

How to Start a

Houseless Resource Drive

in your Neighborhood!



PORTLAND
ASSEMBLY

Organizing a Resource Drive for Houseless people in your neighborhood is an easy and rewarding way to immediately demonstrate Neighborhood Power by giving to those in need. This pamphlet will show you how to start your own Neighborhood Resource Drive

Location

Decide on a good location and time for your Resource Drive. Ideal locations would be near any Transit Centers or existing Houseless Camps. Plan for 3-4 hours.

Outreach

Post an Event Page or Public Announcement on social media. Consider it may take some time for the info to spread so make sure to post it at least a few days in advance.

Make a printable flyer or handbills to hand out to people and have them available for anyone to print.

Because many people do not have reliable internet access you will want to make an effort to let any houseless camps around you know about your upcoming Resource Drive.

Organize a few neighbors to hand out leaflets/handbills at any houseless camps around you

Collecting Resources

Make a public, editable Google Spreadsheet with a list of Resources that you will want to collect and people can sign up to bring resources on that list. Suggested Items:

- Winter Coats
- Gloves
- Heavy Sweatshirts
- Hats
- Long Underwear
- Socks
- Shoes and Boots
- Tarps
- Sleeping Bags
- Tents
- Sanitary wipes
- Toiletries
- Hand Warmers
- Batteries (AA/AAA)

Hospitality

Consider offering other amenities such as Hot Food and Coffee and/or Tea. With a Camp Stove you can even cook Soup, Oatmeal, Pancakes or anything else on the spot! You'll want to remember to have plenty of:

- Cups
- Bowls
- Plates
- Utensils
- Condiments
- Creamer
- Sugar
- Garbage Bags

Think of other types of resources that you could provide. For example:

- Lists of Emergency Shelters and other Housing and Financial Assistance (211info.org)
- Bicycle Repair
- Bilingual Dictionaries
- Valid Bus Passes
- Light EMT/First Aid services
- Transportation to a shelter
- Laundry

For maximum success you may want to consider having your Resource Drive on a regular basis, such as weekly. This way, people will know to depend on you to be there next time, in case they weren't able to make it the first time.

Branching Out

Consider reaching out to some of the groups already working in this arena as part of Portland's Houseless Support Coalition, an assembly of local advocacy and outreach grassroots organizations:

Rose City Backpacks of Hope

<https://www.facebook.com/rosecity4hope/>

Right 2 Dream Too

<https://www.facebook.com/Right-2-Dream-Too-291307830880922/>

Boots On The Ground PDX

<https://www.facebook.com/BootsOnTheGroundPDX/>

FREE HOT SOUP

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FreeHotSoup>

RVs for Families

<https://www.facebook.com/rvsforfamilies/>

PDX Outreach Nursing

PDXOutreachNursing@gmail.com

Village Coalition

<https://www.facebook.com/pdxvillagecoalition/>

The Millers Scholarship Foundation

<http://www.bethemillers.org/about>

Hazelnut Grove

<https://www.facebook.com/Hazelnut-Grove-938286056239262/>

Camions of Care PSU

<http://www.camionsofcare.org/>