



40 WORTH STREET, SUITE 605
 NEW YORK, NY 10013
 MAIN NUMBER: (212) 691-0950
 FAX NUMBER: (212) 691-0951

89-14 PARSONS BLVD, 2ND FL
 JAMAICA, NY 11432
 MAIN NUMBER: (212) 691-0950
 FAX NUMBER: (718) 291-4360

Entering Shelter: Know Your Rights for ACS-Involved Families

Where to apply:

Families with children &/or Pregnant Women	PATH , 151 E. 151 st Street, Bronx (between Walton and Gerard Aves.) Directions: 2/4/5 Trains to 149 th Street, turn left to Walton Ave.
Couples without children (and not pregnant)	Adult Family Intake Center (AFIC) : 400-430 East 30 th St., at 1 st Ave. in Manhattan. Directions: 6 train to 28 th St., walk east to 1 st Ave., turn left, head north to 30 th St.
Single Adult Women (not pregnant)	HELP Women's Shelter 116 Williams Avenue, Brooklyn (between Liberty and Glenmore Aves.) Directions: Take the C train to Liberty Avenue. Franklin Shelter 1122 Franklin Avenue, Bronx (near 166th St.) Directions: 2 train to 149th St., followed by the #55 bus to 166th St. and 3rd Ave.
Single Adult Men	30th Street Men's Shelter 400-430 East 30 th Street (at First Ave.) Directions: 6 train to 28th St., walk east to 1st Ave., turn left, and go north to 30th St.

Youth Shelters (run by Department of Youth & Community Development):

Youth ages 16-24 can go to one of the following drop-in centers to complete intake for a youth shelter and be placed, pending availability.¹ You are encouraged to call first to make sure beds are available.

Manhattan

Ali Forney Center (open 24/7)
 321 W. 125th Street, New York NY 10027
 (212) 206-0574

The Door (open Mon -Fri: 11am-8pm Wed:
 11am-10pm Sat: 11am-7pm)
 555 Broome Street, New York NY 10013
 (212) 941-9090

Safe Horizon Streetwork Harlem (Mon-Tues
 and Thurs-Sun: 10am-6pm)
 209 West 125th Street, New York NY 10027
 (212) 695-2220

Bronx

Cardinal McCloskey Services (open 24/7)
 333 East 149th Street, Bronx NY 10451
 (718) 993-5495

Brooklyn

SCO Family of Services (open 24/7)
 774 Rockaway Avenue, Brooklyn NY 11212
 (718) 685-3850

Queens

Sheltering Arms/Safe Space (open 24/7)
 89-74 162nd Street, 3rd Floor, Jamaica NY
 11432
 (718) 526-2400 ext. 2077

Sheltering Arms, Far Rockaway Site (Mon.-
 Thurs. 10am-8pm, Friday 10am-7pm, Saturday
 12pm -8pm)
 1600 Central Avenue, Far Rockaway NY 11691
 (718)471-6818 x2123

Staten Island

Project Hospitality (open 24/7)
 27 Port Richmond Ave. Staten Island NY 10302
 718-876-4752

¹ Youth ages 16-24 may enter a youth shelter by themselves. 16 and 17-year-olds have a right to a youth shelter bed, but youth age 18-24 may have to go to an adult shelter if there are not available beds.



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Domestic Violence (DV) Shelters (run by the Office of Family and Community Services):

For placement in a DV shelter, call the Safe Horizon hotline **1-800-621-HOPE (4673)**. You will have to answer a series of questions to complete the intake process – this cannot be done by an advocate.

Placement in DV shelters may be limited by space. If you go to PATH to seek shelter, you should tell them you are a DV survivor, and will then be referred to the NoVA (No Violence Again) office on the 6th floor.

PATH Eligibility Process

As part of the application for shelter, you will first meet with a Diversion Worker who may help you apply for public benefits or avoid shelter. The application process begins when you are interviewed by a Family Worker make sure you are eligible for shelter. Anyone in New York City, regardless of immigration status, is eligible for shelter if they have nowhere else to go. To prove you have nowhere else to stay, you will be asked for your **housing history for the past two years**. Make sure to explain why you cannot return to any of those places – whether because of overcrowding, violence or unsafe conditions, landlord issues, etc.

If you have medical or mental health needs which affect your ability to answer the application questions, or which affect the type of shelter you need, say so, and ask for a “reasonable accommodation.”

Following this initial intake process, you will be provided temporary shelter for 10 days pending an eligibility review of PATH (which could include checking your two-year housing history, an interview with NoVA or ACS, and requirement that you apply for public assistance.)

Documents to Bring for Shelter Intake:

Note: PATH is required by law to help you get documents to prove your identity if you cannot get them on your own. Always keep originals of your documents!

- **Identity:**
 - **Picture ID:** welfare card, green card, driver’s license, government ID, passport/visa, or picture employment card
 - If you don’t have picture ID, you can use a birth certificate, Social Security card, Medicaid card, public assistance card, or a pay stub. If you have been finger imaged by HRA, you may not need documents.
- **Proving You are a Family:**
 - **If you have an active ACS case, make sure to tell your ACS worker that you are entering PATH. They should implement the “housing assistance protocol” to directly provide PATH information to assist in the eligibility process.**
 - To show at least one adult is parent of the children, bring the children’s birth certificates or legal documents showing you have custody or filed for paternity of the children.
 - 2 or more adults in household:
 - If only one adult is parent or guardian, or if you do not have children, bring proof that you are legally married or have a domestic partnership
 - Absent marriage or domestic partnership, bring documentation of a health or other important need that requires you to live together, or that you have been living together the past 6 months and have an interdependent relationship.



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NoVA (No Violence Again) Process:

If you go through a NoVA assessment, you will be asked a number of questions to determine if you have any domestic violence (DV) safety issues that affect your shelter placement. Possible outcomes of the NoVA assessment include referral to a DV shelter, or prohibition from living in shelter with certain individuals or in certain neighborhoods/boroughs. They may also recommend services to you.

If you disagree with a NoVA determination, your CFR team should contact CFR's Civil Unit. We can ask DHS to re-assess or assist in a fair hearing. However, note that success in these cases is very rare.

Denial of Eligibility

If you are denied eligibility for shelter, you should receive a written eligibility notice. You **MUST** be permitted to re-apply at PATH immediately. You also have a right to request a PATH conference right after being denied, in which a PATH lawyer will review the determination. You can also request an emergency fair hearing by following the instructions in the written notice.

If there is any eligibility issue for shelter, your CFR team should contact CFR's Civil Unit for assistance.