

Contra Costa County 2016 Homelessness Awareness Toolkit

Promoting education, advocacy, and service to end homelessness in our community

During the month of November, Contra Costa will join national efforts to increase awareness and promote solutions to ending homelessness. Every night there are approximately 1,700 homeless men, women, and children in Contra Costa County. We each play a part in ending homelessness in our community.

How will you get involved?



Educate

- ✓ Know the **statistics** of homeless in your community
- ✓ Learn about **our strategies** to end homelessness
- ✓ Learn about the local **Contra Costa Zero: 2016** campaign to end chronic and veteran homelessness, **National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week** and what Housing First means

Advocate

- ✓ Talk to your **city/town council** about **options** to help address homelessness in your community.
- ✓ Encourage landlords to **learn more** about renting to homeless individuals
- ✓ Forward/repost this toolkit to others interested in homelessness

Service

- ✓ **Donate** to the Contra Costa Housing Security Fund
- ✓ **Volunteer** with your local church or service provider
- ✓ **Donate** to a local homeless provider

*Data from 2016 Contra Costa PIT Count

1350 Arnold Dr., Ste. 202, Martinez, CA/925-313-7700

homelessprogram@hsd.cccounty.us / cchealth.org/homeless



November 2016



| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--|---|--|--|---|--|---|
| | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| | <p>Grab extra toiletries next time you stay at a hotel and donate them when you return.</p>  | <p>Council on Homelessness @ Board of Supervisors</p> | | | | <p>Clean out your closets this weekend and donate extra clothes</p>  |
| 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| <p>Research upcoming coat drives in your area.</p>  | | <p>Donate to the Contra Costa Housing Security Fund!</p>  | |  <p>VETERANS DAY Help us house our homeless veterans</p> | |  |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| | | | <p>Consider donating to the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano</p> <p>Holiday Fund Drive</p>  | | <p>Project Hope Memorial Event</p> | <p>Together We Give Events</p> <p>Shelter Inc. Holiday Box Assembly</p> |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| <p>Thanksgiving Multi-Faith Celebration and Service</p> | | <p>Check with local congregations to see if they need help serving food on Thanksgiving.</p>  | | <p>THANKSGIVING DAY Trinity Center Meal First Lutheran Church Meal</p>  | | |



HOMELESS AWARENESS MONTH EVENTS

Below is a list of open houses and tours that homeless service providers in Contra Costa County will be offering during Homeless Awareness Month.

Tuesday, November 1th

Council on Homelessness presents Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week to Contra Costa Board of Supervisors

9:30ish (check to see when on agenda [here](#))
651 Pine Street, Martinez (Board Chambers)

Members of the Council on Homelessness will present information about homelessness in Contra Costa and about Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week to the Contra Costa Board of Supervisors. Community members are encouraged to attend and to stand while speakers talk as a show of support for the Board's continued focus on homelessness.

Friday, November 18th

Project Hope Memorial Event

10 a.m. to 1 p.m. (lunch at Noon)
Concord United Methodist Church, 1645 West Street, Concord

Twelfth annual Memorial Service- a celebration of life for the homeless men and women who have passed over the last year.

Saturday, November 19th

Together We Give

CENTRAL COUNTY

9:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m.
St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall
1924 Trinity Avenue, Walnut Creek, CA

EAST COUNTY

1:00 p.m. -4:00 p.m.
Opportunity Junction
3102 Delta Fair Blvd., Antioch, CA

WEST COUNTY

2:00 p.m.-5:00 p.m.
GRIP Souper Center
165 22nd Street, Richmond, CA

On November 19th, clean out your closets, recycle, donate and help others through Together We Give's Community Donation Day. **For details about what items are being requested at each location, go to www.togetherwegive.org.**



SHELTER, Inc. Holiday Box Assembly

9:00am - 11:00am

1333 Willow Pass Road, Suite 206, Concord, CA 94520

Volunteers sort nonperishable food items and assemble 400+ boxes of Thanksgiving food items that will be distributed to families. Consider donating food items or grocery store gift cards (\$10-\$20) to add to the boxes. Contact Theresita Gonzalez, Community Resource Coordinator at TheresitaG@shelterinc.org or call (925) 957-5761.

Sunday, November 20th

Thanksgiving Multi-Faith Celebration and Service

4 p.m.

Temple Isaiah, 945 Risa Rd, Lafayette, CA 94549

Share gratitude for abundance - Commit to confronting poverty. Gather in community! Faith leaders from across the County with a Multi-Faith choir led by Joyce Pricco, St. Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church. Offering received at this service will be donated to the [Contra Costa County Housing Security Fund](#). For more information contact the Multi-Faith ACTION Coalition contactmfac@gmail.com

Thursday, November 24th

Trinity Center Thanksgiving Meal

1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 1924 Trinity Avenue, Walnut Creek.

Last year, with the help of donations from the Contra Costa and Solano Food Bank, Share the Spirit program (Volunteer Centers of the East Bay), Trinity Center staff and volunteers, St. Paul's volunteers and volunteers from the community, we served over 120 meals. We hope to serve this many folks again this year!

First Lutheran Church Giving Thanks Meal

11:30 am – 3:00 pm

First Lutheran Church, 4000 Concord Blvd., Concord

All people in need in the Concord area will have the opportunity to join us on Thanksgiving Day for a hot, home style meal served with love. Several local churches are planning the ninth annual Giving Thanks at Thanksgiving. This meal is for anyone in need of a hot meal, cooked with love, on Thanksgiving. If you have questions about the meal call 925-207-0035 and leave a message or send an email to GTatTG@yahoo.com, we will get back to you as soon as possible. NOTE: We can provide transportation to the meal, in the local area. If you need a ride contact us as above.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Below is a list of volunteer opportunities with the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness. Some of the opportunities are available throughout the year, and others are specific to the fall and winter holidays.

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

What?

Tutoring youth in afterschool programs

When?

Varies

Contact?

Email Gloria@ccinterfaithhousing.org or call 925-448-2004.

Monument Crisis Center

What?

Help with Food Pantry and Client Intake

When?

Monday – Thursday 9 am - Noon

Contact?

Email Volunteer@monumentcrisiscenter.org or call (925) 825-7751 for more information.

Trinity Center

What?

Evening Program volunteers including cooks, van drivers, floor monitors, weekend breakfast/lunch bags.

When?

Nov 12 – Mar 30.

Contact?

Coordinator: Nora Hudson, norah@trinitycenterwc.org

Trinity Center

What?

Thanksgiving food prep and serving:

When?

November 24th

Contact?

Carol Lombard, 925-949-8712

DONATION WISH LIST

Below is a list of partner agencies in the Contra Costa Council on Homelessness and their donation wish lists. These are items that can be donated throughout the year:

Also see the “[Together We Give](#)” event on November 19th in the Events Section above!

ANKA Behavioral Health

- Socks
- Sweatpants and sweatshirts
- Sleeping bags
- Bottled water
- Can openers

Call (925) 270-2102 to coordinate drop off.

Calli House Youth Shelter

- Twin size bedding (sheets and comforters)
- Pillows
- Bath towels
- Hygiene products: shampoo, body soap, deodorant, lotion, feminine products, sponges, toothbrushes/paste, hairproducts, flipflops, shaving cream/razors
- Clothing: socks, tshirts, male/female undergarments, pajamas
- School supplies
- Gift cards for youth birthdays, moving into permanent housing, etc. (safeway, Target, Walmart, Dollar Store, Movie theater, payless shoes)
- Warm coats
- Umbrellas
- Pots/pans
- Arts/crafts supplies
- Duffle bags/small suitcases for youth to travel between programs

Call (510) 541-7562 to coordinate drop off

Contra Costa Housing Security Fund

The Contra Costa Housing Security Fund is a community fund that covers costs that can prevent many people, including seniors, veterans and families from getting back into housing and protects property owners who offer these screened renters an opportunity.

To donate, go to <http://tinyurl.com/HousingSecurityFund>

Resources for Renters

Credit Check
Application fees
Utility deposit
Utility arrears
Rental Assistance (short term)
Security Deposit

Resources for Landlords

Repair damage to units
Pay past-due rent (eviction prevention)
Increased security deposit



The fund is utilized by service providers in the Contra Costa Homeless Continuum of Care, is managed by the Contra Costa Crisis Center and held by the Richmond Community Foundation. All donations are tax-deductible.

To donate, go to <http://tinyurl.com/HousingSecurityFund>

For questions about the fund, please email jaime.jenett@hsd.cccounty.us.

Contra Costa Interfaith Housing

- Grocery gift cards
- Diapers
- Feminine Hygiene products
- Bed Bug mattress encasements (all sizes)

Call 925-448-2004 or email Gloria@ccinterfaithhousing.org to coordinate drop off.

First Lutheran Church

- New socks, all sizes
- New or gently used blankets/sleeping bags
- Coats & gloves for distribution after the meal.

Monetary donations to offset the cost of the food for the Thanksgiving meal may be made out to First Lutheran Church and brought or mailed to 4000 Concord Blvd, Concord, CA 94519.

You may bring any donations to First Lutheran Church, on weekdays between 9 AM and 3:30 pm until the day before Thanksgiving. If you cannot drop your donation off during these hours, call 925-708-0898 and leave a message to arrange a drop off time. Monetary donations to offset the cost of the food may be made out to First Lutheran Church and brought or mailed to 4000 Concord Blvd, Concord, CA 94519.

Loaves and Fishes

- Canned soups and vegetables
- Cereals
- Peanut butter
- Pasta and canned sauce
- Rice
- Healthy snacks: energy bars, granola bars
- Canned meats: chicken, beef, fish, chili and beef stew.
- Toiletries: tooth paste, shampoo, toothbrushes, deodorant, soap
- Kitchen cleaning supplies: dish soap and scrub pads

Drop off can be arranged by emailing info@loavesfishescc.org.

Monument Crisis Center December Cheer (Nov 28th- Dec 26th)

- New adult size sleeping bags (preferably good to 30/40 degrees)
- New tarps 6x8 or 8x10
- Ready-to-eat food items
- Can openers
- New knit scarves, hats and gloves

Email or call Danny Scherer at dscherer@monumentcrisiscenter.org or 925.222.6866 for more details.

Monument Crisis Center Holiday Food Box

- Details can be found here: <http://monumentcrisiscenter.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/05/Holiday-Food-Box-2016-1.pdf>

Email or call Danny Scherer at dscherer@monumentcrisiscenter.org or 925.222.6866 for more details.

Trinity Center

- Non-perishable food items
- Clothing
- Blankets
- Warm coats
- Holiday gift cards

Call 925-949-8712 to coordinate drop off

Winter Nights

- Automobiles
- Gas, BART and bus cards
- Packing or duct tape
- Industrial dispenser for packing tape
- Sleeping bags (new or cleaned)
- Umbrella strollers (single & double)
- Pillows
- Twin size plastic mattress covers – non zipped
- Fitted single sheets (new or used)
- Target/Walmart cards
- Movie theater gift certificates
- Sanitary wipes
- Wardrobe boxes(24x21x48 size)

Call 925-933-6030 or email eye4cee@aol.com to coordinate drop off