



Men's Eastside Winter Shelter (EWS) Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

How do I sign up to bring food?

You can sign up using this link: <https://signup.com/go/LFUMZR5>

What time do I need to arrive?

Volunteers should arrive at 6:00PM

What if I can't come at 6:00PM? Is there another time I can drop off food?

Please email volunteer@cfhomeless.org to find a time.

Where is the winter shelter located?

Our shelter is located at the Lincoln Center Office Park 515 116th Ave NE Bellevue WA 98004. The building is located just off 116th across the street from the Chevrolet of Bellevue car dealership. Turn off 116th into a parking lot, and head west, all the way to the back. You will see a gray building in front of you that looks a bit like a small older office complex. I highly recommend looking at it on [Google Maps satellite view](#). Enter the courtyard and you will see a gray metal door to your right. This is the entrance.

What should I bring for dinner?

Our men like most dishes, but if you need ideas, check out these websites:

<http://www.cditchen.com/recipes/holidays-parties/cooking-for-a-crowd/>

<http://recipesforacrowd.com/>

What all should we bring?

Most volunteer groups bring a main dish, bread, vegetables, dessert and drinks. Our clients love soft food, milk, and juice.

Are plates etc. provided?

We use paper plates, bowls, utensils, and while we do have them on site, we always appreciate donations of these items whenever possible.

Are there restrictions on what I can bring?

There are not! The men really enjoy soft protein rich food.

Can we cook food when we get there?

All food needs to be prepared upon arrival; we have two ovens that are available for warming food only.

Do you have a way to keep food warm?

Yes, we have two ovens.

What if there are leftovers?

We will store your leftovers either for men who come in late, or for nights when we don't have a meal donor.

Can we stay and serve the food?

Yes! We encourage all volunteers to stay and serve.

Can I come serve food if I am not part of the volunteer group that brought the meal?

Unfortunately, we aren't able to accommodate volunteers in this role. Please contact Friends of Youth, The New Bethlehem Project, The Sophia Way, or Hopelink.

Who will be there to greet me?

The staff or kitchen volunteers will greet you when you arrive.

How big can volunteer groups be?

Due to space, volunteer groups should not exceed seven people.

Our volunteer has more than seven people, is that ok?

If your volunteer group is bigger than 7 please email volunteer@cfhomeless.org to notify us.

Can children come to the shelter?

Children over the age of five are allowed in the shelter but they need to remain in the line of site of the parents at all times.

Can women come to the shelter?

Yes! We welcome female volunteers.

What about teenage girls?

Teenage girls are welcome in the shelter! Please no spandex or tight fitting clothing.

What do I wear?

The only restriction we have is no spandex or tight fitting clothing.

Is there somewhere to store my stuff?

Volunteers are responsible for all their personal belongings while at the shelter. We recommend you don't bring anything you can't fit in your pockets.

Can I take pictures and post them to social media?

We ask that you don't take pictures of clients without permission. However, you are welcome to take pictures of your volunteer group and post those to social media.

How many men are at the shelter?

There are about 80 men at the shelter

What can I donate besides food?

We can always take donations of: socks, new men's underwear, hand warmers, hats, gloves, blankets, laundry detergent, cleaning supplies (Lysol wipes, bleach, etc.), nonperishable food.

If we are a group of volunteers under 18 how many grown-ups should bring with us?

You should bring 2-3 adults with you.

Can I play music at the shelter?

Yes, we love music! We just ask that it not be too loud, and that you are aware that then men are not required to listen.

Are you a religious organization?

We are not a faith-based agency, although we work with many congregations and other faith groups.

We're from a church group, are we allowed to pray with clients?

We ask that you don't pray with clients, but you are welcome to pray for them when you go home.

I want to volunteer but I can't bring food for 80 people, how can I help?

Please email volunteer@cfhomeless.org

Who is staying at the shelter?

We serve single adult men who live on the Eastside and are experiencing homelessness.

Can we come in and just see the men in the program?

The CFH staff can arrange a tour for you. Please email volunteer@cfhomeless.org for more information.