

October 15, 2025

Greetings,

During the winter of 2024-2025, we provided 70 people 2,171 warm nights of sleep through the SOS. This effort required strong partnerships from Council for the Homeless, Outsiders Inn, several congregations, and 84 volunteers. We are pleased to announce that we will be offering SOS services during the 2025-2026 winter season from November 2nd through March 31st. Below is information about the shelter as well as ways to participate. We hope you will join us in the efforts to care for our neighbors. Thank you!



### **Satellite Overflow Shelter (SOS) 2025-2026**

The SOS Shelters (Satellite Overflow Shelters) will provide up to 20 people nightly shelter 6pm-8am:

**Sun-Tues** Beautiful Savior Site @ Recovery Café Orchards (10412 NE Fourth Plain Blvd.)

**Wed-Sat** Immanuel Site @ Immanuel Lutheran Church (8310 MacArthur Blvd.)

The SOS sites will be staffed by Outsiders Inn with Council for the Homeless registering people through the housing hotline (360-695-9677) until 8pm with Community Volunteers providing support.

### **The many opportunities for volunteers to support SOS staff & shelter guests include:**

#### **SOS Task Force:**

Task Force members work behind the scenes to plan, stock supplies, and coordinate laundry.

#### **Meal Volunteer:**

Meal volunteers are asked to prepare meals for 25 people to be dropped off directly to the kitchen at 5:45pm. When preparing meals, please use safe food handling practices. All are encouraged to partner with another person or a team.

#### **Evening Volunteers:**

We are looking for two evening volunteers per night for the following shifts:

- Evening Kitchen Volunteer works from 5:30-8:30pm to serve the meal, clean up the kitchen and eating area, and interact with guests.
- Evening Shower Volunteer works from 6-9pm to oversee showers, manage shower supplies, and be an additional support person for the staff.

#### **Morning Volunteer:**

We are looking for one morning volunteer per shelter night from 6am-8:30am to serve breakfast and clean up afterward while staff assist guests as they depart.

#### **Laundry Volunteer:**

We are looking for two laundry volunteers per week to pick up laundry (Wed. or Sun. mornings), launder it at a Laundromat using gift cards provided, and return to the corresponding site.

*Never doubt that a small group of concerned citizens can change the world.  
Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has. ~ Margaret Mead*

**You are invited to sign up for a Meal, Evening, Morning, or Laundry Volunteer Shift at [www.mealtrain.com/trains/zg92wr](http://www.mealtrain.com/trains/zg92wr). For help signing up, call 360-694-3661 or email [office@immanuelvancouver.org](mailto:office@immanuelvancouver.org).**

***Please join us for a SOS Volunteer Training at one of the following opportunities:  
Today! Sunday Oct. 26<sup>th</sup>, 4-6pm at Immanuel Lutheran - 8310 MacArthur Blvd or  
Saturday Nov. 1<sup>st</sup>, 12-2pm at Recovery Café Orchards - 10412 NE Fourth Plain Blvd***

### **Donations of In-kind Items Appreciated**

Donations of supplies are always welcome and needed. Supplies can be dropped off at Immanuel Lutheran Church during office hours M 9:30am-12:30pm and T-Th 9:30am-1:30pm, or the BSLC trailer T-F 9:30-4:40 (text or call to be certain there is someone on site, 360-433-7341)

Needed supplies include:

- Paper Products: Toilet Paper (2-ply), Paper Towels, Napkins, Kleenex, Lunch bags
- Hygiene Supplies: \*Big Bottles of Liquid Dish, Hand, & Body Soaps and Shampoo & Conditioner\*, Razors, Shaving Cream, Feminine Hygiene Products
- PPE: Clorox Wipes, Disinfectant, Masks; Disposable Gloves for cleaning and for serving food, Band-aids
- Food Supplies: Regular/Decaf Coffee (not Safeway brand), Creamer, Sugar, Teas, Cocoa mix, Peanut Butter/Sunbutter, Jam, Pancake Mix, Butter, "Cold" Cereal, Oatmeal Packets, Granola/Protein Bars, Crackers, Cheese Sticks, Mayo, Ketchup. (Cheese/Lunch Meat/Fruit Prearranged), Gogurt, Applesauce/Fruit Cups
- Miscellaneous: Batteries (AAA, AA), Blue Tape, Sharpies, Hand Warmers, washable shower curtain, long-handled squeegee for shower ceiling

***We value your volunteerism, donations, spreading of the word for others to join in, and your ongoing positive thoughts and prayers!***

Blessings,

The SOS Task Force

*Adam & Ren of Outsiders Inn*

*Linda, Cheryl, & Pr. Jean of Beautiful Savior Lutheran*

*Shiela, Patricia, & Pr. Adrienne of Immanuel Lutheran*

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