



**Governor's Office of
Homeland Security &
Emergency Preparedness**

JOINT INFORMATION CENTER

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**DHH Phases Down Medical Special Needs Shelter Operations
as Residents Return to their Communities**

Baton Rouge, La. – The Department of Health and Hospitals has discharged patients from its medical special needs shelters (MSNS) in Bossier City and Alexandria as it helps residents return closer to their communities. Those sites are now closed, but MSNS operations continue in Baton Rouge, Hammond and New Orleans.

While there are currently no patients or caregivers at the shelter in Hammond, DHH continues to have staff and resources on site. The New Orleans Convention Center and the Carl Maddox Field House in Baton Rouge are currently caring for 90 patients and will remain open until further notice.

Medical special needs shelters provide refuge to individuals who may not be eligible for a general shelter because of their medical needs but do not require hospitalization. The shelters are a last resort, temporary living arrangement, providing care until the emergency is over and the parish of residence is safe.

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