Businesses Caring in Hillsboro

A Homelessness Tool Kit

The Basics for Your Business
JOINT TASK FORCE MEMBERS

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- Sarah McGraw-Plaster  
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- Emily Krieg  
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- Sia Lindstrom  
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- Jaime Miranda  
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- Deanna Palm  
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- Adam Saffel  
  State Farm Insurance
- Rachel Schutz  
  Inukai Boys & Girls Club
- Marla Vik  
  Community Member

**Facilitator**
- Glenn Montgomery  
  Vision Action Network
PREVENTION

Do:
• Keep the area in front of your business clean and well maintained. If you keep your area clean, others are more likely to respect that area.
• Make sure all entrances are well lit and defined.
• Make sure all lights work properly, especially areas where criminal activity could take place.
• Install motion-activated exterior lighting for after hours.
• Trim trees to allow a visual clearance of six feet in height.
• Maintain landscaping to reinforce ownership.
• Get to know your Hillsboro Police Department Community Enhancement Team at 503-681-6190 and talk to them about any issues you may be having with homeless individuals.

If you are interested in information on Crime Prevention through Environmental Design, contact Earleen Reimann with the Hillsboro Police Department at 503-681-5207.

Don’t:
• Offer food or money. It often encourages panhandling.
• Permit anyone to camp on your property.
• Allow anyone to store shopping carts or personal belongings on your property.
INTERVENTION

• If someone, homeless or not, is being disruptive, try to de-escalate the situation if you are comfortable doing so. A few reasonable words (e.g., I understand you are upset, I’d like to try and help you) may prevent the police or others from having to get involved and reduce the criminalization of homelessness.

• If homeless people are loitering around your business and won’t leave, call the non-emergency police number at 503-629-0111. If people are unruly, call 9-1-1.

• Lock or turn off exterior power outlets.

• Become familiar with local service providers listed in the Street Roots Rose City Resource guide. Know who can provide a meal, shower, or other services in your neighborhood so you can point people in the right direction.

• Post the Guide for Customer-Facing Staff by your register or front desk and share with your staff.
PARTICIPATION

• Get to know the people living on the streets in your area. Treat them with respect and in a way that makes them like and respect you as a good neighbor.
• Offer to help and call public/social services.
• Refer them to Community Connect at 503-640-6263 for housing assistance, and security deposit and utility assistance.
• Encourage them to get job training at:

  **Worksource Oregon**  
  (Comprehensive One-Stop Career Center)  
  241 SW Edgeway Drive  
  Beaverton, OR 97006  
  503-526-2700  
  WorkSourcePortlandMetro.org  
  Bus Line #52

  **Goodwill Job Connection**  
  966 SW Oak Street  
  Hillsboro, OR 97123  
  503-648-7971  
  GoodWillJobConnection.org

  **Prosperidad**  
  400 E Main Street, Suite 110  
  Hillsboro, OR 97123  
  503-336-9895  
  Prosperidad@CentroCultural.org
Want to get more involved? Many organizations directly help people in homelessness by trying to end homelessness or increase affordable housing. One of the best things you can do as a business is find one that you want to support and ask them what they need.

Hillsboro-area service providers know how to help our homeless population; it’s what they do. The more we support them, the more they can help people find the resources they need to get off the streets.

Areas that might interest you include:

**YOUTH OUTREACH**
Young people need caring adults in their lives. Become a mentor.

Inukai Family Club – Boys & Girls Clubs  
560 SE 3rd Avenue  
Hillsboro, OR 97123  
BGCPortland.org/Inukai

HomePlate Youth Services  
12520 SW 3rd Street  
Beaverton, OR 97005  
HomePlateYouth.org
SHELTER/HOUSING
For shelter openings in the metro area, dial 2-1-1 or 503-222-5555 to access the 2-1-1 information and referral system.

Local shelter information is available online at Co.Washington.OR.US/Homeless.

SOCIAL SERVICES
Community Connect, for people experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of becoming homeless; call 503-640-3263.

2-1-1, a system that connects people to community, health, and disaster services in Washington County and throughout Oregon. It’s free and available 24/7. You can also download the 2-1-1 app on your smartphone.

Street Roots Rose City Resource guide. This booklet is updated twice a year and lists services in both Washington and Multnomah counties.
CONTACT US

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