



CHURCH ENGAGEMENT





Shelter KC

In 2022, we found 22 different reasons for homelessness in KC

Some of those are...

- Loss of public assistance
- Divorce
- Unemployment
- Mortgage foreclosure
- Fire or natural disaster
- Medical condition
- Substance abuse disorder
- For own safety/health





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Homelessness in KC

- Individuals who lack a regular/adequate residence and
 - Sharing space in other peoples homes
 - Live in a car, motel, trailer park or camp grounds
 - Live in emergency or transitional shelters
 - Live in abandoned in hospitals

*info from Homeward Bound





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Homelessness in KC

- There are more women in emergency shelters than there are men.
- Most people experiencing homelessness can be separated into two groups;
 - People who are having a crisis: lost a job; working part time & can't make ends meet; car breaks down and they have to pay rent or to fix their car to get to work.
 - People whose life is a crisis: addicted to drugs, severe mental health issues. This group of people is the minority, but they use majority of the resources.
 - We recognize that true change/recovery from long term issues has to begin with the Lord.





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Stats from Shelter KC

- Of the data we've collected
 - 7.4 percent of the people we've served are veterans
 - 26.3 percent of those we've served have an alcohol abuse disorder
 - 34.1 percent of those we've served have a drug use disorder
 - 38.3 percent of those we've served deal with both drug and alcohol abuse





Shelter KC

8 Ways to Help Those Experiencing Homelessness

- Never give cash to a homeless person - Too often, cash is converted to drugs or alcohol—even when the stories they tell are true. If the person is hungry, buy them a sandwich and a beverage instead.
- Talk to the person with respect. Taking time to talk to a homeless person in a friendly, respectful manner can give them a wonderful sense of civility and dignity.
- Know that homeless people are not all the same - The homeless are as diverse as the colors of a rainbow. The person you meet may be a battered woman, an addicted veteran or someone who is lacking job skills.
- Share God's love wherever you can. If Jesus were walking the earth today, He would certainly spend time with the homeless. Today, Jesus chooses to work through those who believe and follow Him.





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8 Ways to Help Those Experiencing Homelessness

- Pray for the homeless. Exposure to the elements, dirt, occasional violence and lack of purpose all drain years from a person's life. Your prayers make a difference.
- Take precautions for your own safety. Be aware of your surroundings while talking with people you meet on the street. Remain in public areas where others can see you, and if you feel unsafe, consider disengaging from the conversation.
- Encourage the homeless to get help through Shelter KC. Every day Shelter KC strives to demonstrate Christ's love and compassion by offering essential physical, emotional and spiritual services to people in need.
- Support Shelter KC. Shelter KC is supported by caring individuals, churches, businesses and civic groups who see the value of sharing their resources with the less fortunate.





Shelter KC

The Programs We Offer

- 1 Guest Services: Emergency Overnight Homeless Shelter
- 2 Shelter Launch: Case Management Towards Housing (men in the shelter)
- 3 Christian Community of Recovery: Long-term discipleship & recovery
- 4 Sisterhood of Recovery: long-term discipleship and recovery





Shelter KC

- We partner with groups and organizations who are already on the ground to meet people who live in homeless camps, like Under the Bridge Church, Reach KC, and Free Hot Soup.
- We provide basic needs like water & hygiene items.
- We worship with them and serve meals.
- Our hope is to get people in camps to a shelter because passing out tents and camping supplies can be enabling.

OUR OUTREACH



Shelter KC

How can your church partner with Shelter KC?

- Pray
- Donate funds
- Donate goods
- Volunteer
- Share
- Check our immediate needs list at www.shelterkc.org





For more resources on working with people experiencing homelessness in your community, go to www.shelterkc.org

If you would like someone to come to your church and share how you can partner with Shelter KC, call Connie Chambers at (816)-421-7643 or email her at cchambers@shelterkc.org



@shelterkc



Shelter KC: A Kansas City
Rescue Mission