory Committee

Beehive Lotus Care House

Care Beyond the Boulevard Office of Unhoused Solutions

Comprehensive Mental Health Parks Department

Crosslines Community Outreach Public Works Department

CSL ReStart

Government Phone Representative Shelter KC

Heartland Swope

Hope Faith University Health

Kansas City Police Department Veterans Affairs (VA)

