

THE LEAST OF THESE....

The community of faith serving the homeless

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COMMUNITY OF FAITH APPROACH TO ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

- ◉ Scriptural Basis for Giving Approach
- ◉ Meets the people where they are
- ◉ Preference towards action
- ◉ Requires little coordination ...only a desire to serve
- ◉ Immediate positive feedback

COMMON WAYS OF GIVING TO AND SERVING THE HOMELESS

- ◉ Feeding and water provision
- ◉ Clothing give-a-ways
- ◉ Blanket and tent distributions
- ◉ Hygiene kits
- ◉ Prayer and religious tracts, bibles



PROVERBS

- ◉ Proverbs 19:17 NKJV

“He who has pity on the poor lends to the LORD, And He will pay back what he has given.”

- ◉ Proverbs 21:13 NIV

“Whoever shuts their ears to the cry of the poor will also cry out and not be answered.”



JAMES 2:14-17

- ◉ 14 What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if someone claims to have faith but has no deeds? Can such faith save them?
- ◉ 15 Suppose a brother or a sister is without clothes and daily food.
- ◉ 16 If one of you says to them, “Go in peace; keep warm and well fed,” but does nothing about their physical needs, what good is it?
- ◉ 17 In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead.

GALATIANS 6:9 -10

- ◉ 9 Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up.
- ◉ 10 Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people....





SURAT AN-NISA 4:36

- ◉to parents do good, and to relatives, orphans, the needy, the near neighbor, the neighbor farther away, the companion at your side, the traveler, and those whom your right hands possess. (Quran)

MATTHEW 25:40

- ◉ 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'



UNINTENDED CONSEQUENCES

- ◉ Food and debris on streets
- ◉ Health and food safety
- ◉ Fights about perceived scarce resources
- ◉ Lack of toilets and hygiene opportunities
- ◉ Short term effort with no lasting impact or real change
- ◉ Possibly contributing to growing problem

SOME OPTIONS....GIVING RESPONSIBLY

- ◉ Insert PSAs here
- ◉ <https://youtu.be/lbl2pZgkpJk>
- ◉ <https://youtu.be/rweRoHaINTU>



ENGAGE - EDUCATE - EMPOWER

- ◉ Goal is to unite, not offend
- ◉ How do we build on current efforts?
 - Giving project
 - Project Homeless Connect
 - Stand down
 - Etc.,
- ◉ Identify meaningful opportunities to serve that will end homelessness

OPEN DISCUSSION.....



- ◉ Let's talk about engaging the faith community to end homelessness....
- ◉ What are some other methods for the faith community to do outreach, to serve?
- ◉ What is the CoC position on "street feeding" and other types of street distributions?

