

2018 Homelessness Awareness Month Toolkit

During the month of November, Contra Costa will join national efforts to increase awareness and promote solutions to ending homelessness. Last year over 6,600 homeless men, women, and children in Contra Costa County used homeless services. We each play a part in ending homelessness in our community.

Facts About Homelessness



99% increase in seniors (age 62+) accessing homeless service since 2014.ⁱ



80% of people who are homeless in Contra Costa are our neighbors and grew up or lived here before becoming homeless.ⁱⁱ



In Contra Costa, renters need to earn almost **4 times** the state minimum wage to afford the median monthly asking rent of \$2,250.ⁱⁱⁱ



Contra Costa has **only 30%** of shelter capacity needed for single adults and families.^{iv}

What Can I Do?

Learn

- ✓ Come to a [community event](#) or [Continuum of Care meeting](#).
- ✓ Know the [statistics](#) of homelessness in your community
- ✓ Learn about [our strategies](#) to end homelessness

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 items](#) to a local homeless provider

November 2018



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
				"A Call For Change": PhotoVoice Exhibit of Consumer Stories starts Council on Homelessness Meeting	Donate to the Contra Costa Housing Security Fund!	
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Research upcoming coat drives in your area. 			Healthcare for the Homeless Health Fair (Pittsburg)		Annual Memorial for the Homeless (Concord)	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
		Homelessness Awareness Month Celebration at Board of Supervisors (Martinez)				Grab extra toiletries next time you stay at a hotel and donate them when you return. 
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
Thanksgiving Multi-faith Celebration & Commitment to Confronting Poverty (Clayton)	Coffee and Conversation about Homelessness (Concord) Free Haircuts @ CARE Center (Richmond)	Check with local congregations to see if they need help serving food on Thanksgiving. 		St. Vincent De Paul Thanksgiving Meal (Pittsburg) GRIP Thanksgiving Meal (Richmond)	St. Vincent De Paul Coat Drive Kick Off (Walnut Creek)	
25	26	27	28	29	30	
Clean out your closets this weekend and donate extra clothes 			Healthcare for the Homeless Health Fair (San Pablo) Community Conversation About Homelessness (Concord)		PhotoVoice Exhibit of Consumer Stories ends	

HOMELESS AWARENESS MONTH EVENTS

Below is a list of events that homeless service providers and community agencies in Contra Costa County will be offering during Homeless Awareness Month.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1st - NOVEMBER 30th

[“A Call for Change”: PhotoVoice Exhibit of Consumer Stories](#)

**First Floor Lobby
County Administration Building
651 Pine Street, Martinez**

For the month of November, the Arts and Culture Commission of Contra Costa will be featuring “A Call For Change”, an exhibit of PhotoVoice artwork that brings together photos and messages from people experiencing homelessness in Contra Costa County. The artwork will be displayed in the lobby of the County Administration Building at 651 Pine Street in Martinez for the month of November.

[Council on Homelessness Meeting](#)

**1 pm – 3 pm
San Pablo Library Community Room
13751 San Pablo Ave, San Pablo**

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness provides a forum for the Continuum of Care to communicate about the implementation of strategies to prevent and end homelessness. The purpose of the forum is to educate the community on homeless issues, and advocate on federal, state, county and city policy issues that affect people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. For more information about the Council on Homelessness, click here:

<https://cchealth.org/h3/coc/council.php#simpleContained1>.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8th

[Healthcare for the Homeless Health Fair](#)

**8:00 am-3:30pm
Parking lot (look for the large van with the green health services logo)
Pittsburg Health Center
2311 Loveridge Road
Pittsburg**

Clinics are open and free to all homeless clients regardless of insurance and immigration status.

We will be providing the following services: Flu Shots * Women's Health Services * Substance use services * Mental Health Services Preventative and Primary Care Services * Colon cancer screening * HIV and Hepatitis C Testing * Connection to Medi-Cal, CalFresh/GA, Food bank * Food

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9th

[Annual Memorial for the Homeless hosted by Anka Behavioral Health](#)

**10 am to 12 pm
Concord United Methodist Church
1645 West St, Concord**

A celebration of life for the homeless men and women who have passed over the last year. Lunch, provided by Church Women United and Anka Behavioral Health **to be served immediately following the service.** To volunteer or donate, please call Shayne Kaleo at 925-435-3650.



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13th

Homelessness Awareness Month Celebration at Board of Supervisors

9:30 am

**Contra Costa Board of Supervisors Chambers
651 Pine Street, Martinez**

Join community members and advocates as we receive a proclamation declaring November Homelessness Awareness Month, present awards to the winners of the Outstanding Landlord, Outstanding Volunteer and Innovation award and celebrate the PhotoVoice exhibit, "A Call For Change", the artful telling of stories of Contra Costa residents who have experienced homelessness that will be displayed in the lobby of 651 Pine Street in Martinez.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18th

Thanksgiving Multi-faith Celebration and Commitment to Confronting Poverty

3:30 pm

**Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church
1578 Kirker Pass Rd, Clayton**

Please join us as we gather in community with faith leaders from across the County to find inspiration, share gratitude for abundance and commit to confronting poverty. Do you sing in a choir? Would you like to participate in the Thanksgiving Service by singing in a multi-faith choir? Please email contactmfac@gmail.com or just show up at Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church on the same day as the service at 2:00 p.m.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 19th

Coffee and Conversation

2 pm – 3 pm

**Concord Library
2900 Salvio Street, Concord**

Are you experiencing homelessness? Interested in learning about available services in Contra Costa? Local organizations will be at the Library to talk about how they can help! Coffee and refreshments available for all attendees.

Free Haircuts at West County CARE Center

Hair cuts from 1pm-5pm

West County CARE Center

Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP)

165 22nd Street, Richmond

The West County CARE Center will be offering haircuts to homeless consumers following lunch. This event is being sponsored by Curley Miller, local stylist and founder of "From Our Hearts".

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22nd

St. Vincent De Paul Thanksgiving Meal

11 am – 1 pm

**St. Vincent de Paul Dining Room
2210 Gladstone Drive, Pittsburg**



Come for a FREE classic Thanksgiving Day meal, including turkey, gravy, mashed potatoes, stuffing, vegetables, rolls& dessert. Gather at 11:00 for hot chocolate, fellowship and a warm coat if needed.

GRIP Thanksgiving Meal

11:30 am- 3:00 pm

Greater Richmond Interfaith Program (GRIP)

165 22nd Street. Richmond, CA 94801

We will have the honor this year to have our dinner being co-sponsored by Menbere, former owner of Salute Restaurant. She will bring her first class decor and service to the shelter along with celebrity servers that will serve our homeless from the heart.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23rd

St. Vincent De Paul Coat Drive Kick Off

After 10 a.m.

Broadway Plaza , Walnut Creek (by the Christmas Tree)

If there is still construction going on in the plaza area it will be held at the holiday Ice Rink.

For more information contact: Steve Krank at (925) 439-5060 In addition, coats can be dropped off at: St. Vincent de Paul District Office 2210 Gladstone Drive, Pittsburg
Last year more than 7,000 coats were collected and distributed!

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 28th

Healthcare for the Homeless Health Fair

8:00 am-3:30pm

Food Barn Parking lot (look for the large van with the green health services logo)

1835 Rumrill Road

San Pablo

Clinics are open and free to all homeless clients regardless of insurance and immigration status.

We will be providing the following services: Flu Shots * Women's Health Services * Substance use services * Mental Health Services Preventative and Primary Care Services * Colon cancer screening * HIV and Hepatitis C Testing * Connection to Medi-Cal, Calfresh/GA, Food bank * Food

Community Conversation About Homelessness

4 pm

Concord Library

2900 Salvio Street, Concord

Join a community conversation about homelessness hosted by the Concord library that will include a panel discussion by homeless service providers and people with lived experience of homelessness.

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.

LOAVES AND FISHES

WHAT

Light food preparation, serve hot meal buffet style with other volunteers, cleanup. A fund & rewarding experience.

WHEN

Pittsburg 9:30am to 1:15pm Monday - Friday
Antioch 10:15am to 1:00pm Monday - Friday

CONTACT

Go to <http://www.loavesfishescc.org/> or email info@loavesfishescc.org

MI CASA

WHAT

Volunteers to serve as mentors and/or group facilitators for a program for former Foster Youth.

WHEN

Flexible

CONTACT

Contact Donna Bell at 916-271-1167 to set up times and dates.

MONUMENT CRISIS CENTER

WHAT

Volunteer in our Food Distribution Program

WHEN

November

CONTACT

Email Volunteer@monumentcrisiscenter.org for times or days

TRINITY CENTER

WHAT

For Evening Winter Shelter:

- meal prep and serve dinners for up to 35 people

For Trinity Center CARE Center:

- Sort donations. Clothing and food pantry week day shifts.

WHEN

For Evening Winter Shelter: need volunteers to cover 7 evenings a week, bag breakfast/lunches for weekend mornings.

For Trinity Center CARE Center: Clothing and food pantry week day shifts

CONTACT

Carol Lombard, our Operations Director carol@trinitycenterwc.org or 925-457-3935

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. Please also see the last page of

the toolkit for suggestions on types of clothing materials that may be best to donate for people living outside.

Contra Costa CORE Outreach Teams

- Blankets
- Hygiene Kits
- Gift Cards (Target, Walmart)
- Shoe (New or slightly used)
- Water (Plastic bottle cases)

CONTACT: Michael Callanan, CORE Outreach Coordinator at (925) 316-9619 or
Michael.callanan@hsd.cccounty.us

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.

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 Contra Costa Regional Health Foundation. All donations are tax-deductible.

To donate, go to <https://cchealth.org/h3/hsf/>

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

Loaves and Fishes

- Canned chicken, beef, tuna, hearty soups with protein, chili, beef stews
- Cans of vegetables
- Low Sugar Cereals
- Peanut Butter
- Rice, beans, pasta

Email eleanor@loavesfishescc.org, or call 925-293-4792 We also welcome cash donations to help fund our program! You can donate now at www.loavesfishescc.org.

Mi Casa (Program for Former Foster Youth)

- Hygiene items for both genders
- School supplies

Contact to donate hygiene supplies is Rachel Flores 925-825-1060 ext. 20.

To donate school supplies, please contact Donna Bell at 916-271-1167.

Monument Crisis Center

- New tarps 6x8 or 8x10
- Ready-to-eat food items
- P-51 Can openers
- Hygiene Kits (shampoo, soap, toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, floss)
- Feminine Hygiene Products
- Grocery Push Carts:
<https://www.acehardware.com/departments/storage-and-organization/shopping-carts/shopping-carts/6204093>

CONTACT: Email or call Danny Scherer at dscherer@monumentcrisiscenter.org

Go to <http://www.monumentcrisiscenter.org/events> for more information.

St. Vincent De Paul Coat Drive

Warm Coats!

Coats can be dropped off at St. Vincent de Paul District Office 2210 Gladstone Drive, Pittsburg

For more information contact: Steve Krank at (925) 439-5060

The COCOON

- Tents sleeping bags
- Blankets
- Toiletry bags
- 5-gallon buckets (for portable personal toilets)
- Secure food containers (like Igloos)
- Trash bags
- Work gloves.
- Storage space in Richmond for storing supplies

CONTACT: Daniel Barth, 510.990.2686 danielrichardbarth@gmail.com

The COCOON <https://www.facebook.com/groups/376591379529363/>

Trinity Center

- Toiletries
- back packs
- tarps
- gloves
- hats
- jackets
- ponchos
- men and women's pants
- warm tops
- sweat shirts and sweat pants

CONTACT: Carol Lombard, our Operations Director carol@trinitycenterwc.org or 925-457-3935

White Pony Express Clothing Project

- Heavy Coats
- Hats
- Scarves
- Boots
- Socks
- Gloves
- Ponchos
- Ground cloths
- Sleeping bags

Bring your donation to our Workshop at 3380 Vincent Road, Suite 101, Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523 (far north end of the complex where there is a raised loading dock and a bell for service) during Workshop hours: • Mon.-Fri.: 3:00—5:00 pm • Tue.: 7:00—9:00 pm • Sat.: 9:00 am—12:00 pm Or call the Hotline 925-322-0604 and leave a message or email dispatcher@whiteponyexpress.org.

THE BEST & WORST CLOTHING FOR PEOPLE LIVING ON THE STREET

BEST **SYNTHETIC FIBERS**

FLEECE

POLYESTER

NYLON

SYNTHETIC DOWN

CORDURA

MICRO FLEECE

LYCRA

TIGHT KNIT MICROFIBER

DRIES QUICKLY
WARM WHEN WET
RESISTS WIND
DURABLE
EASY TO WASH & DRY

WORST

NATURAL FIBRES

COTTON

WOOL

DENIM

CORDUROY

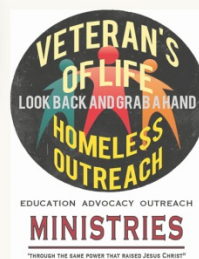
BURLAP

HEMP

GOOSE DOWN

OPEN KNIT FABRICS

DRIES VERY SLOWLY
VERY COLD WHEN WET
WIND BLOWS THROUGH/COLD
NOT DURABLE
HARD TO WASH & DRY



END NOTES

ⁱ Contra Costa Annual Service data, Contra Costa Health Services (2013-2018)

ⁱⁱ Contra Costa Point In Time Count data, 2018

ⁱⁱⁱ <https://1p08d91kd0c03rlxhmhtydpr-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/Contra-Costa-2018-HNR.pdf>

^{iv} Contra Costa Point In Time Count data, 2018, Contra Costa Health Services.