

Help for People Experiencing Homelessness

Homeless Hotline

1-888-4SHELTR (1-888-474-3587)

HandsOn Central Ohio provides 24-hour call center assistance for single adults and families experiencing a housing crisis. Intake staff will discuss all possible shelter diversion options with people who are seeking shelter. Those with no other resources will be assisted in finding emergency shelter at one of several area shelters.

The Engagement Center at Maryhaven: 449-1530

Admissions received via Netcare Reach Out and Columbus Police Department. Any referral from a hospital must have a nurse-to-nurse report prior to acceptance. Priority is given to persons who are inebriated, homeless, and are unable to care for self due to alcohol and/or other substance intoxication. The program provides 24-hour emergency services, case management and linkage to treatment for up to 42 men and 8 women.

Street Outreach Programs

The following community organizations have programs that provide resources and services to persons on the streets. These organizations work to assist individuals to move into housing or shelter.

Maryhaven – Collaborative Outreach Program: 449-1530

Mobile street and homeless camp outreach, as well as material assistance for literally homeless persons; provides linkages to shelter and housing. <http://www.maryhavenhomelessoutreach.com/>

Capital Crossroads: 228-5718

Mobile street outreach and material assistance for homeless persons in downtown business district provides assessment services, guides linkage to mental health services, shelter, housing, or other needed services.

Columbus Neighborhood Health Center – Health Care for the Homeless: 645-0521

The CNHC Healthcare for the Homeless (HCH) program mission is to provide access to services that improve the physical health status of the homeless person, particularly those who have experienced barriers to healthcare.

Mt. Carmel Community Outreach (Mobile Medical Coach): 546-4236

Mount Carmel's Community Outreach Program is a department that extends its reach into the community and helps provide free health services to those in need. Among the services the program provides are physical exams, diagnoses and treatments, health assessments and screenings, health education, referrals and social service assistance.

Netcare Access – Reach Out: 276-2273

Reach Out provides transportation of inebriated (intoxicated) homeless persons to the Maryhaven Engagement Center or to an individual's home.

Southeast, Inc. – Project Liaison & PATH Mobile Psychiatric Van: 614-225-0990 ext 1266

The program provides mobile mental health assessment services and short-term behavioral health treatment services for homeless persons. These programs provide linkages to mental health services, shelter, and any available housing options. These services are designed to serve homeless individuals with behavioral health needs not yet referred/linked to mainstream mental health services.

Southeast, Inc. Mobile Coach Health Care for the Homeless FQHC Program: 225-0980

The program provides community health, complementary medicine, mental health, primary health care, and screenings for sexually transmitted diseases.

Veterans Administration – Outreach Program: 257-5219

Outreach and healthcare for homeless veterans provides linkages to appropriate health services, housing, or other services.

Franklin County Veterans Service Commission: 525-2500

Although not a street outreach program, VSC is able to provide short term emergency financial assistance to eligible veterans with a discharge under honorable conditions or a recognized service-connected disability. Financial Assistance is provided for basic living needs and not to subsidize an unsatisfactory lifestyle.

OhioHealth Wellness on Wheels Program: 566-9989

The OhioHealth Wellness on Wheels (WOW) program represents one of the most innovative ways to bring healthcare to populations that need it most. WOW was developed in 1993 as the Project to Reduce Infant Mortality (PRIM). This program provides services to pregnant women ages 12 to 44 in communities identified to have high infant mortality rates. WOW serves schools in central Ohio and offers patients five clinic locations per week.

Homeless Youth Outreach Programs

Huckleberry House Youth Outreach Program: 294-8097

The Youth Outreach program goes to the streets and talks to young people ages 12 to 22 in their own neighborhoods, in school, at recreation centers, shopping malls — any place where teens hang out.

OSU Star House Homeless Youth Outreach: 299-2101

The Youth Outreach program conducts outreach to homeless youth ages 18-24 on the streets, soup kitchens, libraries, parks, and woods.

Youth and Transition Age Youth Programs

Huckleberry House 24 Hour Crisis Hotline: 294-5553

The Crisis Program is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week to talk to teens that need help and to offer a shelter when needed. If youth have run away from home, or are thinking of running, Huck House listens and helps come up with a safe plan. They also talk with parents who have questions or concerns about their teens.

OSU Star House: A Drop-In Center for Homeless Youth: 299-2101

The Star House is dedicated to providing homeless youth, ages 14-24, a safe respite from the streets where they are able to meet their basic needs and begin reconnecting with the larger social system.

Street Card:

The [Street Card](#) is a listing of local homeless assistance programs published by the Columbus Coalition for the Homeless.

Community Shelter Board is a collective impact organization that creates collaborations, innovates solutions, and invests in quality programs to end homelessness in Columbus and Franklin County. Community Shelter Board oversees an annual budget of \$31 million to support homeless programs and services. Last year, these programs served 12,000 people. Community Shelter Board is funded by the City of Columbus, the Franklin County Board of Commissioners, the United Way of Central Ohio, The Columbus Foundation, Nationwide Foundation, American Electric Power Foundation, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, the State of Ohio, and many other public and private investors.

Further information about programs serving those experiencing homelessness, local plans for services, and statistics about programs serving Columbus and Franklin County are available at www.csb.org.