

Homelessness Awareness Program “Homeless” Patch Program for Girl Scouts



In collaboration with the **Girl Scouts Hornets' Nest Council**, **Urban Ministry Center** has developed a special patch program for Daisy through Ambassador Girl Scouts. This patch will help girls learn about those who are homeless, encourage them to share that information with others, and motivate them to take action through volunteering, donation drives, and advocacy.



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What is Urban Ministry Center?

Urban Ministry Center is an interfaith organization dedicated to bringing the community together to end homelessness, one life at a time. Uptown businesses and congregations came together in 1994 to expand upon St. Peter Episcopal's Soup Kitchen to provide homeless individuals not only meals, but mail, phone access, showers, laundry, and counseling. Over time, Urban Ministry Center grew to include **CommunityWorks**, which supports homeless individuals through activities such as art, soccer, gardening, and choir. Since 1996, Urban Ministry Center's **Room in the Inn** program has provided an emergency winter shelter program by partnering with congregations, YMCAs, and universities. Urban Ministry Center also hosts the **SABER Treatment Program** which has served 294 men since its 2006 inception.

Urban Ministry Center has also led the fight to end chronic homelessness in Charlotte through its **HousingWorks** program, which provides men and women permanent supportive housing.

Urban Ministry Center offers a range of opportunities to learn more about homelessness and to take action:

Educational Opportunities:

- **"Fly Away Home" Presentation** (Daisies and Brownies): This presentation uses the book *Fly Away Home* and information about homelessness in Charlotte to help younger students empathize with homeless individuals and understand what their service does to help (30 minutes-1 hour at your site). Perfect introduction for Operation Sandwich.
- **"The Difference" Presentation** (Juniors and up): This presentation introduces students to Urban Ministry Center and statistics about homelessness in Charlotte (30 minutes-1 hour at your site). Perfect introduction for Operation Sandwich.
- **Walk In My Shoes** (Cadettes and up): In this simulation, you adopt the identity of a person experiencing homelessness and "walk in their shoes," visiting several agencies around the Urban Ministry Center. This experience is a great way to understand the everyday hardships caused by homelessness on a physical level (2-4 hours on UMC campus). Note: please bring at least 1 chaperone per 4 girls. There will be a lot of walking involved.
- **My Name Is Rachel** (Cadettes and up): This discussion-based exercise tells the true story of a UMC neighbor. Together, we analyze how her life circumstances led to homelessness and what made a difference in her life (1-1.5 hours either at your site or on UMC campus).



Volunteer Opportunities:

- **Drink Groups** (4-6 people): bring and serve drinks for 400 (200 on the weekends). Your group will set up in the dining room and pass out drinks to neighbors as they get their lunches. Bring either bottled drinks or cups, powdered drinks, and ice (five 10lb bags) to serve 400 Monday-Friday, or 200 on Saturday or Sunday.
- **Operation Sandwich** (any number to assemble, 1 to deliver): make 100-800 sandwiches for the Soup Kitchen.
- **Holiday cookies** *Only in December* (4-6 people to serve, any number to make): bring and serve desserts for 400 Monday-Friday or 200 on Saturday or Sunday. Your group will set up in the dining room and pass out dessert to neighbors as they get their lunches.
- **GardenWorks945** (2-12 people): no experience needed. Help us weed, harvest and get things accomplished in our garden.



Daisies, Brownies, and Juniors: Choose two Discover activities and one each of the Connect and Take Action activities.

Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors: Choose three Discover activities, one Connect activity, and two Take Action activities.

Activities in bold are recommended for Cadettes, Seniors, and Ambassadors.

Discover

1. Read a book that talks about being homeless (see attached book list). Discuss what it would feel like to be homeless.
2. Collect statistics about homelessness in your community by visiting <http://www.urbanministrycenter.org/helping-the-homeless/get-informed/#x-content-band-1> or by going to <http://www.ncceh.org/pitdata/> and finding the **Point in Time data for your county. How have those numbers changed during the last five years? What are the demographics of most of the homeless individuals in your county?**
3. What would you take? (see attached for more info): You and your family must vacate your home and you have only 10 minutes to choose what to take with you in your backpack. Spend ten minutes writing down what you would take. Discuss as a troop what you would take, what you'd leave behind, where you'd replace the things you left behind, and how it would feel.
4. Play Musical Homes (see attached for more info): Play musical chairs. Every time someone doesn't have a chair, read a homeless scenario (attached). After the activity, discuss how the characters in the scenarios might feel.
5. **Read newspaper/magazine articles for a month or two and save any article that talk about homelessness. When you've collected all the articles, take some time to focus on what is written about, and what isn't. Compare this information to statistics and other information you've learned about homelessness.**
6. **Participate in "Walk in My Shoes" at Urban Ministry Center or in a Homeless Treasure Hunt (see attached for more info): discuss what it was like trying to get all the resources you need when you're homeless.**
7. **Eating on a Shoestring (see attached for more info): go shopping with a food stamp budget with the conditions of not having a refrigerator to keep things cool or a stove to heat food. Discuss what the experience is like.**
8. **How do homeless kids get to school? Research the McKinney-Vento act and what it means for homeless kids.**
9. **Research what homeless people do when they get sick. Where can they get medical care? How do they pay for it?**
10. **Research Housing First and what officials in your community are doing to try to end homelessness.**

Connect

1. Invite someone from a homeless support organization to speak about homelessness. Write about what you've learned and share it with your friends and family.
2. Create a skit about being homeless to share with others.
3. Make a bulletin board/poster to share what you've learned about homelessness with your family, school, or place of worship.
4. Watch a documentary or other video that explains about homelessness. Write about what you've learned and share it with your friends and family.
5. Invite someone who is homeless or formerly homeless to speak about the experience of being homeless **or participate in "My Name is Rachel" at Urban Ministry Center**. Write notes about what you learned and share it with your friends or family.
6. Create a blog that shares your experiences as you learn about homelessness and take action to support those who are homeless in your community.
7. **Plan or participate in a Sleep-out to learn more about homelessness and educate others about it.**

Take Action

1. Organize a drive to collect donations for an organization that helps the homeless (see attached for list of organizations)—this could be toiletries, over-the-counter medicine, winter clothing, etc.
2. Put together starter kits for newly housed individuals.
3. Volunteer at an organization that helps the homeless (see attached list)—make sandwiches, help out at a meal, etc.
4. If your congregation, school, or YMCA participates in Room in the Inn (RITI) volunteer to help out. If your congregation or YMCA doesn't, try to get them involved in RITI or another regular volunteer opportunity supporting the homeless.
5. What do you think would help those who are homeless? Housing? Homeless courts? More public restrooms? Write an elected official advocating for something you believe the government can do to help homeless individuals.

Recommendations for Daisies and Brownies:

All of these activities fulfill a task listed in the above task sheet

Connect:

1. **"Fly Away Home" Presentation:** This presentation uses the book *Fly Away Home* and information about homelessness in Charlotte to help younger students empathize with homeless individuals. Contact Urban Ministry Center for more information.
2. Make a poster to share what you've learned about homelessness with your family, school, or place of worship.
3. Watch the "Fly Away Home" Reading Rainbow episode. Write about what you've learned and share it with your friends and family.

Take Action:

1. **Operation Sandwich:** make sandwiches for Urban Ministry's Soup Kitchen. See www.urbanministrycenter.org for more information.
2. **Make Treat Bags, Birthday Snack Hats, etc:** Help bring joy to homeless youth. See www.brightblessingsusa.org for more information.
3. **Make holiday cookies:** make cookies and give them out at a Soup Kitchen. For example, see www.urbanministrycenter.org.

What Would You Take?

(adapted from: *What's It Like to be Homeless? An Educational Curriculum Guide for Children and Youth*, Bridge Communications, Glen Ellyn, IL, 2004)

Materials: Pens and paper

Backpacks (optional)

Activity:

1. Present the following problem to the group: You and your family must leave your home. You have only ten minutes to choose what to take with you. Everything must fit into your backpack.
2. Start timing and have participants write down what they would choose. After 10 minutes elapse, process as a group:
 - What did you choose to take? Why?
 - What would take up a lot of space?
 - What did you leave behind? Why?
 - What would you do with a pet?
 - What was hardest to leave behind?
 - How did it feel to make these choices?
 - What happens if you need some of the things you left in the future?

Musical Homes

(adapted from DuPage County Homeless Curriculum

<https://www.bridgecommunities.org/What-we-do/Download-Homeless-Curriculum.html>)

Materials

- Copies of homelessness scenarios: one scenario per scout
- Chairs—enough for every scout
- Music player with music

Activity

- Introduce the dramatic game “Musical Homes.” This is played like musical chairs. When the music stops, students should find a chair safely. Let the scouts know that every chair in this game represents a home for someone. Remove one chair each round.
- Start playing music. When the music stops, the scout without a chair is the “person who has no home.” The scout without a chair is given a scenario in which she will dramatically play the role of the “person who has no home”. They will then sit on the sideline until the game is complete.
- Discuss how the activity made them feel. What characters do they remember? Are the characters what they expected? How do you think the characters in the scenario cards feel? Discuss how people may become homeless (i.e., loss of job, family breakdown, or being evicted). Identify ways in which the specific character could be helped. Discuss how scouts could help those in the scenarios.

Scenarios

- I'm 10 years old. My brothers are six and seven and my sister is two. It's just my mom and us kids. Landlords tell my mom they will not rent to families with more than three children. My uncle lets us sleep on the floor in his apartment. My brothers and I miss a lot of school because we don't sleep very well at night. My back hurts and my uncle is up at night making noise so I can't sleep. When I do go to school my teacher gets upset at me a lot for not paying attention. I try to pay attention in class but she never sees me trying. I am just so tired.
- I'm in eighth grade. We've moved so many times, I've gone to 10 different schools. We keep living with my mom's friends, until they get tired of us. I'm not a very good reader, and I have a lot of trouble understanding math. I get mad a lot at school, and I'm always in trouble. You'd be mad, too, if you didn't get to stay in one place long enough to make friends. I just wish we could have our own place, instead of just staying with my mom's friends.
- I am 12 years old. My dad hurt his back last year and can't find a job. We have lots of medical bills. My mom works at Subway, but doesn't earn enough for us to have our own apartment. We had to move out of our last apartment because we couldn't pay the rent. We live in our car now. Other kids at school talk about

friends and sleepovers and parties and all I can think about is where I will be taking a shower tonight.

- My dad left us last year. I'm nine, my sister is two and the baby is six months old. The landlord told us we had to move out. My mom wants to work, but she has nobody to watch us so she can go out and look for a job. We live in our car. Sometimes my mom leaves us alone at McDonald's so she can go to an appointment. I try to do my homework there.
- I'm seven. My mom, my sister, and I live with Grandma in her apartment. It's pretty crowded with all our clothes and everything. We just found out that we can't stay there very much longer because Grandma is going to move to a retirement home. I wonder where we will live now?
- I'm eight and my mom is a single mom. She works in a Laundromat and only makes \$8.00 per hour. The owner lets us sleep in the Laundromat at night because we don't have enough money to rent an apartment. I don't tell any of my friends at school this. I don't think that my teacher even knows. I am embarrassed.
- I'm eight. I love to play hockey. When I was at school the other day I tried to join in on a hockey game that other boys in the playground were playing. They did not let me play. They said that I stink and am dirty. It is hard to keep clean when you have to share a bathroom with lots of other families. I live in a shelter. Sometimes I don't get to use the tub for a week. I almost never get my laundry done as my mom never has enough quarters. I just wish we had our own place.
- I am in Grade 5. My birthday is coming up next week. At my school we are supposed to bring in treats for the class when it is our birthday. Teachers say we don't have to but every kid does. I know my mom can't get treats for my class. We are living in a shelter and my mom is saving up to get her own place. Maybe I will just say I am sick on my birthday so I don't have to go to school.
- My dad and I don't need anyone. I am 12 years old and I live with my dad in a tent by the river. When I go to school I get picked on almost every day, but I don't care. I won't be at that school long anyway because I will be moving into my new place soon. My teacher complains that I don't finish my homework but I won't have to deal with her soon when I move. Why should I care what she thinks? She doesn't care that I live in a tent. She gives me these projects where I have to go to the library and research things. I can't get a library card because I don't have an address and it is really hard to keep everything dry when it rains. In a couple of weeks I am sure that I will have my own place with my dad.



Homeless Families Scavenger Hunt

(adapted from DuPage County Homeless Curriculum

<https://www.bridgecommunities.org/What-we-do/Download-Homeless-Curriculum.html>)

Go to the center of the closest city and walk around, trying to complete as many items on the scavenger hunt list as possible.

1. Get a train/bus schedule. What is the price for fare? _____.
2. Find some listings of apartments for rent in your town. (**bonus points for the cheapest apartment). What's the rent? _____. What's the deposit? _____.
3. Can you get a Library card without an address? What can you do? _____.
4. Where can you read the newspaper for "free?" _____.
5. Address of a local food pantry _____.
What do you need to do to use it? _____.
6. Address of a place to get free meals. _____.
(**bonus points for more than one)
7. Get an employment application for a job. What is the pay rate? _____.
How would you get to work? _____.
8. Phone number of department of social services _____.
What can you get help with there? _____.
9. Where can you check your email for free? _____.
10. Where could you take a shower without being thrown out?
_____.
11. Where could you receive your mail? _____.
12. Where do you brush your teeth and use the bathroom before school?
_____.
13. Address of the free health clinic _____.

14. Information about opening a checking account. What is the minimum dollar amount to open an account?_____.

15. Where can you get clothes for free/cheap?_____.

16. Where are the shelters for homeless people?_____.
Who is eligible? _____. Do they have any openings right now? _____.

17. Where can you wash your clothes? What will it cost?_____.

18. Where can you find free dental care? _____.

RULES:

1. You may complete this list in any order you wish.
2. The whole group must stay together with their chaperone.
3. RETURN TO YOUR STARTING POINT BY _____(Be careful and have fun!)

Eating on a Shoestring

Materials needed:

- Facilitator's guide and Scenarios
- Calculator to calculate cost of food

Activity:

- I. Introduce activity. Ask:
 - How do you think homeless individuals get food?
 - What if they have money to buy food? What do they buy?
- II. Split everyone into three to seven groups of two to six individuals and give each group a different scenario to read. If you have enough groups, allow one or two groups to shop as themselves. It will make an interesting comparison when all the groups discuss what they bought.
- III. Make sure they understand the task. Ask:
 - What kind of food can only be kept if you have a refrigerator?
 - How much do you usually eat in two days?
 - How much food do you think you would be able to carry around with you?
- IV. Travel to a local supermarket or convenience store.
 - Assign one group member to record the prices of everything they buy—remind them that they do not have loyalty cards.
 - Inform the groups that they have 30 minutes to collect the items they would buy and record their prices.
 - Send them on their way. Don't give feedback. Only answer yes or no questions.
- V. When they are done collecting food, have them come to you for check out.
 - Check that they kept within their budget.
 - Have groups compare the different items they bought—even have them take pictures of what they bought.
 - Ask the groups return the food to where they found it.
- VI. Return for debrief and help participants reflect on their emotions and what they learned. Ask:
 - How did you feel?
 - How was it different than what you would buy?
 - What kind of food did you end up buying?
 - Were there certain areas of the store you kept to?
 - Was it healthy food? Would it fill you up?
 - Could you eat a variety of food? Fruits/Veggies/Meat/Carbs/ Dairy?
 - Were you surprised by what was expensive and what was cheap?

Scenarios:

- Your name is Adam Arthurs. You are a veteran of the war in Afghanistan. Since coming home from war your drinking has spun out of control. You are suffering from PTSD, but have not sought out any treatment for it. Like many veterans, you are struggling to continue the life you had before you left for military combat. You found a job, but lost it because of your behavior after an incident that triggered your PTSD. This along with your addiction has made it difficult for you to get back on your feet. Your PTSD makes it difficult for you to stay in the Men's Shelter with so many other people, so you are staying on the streets. You've managed to get food stamps—you can use Urban Ministry Center as your address.
You have \$13 in food stamps to buy yourself all the food you'll need for the next two days. Remember, since you are homeless, you do not have any refrigerator to store it or an oven or stove to cook it.
- Your name is Angela Lee. After years of domestic violence and abuse, you have recently separated from your husband and filed a restraining order to protect your family. You and your two children (6 year old Sarah and 12 year old James) remained in the apartment, but can no longer afford to pay rent. For the last five years, you have been a stay-at-home mom and focused on raising your children. You are confident that you will find a job, but you're currently unemployed. Your husband has emptied your joint savings account and refuses to help you with any expenses or to support the children. After weeks of falling farther and farther behind on the rent, you were evicted. You and your children are staying at the Safe Alliance emergency shelter until you can get back on your feet. You are receiving food stamps a month to help feed you and your family.
You have \$34 in food stamps to buy you and your children all the food you'll need for the next two days. Remember, since you are living in the shelter, you do not have any refrigerator to store it or an oven or stove to cook it.
- Your name is Fred Smith. You have been severely addicted to crack for 15 years. You have recently lost your job because of your addiction. You live with your two friends, Stephanie and Anthony. You have all been staying in a camp along the railroad tracks for over four years. Your family has cut you off because of the constant chaos that follows you as a result of your addiction. This is now your family unit and you are responsible for supporting each other. You and Stephanie both get food stamps each month—you can use Urban Ministry Center as your address—but Anthony does not.
You have \$26 in food stamps to buy you and your friends all the food you'll need for the next two days. Remember, since you are living on the streets, you do not have any refrigerator to store it or an oven or stove to cook it.

- Your name is John Sylvester. You have just moved to Charlotte from Virginia with your wife Christa, because you heard that there were plenty of jobs here. You have brought only a few things with you since your trip was long and your car was small. You had \$1000.00 when you left, but spent \$400.00 to get your car fixed. Both you are unemployed and have been staying in a motel. You have quickly realized that jobs aren't as available as you had heard. You have now run out of money and can no longer afford to stay at the motel. You do not want to be split up, so you've chosen to stay on the streets rather than stay at the shelters. You've managed to apply and get food stamps. You have \$24 in food stamps to buy you and Christa all the food you'll need for the next two days. Remember, since you are living on the streets, you do not have any refrigerator to store it or an oven or stove to cook it.
- Your name is Kimberly Mason. You are 17 and alone on the streets. You argued with your mother every day and finally decided that life on the streets was better than being at home. Once on the streets to cope with the pain of life, you began using drugs and drinking. You eventually decided that this was not the life you wanted and so you tried to return home. Because of your addiction and newly developed habits, you were once again kicked out. It is not safe for a woman to be on the streets and so you are constantly connected to a man for protection. Your current man is Sean Wacot. Sean is very protective and sometimes physically abusive. He is dealing with his own addiction and often steals to support it. You are both currently living under the bridge on Tryon. You get food stamps each month, but Sean does not. You have \$13 in food stamps to buy yourself all the food you'll need for the next two days (and something to share with Sean). Remember, since you are living on the streets, you do not have any refrigerator to store it or an oven or stove to cook it.
- Your name is Thomas Boone. You have owned your own business for 25 years. In the past ten years, however, business has started to slow down significantly. You have also been through some extremely difficult times lately. In the past month, both your parents have passed away. You were also served divorce papers a week afterwards. As a result, you have gone into a deep depression and are finding it difficult to do anything. Your business has closed down and you are now living in the Men's Shelter of Charlotte. It has been difficult to get a job and it feels like you are stuck being homeless. You've managed to work for a temp agency yesterday so you have some cash.



You have \$15 to buy yourself all the food you'll need for the next two days. Remember, since you are homeless, you do not have any refrigerator to store it or an oven or stove to cook it.

- You are you. You have a home and your parents have income. Your parents have given you \$40 to buy yourself and your family food for the next two days. Remember, since you have a home, you have a refrigerator to store food and an oven and stove to cook it.

Books about homelessness

(This list is by no means comprehensive; troop leaders/parents may want to assess whether appropriate for their scouts)

Books for Daisies and Brownies

Books told from the point of view of homeless children:

Fly Away Home by Eve Bunting

A young homeless boy lives in an airport with his father, fearing getting noticed and frustrated with the unfairness of it all.

A Shelter in our Car by Monica Gunning and Elaine Pedlar

After moving from Jamaica to the US to make a better life for themselves, Zettie and her mom live in a car. Life is full of bullies and uncertainty but Zettie knows things will change for the better.

Someplace to Go by Maria Testa and Karen Ritz

When school lets out, Davey doesn't have a home to go back to. Instead, he finds various places to hang out until he can meet his mother and brother at the homeless shelter.

Books focused on helping those who are homeless

The Can Man by Laura E. Williams

When a boy starts collecting money to buy a skateboard, he accidentally takes away a homeless man's form of income. When he realizes that the man needs a warm coat, he must make a decision about the money he earned.

The Lady in the Box by Anne McGovern

A girl and her sister decide to help feed a local homeless woman and in the process learn more about homelessness.

A Chance to Shine by Steve Seskin

Based on a 1991 song, *A Chance to Shine* chronicles how a boy comes to understand why his father gave a homeless man a job.

Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen by Dyanne Disalvo-Ryan

A boy goes with his uncle to a soup kitchen and learns about the lives of the homeless and the volunteers who make sure they get food.



Books for Juniors and Cadettes

Almost Home by Joan Bauer

Starting over after being evicted isn't easy, but with the help of a rescue dog, poetry, and a supportive teacher, Sugar learns how to make the best of what she has.

Bye, Bye, Bali Kai by Harriet Lugar

Eleven-year-old Suzie struggles to adjust to the fact that she can't even pay for a Halloween costume after her family is evicted.

Chive by Shelley Barre

Told from the points-of-view of Chive, a homeless boy, and Terry, a boy who helps him learn how to skateboard, *Chive* tells the story of how two boys from vastly different worlds come together.

The Double Life of Zoe Flynn by Janet Lee Carey

When Zoe starts school in a new town in Oregon, she has a secret: she lives in a van.

How to Steal a Dog by Barbara O'Connor

Georgiana is desperate. After her father left, she has been living with her mom and younger brother in their car. Now, she sees a way out—steal a dog and collect the reward. That is, if all goes according to plan.

Family Posse by Dean Hughes

After running away from his foster family, David finds a new home and family at a rundown hotel.

The King of Dragons by Carol Fenner

Ian thought things were looking up after he and his father had found an abandoned courthouse to live; when his father disappears and volunteers come to turn the courthouse into a museum exhibit on kites, his life takes an unexpected turn.

Monkey Island by Paula Fox

When his father lost his job and left Clay thought things were as bad as they could get, but now his mother has disappeared. How will Clay survive alone on the streets and manage to find his family again?

Books for Cadettes and Seniors

Sorta Like a Rockstar by Matthew Quick

Amber lives with her mom and dog in the back of a school bus, but she always manages to be optimistic about the future... until tragedy strikes.

No and Me by Delphine de Vigan

Translated from the French, *No and Me* chronicles what happens when Lou, an intelligent and socially withdrawn girl, convinces her family to invite No, a homeless girl, to come live with them.

Money Hungry by Sharon Flake

Raspberry Hill knows what it's like to be homeless. That's why she'll do anything legal to earn money—sell candy, wash cars, clean houses. But when yet another crisis hits Raspberry and her mother, will money be the answer?

Almost Home by Jessica Blank

A group of teenagers running away from their dysfunctional families make their way together on the streets of Los Angeles.

Can't Get There from Here by Todd Strasser

After being thrown out of her home by her abusive mom, Maybe now makes her way on the streets of New York, fending for herself and trying to protect twelve-year-old newcomer Tears.

Books for Seniors and Ambassadors

Fiction:

The Way it Works by William Kowalski

After his mother dies of cancer, her medical bills leave Walter destitute. Walter knows that this is only temporary—he'll live in his car a few months and work and find his way out of homelessness... he hopes.

Tyrell by Coe Booth

Living with his mom and little brother in a homeless shelter, Tyrell struggles to earn money while keeping away from the life of crime that put his father in jail.

Non-fiction:

Almost Home: Helping Kids Move from Homelessness to Hope by Kevin Ryan and Tina Kelley

Almost Home tells the true story of six different teens, why they left their homes, and how their varying paths led to Covenant House, a faith-based nationwide network of homes for homeless and runaway youths.



Rachel and Her Children by Jonathan Kozol

Based on months spent with homeless families at the Martinique Hotel in New York, Jonathan Kozol uses case studies to describe the lives of the homeless and the societal structures that shape homelessness.



Homeless Support Centers in the Charlotte Metro Area:

Mecklenburg County:

Urban Ministry Center: <http://www.urbanministrycenter.org/>

Crisis Assistance Ministry: <http://www.crisisassistance.org/>

Men's Shelter of Charlotte: <http://www.mensshelterofcharlotte.org/>

Salvation Army Center of Hope: <http://www.salvationarmycarolinas.org/>

Samaritan House: <http://www.thesamaritanhouse.org/>

The Relatives: <http://www.therelatives.org/>

My Sister's House: <http://www.friendshipcdc.org/mysistershouse.htm>

Union County:

Union County Community Shelter: <http://www.unionshelter.org/>

Gaston County:

Salvation Army Center of Hope: <http://www.salvationarmycarolinas.org/>

As One Ministries of Gastonia: <http://www.aomofgastonia.org/>

Rowan County:

Rowan Helping Ministries: <http://www.rowanhelpingministries.org/>

Stanly County:

Homes of Hope Community Inn: <http://www.stanlycohomesofhope.org/>

Cabarrus County:

Cooperative Christian Ministry: <http://www.cooperativeministry.com/programs/shelter-and-housing>

York County:

The Haven Men's Shelter: <http://www.thehavenmensshelter.org/>



Family Promise of York County: <http://familypromisec.org/>

Housing First Sites:

Housing First Charlotte-Mecklenburg

www.housingfirstcharmeck.org

Urban Ministry Center's HousingWorks

<http://www.urbanministrycenter.org/helping-the-homeless/housing-for-homeless/>

Supportive Housing Communities

<http://supportivehousingcommunities.org/>

Commonly asked for items:

Toiletries (razors, soap, shampoo, feminine products)

Winter clothing (jackets, hats, gloves, scarfs)

Underwear and socks

Over the counter medicine (aspirin, ibuprofen, Tylenol)

Food

Backpacks/Luggage

Welcome Home Kits