
HOW YOU CAN HELP THE HOMELESS (AND THE ORGANIZATIONS THAT SUPPORT THEM)

First off, thank you for thinking of others! The very fact that you are reading this right now means that you care about the plight of the homeless and, like everyone at SHIP, want to do more to make sure that homelessness is rare, brief and does not reoccur.

This brief information sheet brings together just some of the many ways you can help by highlighting some of the many community-based organizations (CBOs) that can and do need our support, and the many ways you can pitch in to help.

[One Small Step](#) @OneSmallStepSK

This site—which is the handiwork of Saskatoon realtor Gregg Bamford and author Alice Kuipers—acts as an information hub for dozens of local CBOs, allowing visitors to view the exact needs of each local entity, the better to match donors and their resources.

[Canada Helps](#) @canadahelps @CanadaHelps

Many CBOs use this site to direct donations in a simple, easy way. Saskatoon charities found here include [CUMFI](#), [EGADZ](#), [People Living with AIDS Network](#), [Saskatoon Indian and Métis Friendship Centre](#), [Saskatoon Crisis Intervention Service](#) and [YWCA Saskatoon](#).

Cash is king: The needs of individual CBOs vary greatly, though ALL readily accept cash or other financial instruments (cheques, e-transfers, grocery store gift cards, cryptocurrency, legacy gifts, securities, etc.) Similarly, donate your recyclables at [SARCAN](#) centres to [People Living with AIDS Network](#), [The Bridge](#) or another charity.

Other Ways to Donate

Clothing (especially for winter): Whether new or gently used, warm mitts/gloves, toques, socks, underwear (including thermals), snowsuits (for infants and children), sweaters, pants and more are always in demand at the [Salvation Army](#), [STR&UP](#), [The Bridge](#), [EGADZ](#), Cress Housing, and the [Community Support Officers](#) program.

Toiletries: Donations of soap, shampoo/conditioner, shaving razors (for men and women), toothbrushes and toothpaste, towels, feminine hygiene and more can be donated to the [Friendship Inn](#), [EGADZ](#), [Salvation Army](#), [STR&UP](#), [Chokecherry Studios](#) and Cress Housing.

For baby/new mothers: Various CBOs provide support to mothers in need and their infant children. Consider supplying baby formula, diapers, wipes, onesies, bibs, multi-vitamins and more to [Friendship Inn](#), [EGADZ](#), Cress Housing and [Haven Family Connections](#) (aka the Saskatoon Crisis Nursery).

Furniture/household items: Furnishings, appliances and housewares are always needed for transition housing or long-term tenancies for those exiting homelessness. Surplus goods that are in good condition and which can be delivered are always preferred by [SaskNative Rentals](#), [EGADZ](#) and Cress Housing.

Kitchen stuff: The [Friendship Inn](#) takes: larger quantities of dried seasonings and spices; cooking oils; powdered soup bases, plus tomato-based sauces; pulses/grains/legumes, dried goods and other non-perishables; stockable vegetables (potatoes, carrots and other root vegetables; onions; zucchini and squashes); home-grown fruits (apples, rhubarb, berries, etc.); and, eggs.

Donate your time (aka volunteer): Help prepare and serve soup and other meals at [Friendship Inn](#) or [PLWA](#); coach a team sport or lead an activity for youth at [White Buffalo Youth Lodge](#); pick up and deliver furniture (or other items) to any of the above organizations; or, be a big brother or a big sister to a local child at [Big Brothers, Big Sisters of Saskatoon](#).