

## NEWS RELEASE

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For immediate release.

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### Community Responds to Help Homeless During Cold-Weather Snap

With record-breaking low temperatures over the weekend of January 31- February 2, [The Lord's Place](#) (TLP) launched into preparation mode for its clients living on the streets. The agency called on the community to help ensure their warmth and safety, and the community responded in abundance.

“For the first time in our agency’s 45-year history, we opened our engagement center this weekend to act as a warming shelter for our most vulnerable clients. Typically, our unhoused neighbors come to us Monday through Friday to escape the elements: usually the South Florida heat and thunderstorms. With windchills in the teens and twenties during the day, we knew we had to provide a place for our clients to stay warm,” said Christine Frederick, CEO of The Lord’s Place.

In response to a media advisory that was sent out last week, local news stations and newspapers quickly helped spread awareness that TLP was collecting cold-weather items for those experiencing homelessness in Palm Beach County. As word spread, donations came pouring in—blankets, hats, gloves, jackets. TLP’s outreach and engagement team began distributing these items to clients coming to the Fortin Family Campus on Australian Avenue. In addition, they took the items directly to those living on the streets—ensuring that they had the essential items needed to keep them warm during these unprecedented winter days.

In partnership with Palm Beach County, The Lord’s Place opened this past Saturday and Sunday from 8:30 AM to 4:30 PM. Thanks to the agency’s long-standing relationship with Park Avenue BBQ, the local restaurant also stepped in to help. PA BBQ graciously donated hot meals to feed individuals and families who were seeking temporary shelter from the cold during the day.

“We were honored to support The Lord’s Place in keeping their doors open this past weekend for those who need it most. Food brings people together, and if our 400 meals helped provide warmth, nourishment, and dignity to our neighbors experiencing homelessness, then we’re fulfilling our responsibility as part of this community. Everyone deserves a good meal and a safe

place to be,” said Jerome Veerapen, director of operations of Park Avenue BBQ and West Palm Beach owner.

“It is because of the support of our community—donors, friends, businesses, and local government partners—that we were able to stay open and get essential items into the hands of those who need them. Thank you for showing up for us so that we could show up for our clients,” added Frederick.

For more information on The Lord’s Place and its programs and services that help break the cycle of homelessness, visit [thelordsplace.org](http://thelordsplace.org).

**PHOTO ID:**

[001](#) and [002](#): The Lord’s Place staff sorting cold-weather items that were donated the week of January 26, 2026, thanks to local media outlets helping the agency spread the word.

[003](#), [004](#), [005](#), [006](#), [007](#): The Lord’s Place staff distributing cold-weather items to unsheltered neighbors in Palm Beach County.

[008](#): Staff of The Lord’s Place preparing the meals donated by Park Avenue BBQ to feed those coming to the agency’s Fortin Family Campus which served as warming shelter over the weekend of January 31-February 1, 2026.

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**About The Lord’s Place**

*For 45 years, The Lord’s Place, a non-sectarian agency, has been working to break the cycle of homelessness for men, women, and children in Palm Beach County, FL, through innovative, compassionate and effective services. The Fortin Family Campus in West Palm Beach provides training and support services including: the operation of Café Joshua; job training and placement services; clinical and care coordination; community engagement services; and a reentry program helping men and women transitioning from incarceration. The agency also owns or rents 15 supportive and graduate housing locations, as well as 82 scattered site apartments, to help house about 300 individuals every night. For more information, visit [thelordsplace.org](http://thelordsplace.org).*

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