



Quaker Homeless Action

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QHA Guide to Greeting the Homeless at Your Meeting House Door

Quaker Homeless Action has created this set of questions and a sample document to give to all Quaker Meetings and also any other Religious Organisation. Our aim is to provide a starting point for each Meeting to collect and keep information about local Homelessness Services in their local community. Once collected, this information can be printed and kept available for any homeless person who arrives at your door.

Some communities create this document. For example in Oxford, there is a locally created document highlighting services for homeless people, which is available for free from the Council. Please check with your local council before creating your own.

Questions to ask when creating your Meeting or Church Document:

- Does your local community have a Homelessness Charity? Where are they located? How can they be reached? Can they be reached on weekends? Do they have Outreach Workers? When and where do they work? How can a homeless person find them? Do they have a telephone number?
- Does your local community have a hostel for homeless people? Where is it located? Do they charge and if so, how much? Do they have a waiting list? How can they be contacted?
- Are there any soup runs? Where are they located? When do they happen? Do they have a contact number?
- Is there a local clothing 'store'? Where is it located? When are they open? Is there a contact number?
- Are showers located anywhere in your community? Are they free? When are they available?
- Where is the local Housing Office? What is the emergency contact number? What are the local numbers to contact if a community resident becomes homeless outside of office hours?
- Are there any other services for homeless people in your area?

Notes for Creating your Document:

- It might be helpful for you to include a map with local services marked.
- Some people with reading difficulties find it easier to read the font 'comic sans'.

When you complete your document, please email it to Quaker Homeless Action. We would like to include it as a sample on our website.

If you have any questions, please email Kate at the address above.

**QHA Guide for Meetings and Churches:
Preparing to Greet the Homeless at Your Door
Sample Document**

**Poole Quaker Meeting
Information for Rough Sleepers**

1. Routes to Roots is the homelessness charity in Poole, they are located at:
Skinner Street United Reformed Church
Corner of Skinner Street and Lagland Street
Poole, Dorset BH15 1RQ
Telephone: 01202-667880
 2. Routes to Roots Outreach workers are on the streets every weekday morning from 6:am to 10:am. You can find them on Poole High Street. Their mobile number is: 07966-800156.
 3. There are two Evening Drop Ins with Free Dinner, held on:
 - Friday Night at Skinner Street United Reformed Church Hall, 7:30pm to 9:pm
 - Tuesday Night at Hill Street Baptist Church Hall, 7:30pm to 9:pm
 4. There are two Afternoon Drop Ins every Week on Monday and Tuesday from 1:30pm to 2:30pm at Skinner Street United Reformed Church Hall.
 5. Soup Runs, organised by various local churches, are held at 8:30pm on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday at The Arch, Vanguard Street, Poole, which is under the 'flyover' near the Train Station westbound platform.
 6. The closest Hostel is in Bournemouth. It costs £3/night for those in receipt of benefits. They do not have a waiting list.
St. Pauls Night Shelter
10 St. Pauls Lane
Bournemouth BH8 8EZ
01202-410500
 7. Showers and cooked Breakfast are available every Friday Morning from 10am to 11:30am at the Salvation Army on Orchard Street.
 8. Poole Residents who find themselves homeless are advised to contact the Housing and Community Services emergency telephone 0800-506050, or contact the local police if they lose their home outside the normal office hours of 8.30am to 5.15pm. The Housing Office is located in the Poole Civic Centre and is open from 8:30am to 5:15pm. Their regular office number is 01202-633805.
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