

City of Fort Worth and Tarrant County services for those in need...

Immediate aid is available through many social service agencies and organizations in the City of Fort Worth. There is help for those that want it and will accept it. Our shelters and local organizations provide meals, shelter, health care, alcohol and drug dependency care and employment counseling.

Day Shelter

Day Resource Center for the Homeless...817-810-9797

1415 E. Lancaster Ave., FW 76102

Emergency Night Shelters

Presbyterian Night Shelter.....Men/Women 817-632-7401

2400/2401 Cypress St. Families 817-632-7429

FW 76102

Union Gospel Mission.....Men 817-332-3019

1321 E. Lancaster Av. Women 817-338-8418

FW 76102 Families 817-332-6908

The Salvation Army.....817-344-1801

1855 E. Lancaster Av., FW 76103

ACH Child and Family Services-Youth Shelter

3712 Wichita St., FW 76119 817-335-HOPE

SafeHaven of Tarrant County

24 Hour Domestic Violence Hotline.....877-701-7233

Arlington Life Shelter.....817-548-9885

325 W. Division St., Arlington 76011

Prepared Meals

Beautiful Feet Soup Kitchen.....817-536-0505

1709 E. Hattie St., FW 76104

Broadway Baptist Church.....817-336-5761

305 W. Broadway Av., FW 76104

First Street Methodist Mission.....817-335-6080

801 W. 1st St., FW 76102

Presbyterian Night Shelter.....817-632-7401

2401 Cypress St., FW 76102

The Salvation Army.....817-344-1800

1855 E. Lancaster Av., FW 76103

Union Gospel Mission.....817-339-2553

1321 E. Lancaster Av., FW 76102

Saint Benedict's Mission.....817-348-9960

2320 Cypress St., FW 76102

TCHC Homeless Helpline.....817-996-8800

United Way of Tarrant County.....211



Fort Worth Police Department

505 W. Felix Street

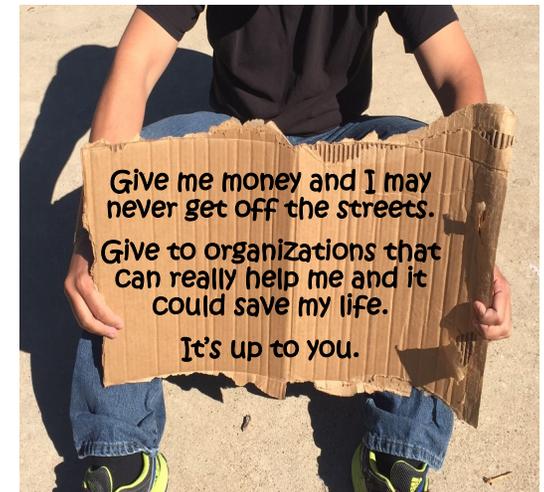
Fort Worth, Texas 76115

www.fortworthpd.com

Non-Emergency 817-335-4222



Begging “Panhandling”



Giving money to beggars and panhandlers can be dangerous and is not the best way to help these individuals.

Donate your money to organizations that provide services to the homeless and those in need.

Begging or Panhandling Is a Violation

The Fort Worth Police Department, City of Fort Worth and many local agencies and organizations work daily to provide necessary services for homeless individuals in our city.

An individual who is loitering for the purpose of begging, commonly referred to as “panhandling”, is violating Fort Worth city ordinances.

Chapter 30 Article 1 Sec. 30-16

LOITERING FOR PURPOSE OF BEGGING.

It shall be unlawful for any person to loiter, remain or wander about in a public place for the purpose of begging. As used in this section, **BEGGING** means the solicitation of money or other valuable consideration from another person without giving consideration in return.

(1964 Code, § 27-49) (Ord. 7211, § 1, passed 8-11-1975)

Aggressive begging or panhandling should not be tolerated and can create a dangerous situation. Your personal safety should always come first when you are approached by a panhandler.

Personal Safety First: What To Do If You Are Approached

If you are approached by a panhandler on foot:

1. Your personal safety is the top priority.
2. Walk with confidence, these are your streets too.
3. Know who is around you, what they are doing and where you are.
4. If a stranger approaches you, keep some distance in order to react to a threat.
5. Never open your wallet or purse to accommodate a request for money.
6. Politely and firmly say “No” or “I don’t have cash.”
7. If a panhandler becomes aggressive or if you feel threatened, call 911 immediately.

If you are approached by a panhandler while you are in your vehicle:

1. Your personal safety is the top priority.
2. Never lower your window and give a stranger access to the interior of your vehicle.
3. Remember your movement may be limited if you have to respond to a threat from inside your vehicle.
4. Make eye contact, the panhandler needs to know you are watching them. Do not turn your head away or put your head down.
5. Shake your head “No”, but pay attention until you are able to leave the location.

“Panhandlers spend much of their money on alcohol, drugs and tobacco, although some money does go toward food, transportation and toiletries.”

U.S. Department of Justice

Office of Community Oriented Policing Services

Things to consider:

- Panhandling for some, is a profitable business, not an immediate need.
- Panhandlers may not have a meal, gas money or shelter on their minds.
- Your money may be used to support and enable destructive habits and dependencies.

Where Your Money And Time Makes A Difference:

Donate money to organizations dedicated to caring for the homeless and those in need. You can also volunteer your time to aid these organizations. Many of our local service providers need financial donations and the time of volunteers to provide essential services to those in need.

Call any of the organizations listed to learn about the many ways you can help.