

Virtually everyone is aware of the homeless problem in our area and many want to help. Too often people just don't know how to get involved. The following tips are provided to show 50 small ways you can become personally involved in alleviating homelessness in King County.

1. Donate complimentary shampoos, soaps, etc. from hotels to the YWCA housing and shelter program. 206.461.4888.
2. Respond with a kind word when you are approached for a handout for coffee, a meal, etc.
3. Carry fast food restaurant certificates to give to the homeless who are asking for help.
4. For only \$1, buy a copy of Real Change magazine from a licensed vendo homeless person.
5. Help cook dinner for the homeless at First Avenue Service Center. 206.441.8405.
6. Organize a food drive through your church, social group or friends and donate to an agency serving the homeless.
7. Buy extra sets of school supplies and donate to homeless children at First Place. 206.323.6715.
8. Hire a day worker from the Millionaire Club Charity. 206.728.5627.
9. Work as a FareStart kitchen volunteer. 206.443.1233, ext. 6214
10. Volunteer to help at Teen Feed in the University District. 206.522.4366, ext.3.
11. Help homeless kids on Capital Hill by supporting Peace for the Streets by Kids from the Streets. 206.726.8500.
12. Make sack lunches for the YWCA's Angeline's Day Center. 206.461.4888.
13. Volunteer to help Seattle Children's Home's Street Links van that provides supplies to homeless youth. 206.298.9635, ext. 2.
14. Help a homeless child at the First Avenue Family Center with their homework. 206.441.8405.
15. Put your professional talents to work as a volunteer for one of the nonprofit organizations assisting the homeless.
16. Volunteer at the University District Youth Center for their drop-in program. 206.526.2992.
17. Tutor a homeless child at First Place School. 206.323.6715 ext.1307.

18. Donate good quality, work appropriate clothing to Dress for Success. YWCA 206.325.3453.
19. Adopt a family for the holidays through the Salvation Army. 206.442.8379.
20. Donate blankets, sleeping bags, and coats to Union Gospel Mission. 206.723.0767.
21. Make "welcome kits" with everyday household basics for the homeless in transition; donate to an agency of your choice. 206.461.3214.
22. Volunteer for Habitat for Humanity to help with construction of housing for low-income families. 206.292.5240.
23. Become informed, and become an advocate for community solutions for homelessness.
24. Donate used eye glasses to the Pike Market Senior Center. 206.774.5246.
25. Adopt an agency that serves the homeless and give them year round support.
26. Prepare "birthday baskets" for homeless children at the YWCA or other agency (cake mix, frosting, birthday napkins, favors, a gift, etc.). 206.461.3214.
27. Volunteer to work with the University Youth Shelter. 206.525.1213, ext. 4204.
28. Donate sweatshirts and socks – the most useable clothing for homeless people – to any of the day shelters in King County.
29. Learn about the Housing Justice Project. 206.324.9128.
30. Learn more about homelessness. Visit the National Alliance to End Homelessness website at www.endhomelessness.org.
31. Donate diapers to Family Services' Baby Boutique. 206.826.3050.
32. Ask a shelter what they need and designate a donation box at home or the office for the needed items.
33. Contribute picture magazines to Pike Place Market Child Care & Preschool. 206.774.5246.
34. Buy a few extra cans of food when you shop and deposit them in the food collection barrels in the grocery store.
35. Give your used furniture to The Sharehouse, a furniture bank. 206.767.5280.
36. Volunteer legal services to Pike Place Market Senior Center. 206.774.5246.

37. Instead of birthday gifts, ask your child's guests to bring items of warm clothing for someone their age. Give to First Avenue Service Center. 206.441.8405.
38. Donate bus scrip to medical clinics serving the homeless. 206.774.5246.
39. Donate spare sporting events tickets to an agency serving the homeless.
40. Volunteer with the University Family YMCA's meal/shower/outreach program. 206.524.1400.
41. Volunteer to staff the "store" at Family Services Baby Boutique. 206.826.3050.
42. Request an electronic file of this booklet and email it to your work associates, family and friends. 206.623.0023.
43. Volunteer to help someone move into a new home. Call the Self-Managed Housing Program of the Church Council of Seattle. 206.525.1213, ext. 3151.
44. Recognize an adult friend's birthday by making a contribution in their name to a charity fighting homelessness.
45. Conduct a kitchenware drive at your workplace to help equip new housing units for homeless women at YWCA Opportunity Place. 206.461.3214.
46. Serve meals on Christmas or Thanksgiving at one of the homeless shelters.
47. Adopt a shelter at the YWCA Family Village – clean and supply it when new families move in. 425.556.1354.
48. Eat lunch at FareStart, 1902 Second Ave. or 2326 Sixth Ave. Both preparers and servers are homeless people learning a trade.
49. Organize a group to spend a Saturday sprucing up a homeless shelter. YWCA 206.461.3214.
50. Support United Way of King County's Out of the Rain Homelessness Initiative. 206.461.3700.

This flyer was made possible by **Sappi**, a division of SD Warren Company, through a generous Ideas that Matter Grant presented to Seattle -based, **Hansen Design Company**.

Special thanks to **Seattle Rotary #4** for encouraging its own members to volunteer and the members of the **Seattle Rotary Community Service Committee** for creating the list of "50 Tips." Also, thanks to **United Way of King County's Out of the Rain Initiative** for their great assistance in partnering with Rotary in the distribution of these materials.

50 WAYS

TO HELP

THE HOMELESS