



Homelessness

WHY IT HAPPENS AND WHAT TO DO

Currently, Calvert County does not have an immediately available walk-in shelter, but does have a coordinated entry process with the Department of Social Services as the single point of access. In the future, there will be a "No Wrong Door" process in place where other agencies can be an access point for homeless individuals.

Why Is Homelessness Happening?

As populations grow, there can be a rise in homelessness. People experience homelessness for many different reasons such as poverty, substance abuse, mental illness, loss of job/income and lack of affordable housing. In Calvert County, the most common causes of homelessness are eviction by family members, mental illness and victims of domestic violence.

The Calvert County Homeless Service Board is comprised of local agencies and volunteers who provide services and assistance to persons experiencing homelessness.

What can you do if you encounter someone who is homeless?

Available Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

- ▶ Call the **Calvert County Department of Social Services** at:
443-550-6256 or 443-550-6963
443-550-6900 (after-hours answering service)
- ▶ Go to the **Department of Social Services at 200 Duke Street, Prince Frederick**

Helpful Tips

- ▶ Offer to assist the person with calling or provide them with this information.
- ▶ A message may need to be left at one of the numbers above, then wait for a callback.
- ▶ The intake call could take between 5-15 minutes. Be mindful of this time if offering your help or providing a phone.
- ▶ Ask the person if they are an individual or if they have a family with dependent children who are also experiencing homelessness before calling.

Get Connected



- ▶ Scan the QR code with your smart phone or tablet or visit the link for current information and resources.

CalvertCountyMD.gov/HomelessBoardResources

Available After Hours

The Calvert County Sheriff's Office is designated as the County's after-hours point of contact for individuals requesting emergency shelter.*

- ▶ Call the **Calvert County Sheriff's Office Non-Emergency** line at 410-535-2800
- ▶ Notify the station clerk that you are supporting an individual seeking shelter and request an officer to respond to the individual's location to do a welfare check.
- ▶ If an emergency shelter is available after hours, the individual may have to find transportation or in some cases the Sheriff's Office may assist the individual with transport. Transportation may not be immediate.

Officers may speak to Social Services and the individual regarding alternate modes of transportation. Social Services may then contact local homeless service agencies if additional support is needed to assist the individual.

**Please note that response times will vary due to officer availability, the location of the individual, call volume, prioritization of calls, etc.*

When to Dial 911

If the person...



- ... is experiencing a medical emergency
- ... has threatened harm to self or others
- ... reports they are a victim of a crime