

Transition Projects Homeless Shelter Help Needed

For more than 20 years, St. Elizabeth has been providing meals twice a month at two of homeless shelters operated by Transition Projects. An additional emergency shelter opened on Thanksgiving Day at the former Armory building in Multnomah and will provide overnight housing for single women and will operate for six months. For all of you who have thought you'd like to help sometime with St. Elizabeth's work on behalf of the homeless, here is your opportunity! There are several ways you can get involved:

Help to Provide Meals: Volunteers are needed to provide meals on Sunday evenings. Because there isn't a kitchen available at the shelter, meals need to be prepared off-site, delivered to the shelter and served between 7:00 and 8:30 p.m. We can help with recipes, logistics, supplies you might need, etc.

Provide Sack Lunches: Because the residents will not be able to stay in the shelter (or any other shelter in Portland) during the day, help is needed to provide them a sack lunch they can take with them before leaving the shelter in the morning. Sack lunches need to be dropped off at the shelter between 6:30 and 9:30 in the evening and cannot require refrigeration. This might be a great opportunity for scout troops/church groups/a group of adult friends—whatever. You don't need to commit to do this more than one time (unless, of course, you want to!). We can help with ideas about what might be a good and easy lunch to put together.

Make In-Kind Donations: Transition Projects staff has provided us with a list of some items that will be needed by shelter guests. We'll be collecting some of these items at St. Elizabeth's during the coming weeks and the specific item we're targeting will be included in the bulletin. The first item we'll be collecting will be umbrellas beginning the weekend of Dec 12-13th. The umbrellas do not need to be new, but they do need to be in good working order. A clearly-marked collection box will be located in the back of the church for your kind donations. We'll take care of getting them to the shelter.

Monetary Assistance: There are some items the shelter will need that are best purchased in bulk. The basket that is always located in back of the church (previously marked "Simple Supper") will be re-identified as "Homeless Shelters". Your free-will donations in this basket will still to be used to help off-set the cost of the twice-a-month meals we will continue to provide the two shelters we've been working with for decades; in addition, these funds also will be used to help purchase items needed for the new, temporary shelter. Thank you, in advance, for your continued generosity.

If you think you'd like to be involved in providing a Sunday evening meal or sack lunches, please contact either Jean Horton (jhorton150@comcast.net) or Maura O'Scannlain (maurapdx@comcast.net). Thank you for your interest. God bless!