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January 20, 2022 - For Immediate Release

## Lackawanna County Commissioners Declare "Code Blue" Frigid Weather Alert

Based on current cold weather information, the Lackawanna County Commissioners are declaring a "Code Blue" frigid weather alert.

<u>Utilizing forecasts from the National Weather Service at Binghamton, NY, and in consultation</u>
<u>with the Lackawanna County Emergency Management Agency, a "Code Blue" is in effect for Lackawanna</u>
<u>County, beginning at 5 PM on Thursday, January 20, and ending at Noon on Monday, January 31.</u>

A "Code Blue" alert is issued when the forecasted temperature in Lackawanna County (including wind chills) is expected to reach 20 degrees Fahrenheit or lower. If necessary, based on weather conditions, an extension of the alert may be issued.

The goal of this notification is to: make people aware of the extremely cold conditions; provide information related to health and wellness in the cold weather; and publicize the locations of emergency homeless shelters that are operated by area social service agencies.

During a "Code Blue" alert, homeless individuals can access an emergency shelter at the following locations:

- Keystone Mission, Weston Field House, 982 Providence Road, (doors open at 8 p.m. during the week. Closed Wednesday. Weekend hours vary.)
- St. Anthony's Haven, 409 Olive Street, Scranton, (hours: 7 p.m. to 8 a.m.)
- Community Intervention Center, 445 North 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Scranton, (hours: 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.)