

Appendix D

Helping Homeless People in Toronto Brochure

Helping Panhandlers

Toronto has many services to help vulnerable people but the job is not done yet. City community workers recently conducted a pilot project in the downtown area to try to help panhandlers improve their lives. The results will provide important observations and research on the causes of panhandling and help to shape future programs and policies.




Home is where it starts.

You can help.
www.toronto.ca/housing

This public information piece is made possible through the federal government's Homelessness Partnership Initiative, administered by the City of Toronto.

Helping Homeless People in Toronto

 TORONTO Shelter, Support & Housing Administration



1 Toronto is a compassionate place. In partnership with hundreds of community agencies, the City provides many services to help homeless people.

2 Regular meals are available at drop-in centres throughout the city and shelter residents are offered meals three times daily. Food banks are also available to all.

3 3,800 permanent shelter beds are available. Every night there is space for young people, single adults, couples and families. Most shelters are open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

4 There is street help. Funded by the City, ten agencies do street outreach to help people living outside move into housing.

5 More than 45 drop-ins across the city provide services to people who need help. Most provide food, laundry and showers as well as access to services that can help them find and keep permanent housing.

STREET HELPLINE OFFERS A FREE, ONE-STOP INFORMATION SOURCE FOR HOMELESS PEOPLE LOOKING FOR SERVICES. 1-866-392-3777.

6 There is housing help. We believe that permanent housing is the best first step. We call this "housing first". The City funds housing help centres that help people find homes as well as avoid eviction.

7 There is special help for people living outside. Sometimes serious mental illness or addictions prevent people from choosing to live inside. A specialist team helps street outreach workers.

8 There is free health care for Canadians. Toronto's hospitals and clinics are available to everyone. Specialized clinics work out of drop-ins and shelters to make it easier for those who need routine medical assistance.

9 A made-in-Toronto plan to end street homelessness. Streets to Homes is a housing-first strategy that in just over two years has helped 1,300 people living outside to find and keep permanent housing.

10 You can help. If you would like to help people who are living on the street to find and keep permanent housing, send a cheque payable to the City of Toronto to "I want to help," c/o Metro Hall, 6th Floor, 55 John Street, Toronto, M5V 3C6. All funds received will be forwarded to the not-for-profit agencies that partner with the City to deliver the Streets to Homes programme.