

Brief synopsis of shelter activity

Unofficial start date: 11/24/12

Official Start Date: December 1/2012

Briefly: We will provide Shelter from 9:00 p.m. to 8:00 a.m. 7 days a week in partnership with First Presbyterian Church at 547 7th Ave.

1. Agencies may refer: 328-9949 - (this number will be at the shelter all night)
2. Agencies may give youth this number as well and they can call: 328 - 9949
3. Youth can also access us through SAFE PLACE - which has been getting the word out about shelter.
4. Youth can ring the doorbell of the church entrance on the Cushman street side of the church.
5. It rings in at the shelter area. An adult will check youth in, one at a time - then they will go down to the basement. 2 other chaperones will be in the basement.

Services

We will have 10 cots and back up mats. We have board games, books, snacks, and some personal items, towels, and blankets. Essentially - youth can come in any hour of the night, but if they leave - they leave for the night. All youth will vacate the building by 7:45 a.m. Students will have access to taxi rides to school. Youth can access shelter via taxi ride through Safe Place - we may provide some taxi rides but am trying to avoid this. We will NOT drive youth. This makes for craziness for the insurance agency.

Target Audience

12-17 year olds. BUT we plan to turn no age appropriate youth away:

Case by Case:

- Youth who are between the ages of 18 and 21.
- Youth who are under the age of 13.
- Youth who are intoxicated or otherwise under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

After Thanksgiving, we will be making public announcements regarding opening, but at this time, we just want our agency friends to know. They may refer starting 12/1/2012, but of course if there is an emergency - they can call us, we are providing shelter now, but we're not announcing the earlier date publicly.

We have many volunteers: we have 42 that have signed up to do overnight and or check in shifts. Everyone of them is receiving a personal interview with at least 2 people. Everyone of

them has to turn in a background check to us and undergo fingerprinting. So far 3 have been fingerprinted. Volunteers can get fingerprinted at FPD on Wednesdays. We also received a small grant from Walmart for 1750.00 One of the things that we wrote into this grant was fingerprinting expenses. (for those that cannot afford the 38.00) We have two trainings coming up: Dec. 1 and Dec. 8.

A few more volunteers are needed: We are still looking for a few all night volunteers (1x a month from 9-8) and check-in shift volunteers (9-11 p.m.). Volunteers can apply online. We know some will fall out and some will commit to more than 1 night a month - but pray for a shelter supervisor to organize and track all of these.

The church has been incredibly supportive. They have added a peep hole in the entrance door, + door chimes. They have cleared out a storage space and provided many an extra bin for supplies. We found 10 - 1/2 lockers and they moved them on site. We've set up a bookshelf and games in fellowship hall. They installed wifi for chaperones only.

Staff coverage

- 4 nights a week 10 hour shifts
- 3 nights a week (for a short while) AmeriCorps members
- all 7 nights - volunteers cover one long 11 hour shift
- volunteers cover a short shift, (check in)
- staff comes in from 6-8 to relieve other staff

What this amounts to is 3 adults available in the evening and 3 available in the morning for a while. Two all night - awake all night.