

Supporting Neighbors Experiencing Homelessness

Winter 2024

Treat all people with respect:

- Make eye contact, introduce yourself, ask neighbors what they need & believe them
- Learn more about how homelessness happens and work to confront internal biases.

The library has these books available:

- *Homeless Anything Helps* and *Down And Out in Brattleboro* by Matthew Vernon Whalan, Oral Histories of people in the Brattleboro Area
- *Evicted* by Matthew Desmond
- *When We Walk By* by Kevin F. Adler and Donald W. Burnes
- *Rough Sleepers* by Tracy Kidder

Emergency Housing Numbers:

- Go to the Economic Services Division (ESD) office at 232 Main Street, 2nd Floor, Brattleboro or call (800)775-0506 from 7:45am - 4:30pm, Monday - Friday
- After 4:30 pm or on weekends call 211

Get involved with local organizations working to end homelessness and care for neighbors:

Find donation info on each organization's website.

Foodworks (groundworksvt.org/programs/foodworks) *is our region's most heavily utilized food shelf program.*

- Find a current list of most needed items at <https://bit.ly/GroundworksWishlist>
Please call 802-490-2412 or email foodworks@groundworksvt.org to let them know you're coming with donations.
- Email Benjamin at bsmith@groundworksvt.org to learn more about volunteering

Groundworks Collaborative (groundworksvt.org) *works with people and systems creating solutions to end hunger and homelessness for all people in our region.*

- Find a current list of most needed items and donation procedures at <https://bit.ly/GroundworksWishlist>
- Current needs include gently used or new sleeping bags, winter coats & boots, warm blankets, and large gloves. Make donation arrangements by emailing the listed contact person on the Wishlist.
- For volunteer information visit <https://groundworksvt.org/support/volunteer/>

St. Brigid's Kitchen (stbrigidskitchenandpantry.org) *serves free community meals and pantry items 4 days a week.*

- Accepts food donations, winter coats, warm blankets and clothing. To learn more about donating or volunteering fill out the form at <https://stbrigidskitchenandpantry.org/donate>

Loaves and Fishes (<https://www.stmichaels-vt.org/loaves-and-fishes>) serves free community meals 2 days a week.

- Email ruthtilghman@gmail.com for volunteer and donation needs.

Carry Me Home (carryhome.org) is a free store for new Americans and community members experiencing homelessness.

- Needs winter boots, warm gloves, mittens, hats. Find more at the Donation Hours and Needs List on their website. To volunteer email carryhomecampaign@gmail.com.

Village Community Closet (brattleborovillage.wordpress.com) is a volunteer-run free store offering maternity, baby, and children's clothing and equipment.

- Find info about donating at brattleborovillage.wordpress.com/guidelines-for-donating/
- To sign up to volunteer visit <https://brattleborovillage.wordpress.com/volunteer/>

Pathways Vermont (pathwaysvermont.org) offers Housing First case management and innovative mental health alternatives.

- Find Donation info at <https://www.pathwaysvermont.org/ways-to-give/>

Women's Freedom Center (<https://womensfreedomcenter.net/>) is the local domestic and sexual violence organization.

- The shelter maintains a wishlist at womensfreedomcenter.net/shelter-wishlist/

Youth Services (youthservicesinc.org) offers various types of support for children and families, including youth who are unhoused.

- Find Donation Wish List at youthservicesinc.org/ways-to-give/wish-list/
- Volunteer opportunities at <https://youthservicesinc.org/volunteer-and-internship/>

Consider Creating more housing:

- Windsor & Windham Housing Trust (homemattershere.org or (802) 254-4604) offers 2 programs to help create more housing stock:
 - The Rental Rehab program offers funding to help get rental units back or on the market. Find more info at <https://www.homemattershere.org/rental-rehab/>
 - The Accessible Dwelling Unit (ADU) Funding Program offers grants to homeowners wishing to add or rehabilitate an ADU on their property
- Sharinghousing.com offers resources for successful shared housing arrangements

