

HOPE Village, a Housing Readiness Micro Community in your Neighborhood:

Informational Resources – 1451 Alabama Street, Longview Washington

Homelessness is a humanitarian crisis with many causes. Those living on the street or in vehicles face tremendous challenges – from the loss of a job or home to mental health conditions or addiction. Research shows that the primary cause of homelessness, particularly among families, is lack of affordable housing. Surveys of homeless families have identified the following major immediate, triggering causes of homelessness: eviction; doubled-up or severely overcrowded housing; domestic violence; job loss; and hazardous housing conditions.

HOPE VILLAGE

To alleviate the housing crisis in our community, the City of Longview will partner with the Salvation Army to open HOPE Village, a housing readiness micro community. The vision is to create a safe and healthy micro-community that embodies the characteristic of Hope & Opportunity and prepares individuals for permanent housing. [Click here to view the HOPE Village Presentation](#)

This document will provide answers to your questions and provide additional informational resources to address concerns around HOPE Village.

Information about HOPE Village

Why did you choose to put HOPE Village at 1451 Alabama Street?

After considering several potential site locations within the City of Longview, the City Council selected 1451 Alabama Street. Important factors included proximity to services and transportation, large and flat enough lot to accommodate a pallet home community, access to city utilities, size, and levelness of the property. Also using the Alabama site will not displace another use for the property.

How large will HOPE Village be?

The site will accommodate 50 individual shelters, each housing one person.

What is a Pallet Home?

Pallet is the leader in rapid-response shelter villages that combine the dignity of personal space with the healing of community. [For more information, please click to visit their site.](#)

What services are available in HOPE Village?

- Drug & alcohol-free micro-community
- Single occupancy dwelling units and ADA accessible
- Pets allowed
- Daily hours including curfew
- Hygiene services onsite
- Two meals provided each day
- On-site support services including Case Management and Housing Navigation
- Financial Assistance for barrier removal and exit to permanent housing options

How will HOPE Village be managed? How will basic needs be met?

The Micro Community site will be entirely fenced and secure. Each shelter will have electricity and heat. Trash, sanitation, and hygiene services will be provided at the site. The Salvation Army will be managing and operating HOPE Village 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

When will HOPE Village open for residents?

The opening target date is the first part of December 2022.

What are the qualifications of HOPE Village?

The Salvation Army will make every effort to staff the Program with employees and volunteers that reflect the target population. In addition, whenever possible, at least one staff member on each shift will have one year or more of experience in providing services directly to unsheltered individuals. Ongoing training and resources will be provided to maintain a safe, open culture which meets all participants wants and needs.

What are the criteria for people to live in the Housing Readiness Micro Community?

- Enrollment in Coordinated Entry is encouraged (not required)
- Must be a single adult 18 years of age or older (all pallet shelter units will be single occupancy)
- Must be experiencing unsheltered homelessness in Cowlitz County at time of referral
- Must meet the “homeless status” standard as defined by HUD
- Must be ambulatory and not require hospital or nursing home care
- Must be able to independently complete Activities of Daily Living (ADLs)
- Express willingness to accept case management and housing navigation
- Stable housing as a primary goal

Will there be behavior expectations of the people who are living at HOPE Village?

Upon their entry into HOPE Village, each resident will be expected to follow rules and responsibilities as outlined in a written agreement provided by the Salvation Army. Each resident will also be required to agree to a Good Neighbor Policy.

Is it legal for people to live unsheltered in Longview?

Yes, it is. In a legal decision that has been upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court (Martin v. Boise, 2019), homeless persons cannot be punished for sleeping outside on public property when there is an absence of adequate alternatives such as shelter space. In Longview, there is insufficient shelter to house all individuals experiencing homelessness. Consequently, camping in the city – within certain legal limits – is legal.

How do I notify the City of Longview about unsupported campsites?

Concerned citizens can contact the Community Outreach Coordinator at 360-957-8175.

What are the Service Components?

This Housing Readiness Program is a drug and alcohol-free micro-community. We operate with the expectation that all guests will receive and participate in case management and housing navigation. We are progress-based and the Program’s primary goal for residents is obtaining stable housing. The Program will have an adequate number of qualified, experienced staff on all shifts to effectively communicate, achieve safety, and perform the expected service components.

Attempts will be made to ensure that individuals with lived experience of homelessness are included within staff. The Program offers basic needs for shelter, hygiene, food/meals, secure and accessible storage, support services, and case management. These are organized to quickly route clients into stable or permanent housing or other long-term placement in treatment, as needed.

What does the Intake process look like?

The Salvation Army HOPE Village must allow for the intake of new participants at least 5 days a week during regular business hours, and if beds/units are available. Additionally, Program staff will be asked to provide intake to participants during extended hours (for example, weekends and evenings) within their capacity to do so. All successful applicants will receive a Participant Handbook outlining pertinent Program policies, rules, and guidelines at the time of entry.

How do Referrals to the HOPE Village Program work?

Clients referred to HOPE Village by partnering agencies will have been determined to meet eligibility criteria in advance of coming to the Village. Client self-referrals and walk-ins as capacity allows. Self-referred participants will be screened for eligibility upon arrival. Any individual found to be ineligible for HOPE Village will be directed to other resources and given information about shelter alternatives. Staff representatives will provide regular updates to the City of Longview regarding trends observed to determine any necessary referral protocol changes or to recommend further actions as necessary.

What is the Pet Policy?

Pets are allowed on site but must be always under leashed control of the owner. Pets must be vaccinated, and the owner is expected to care for their animal including feeding and pet relief (in designated pet relief areas). Partnerships with local veterinary clinics will be pursued to assist participants with the health care of their animals.

What ADA Access is available?

ADA pallet units are to be located at front of the Community site property near the common areas. ADA ramps will be available as appropriate for actual dwelling units.

What is the exit plan?

Program staff must complete an Exit Summary Plan for all participants. Exit plans for participants not entering permanent housing placement should include referrals and links to other interim housing resources, with a warm handoff (i.e., documented transition between providers) that shows a smooth transition. Clients who access housing will receive follow-ups at quarterly intervals after placement to support stability and housing retention.

What are the daily hours of operation and services provided?

Participants will be allowed in/out access to the gated property between 6:00 am and 10:00 PM daily. Program staff, and Security as applicable, will work to accommodate alternate access for anyone who may have employment and/or other important scheduling needs outside of those designated hours. While onsite, Program participants will have access to their personal unit and restroom access 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. If a Program participant has a need for access outside of set operational hours, they can work with their Case Manager.

Two (2) meals will be provided daily to Program participants via onsite Salvation Army STREET LEVEL Outreach Food Services. Program participants can enjoy their meals within the community dining

area when available or within their unit. Bagged/sacked meals will be provided for participants who must travel for work or other obligations to guarantee their nutritional needs are met. Participants will work with their Case Manager to request portable meals, ensuring that they are provided when needed and to address dietary restrictions.

Case Management and Housing Navigation support services will be provided to Program participants during regular business hours. Should a Program participants have a need for support services outside of regular working hours due to employment or other scheduling restrictions, a plan will be established with the assistance of the Case Manager to coordinate access to support services. Additionally, computer access will be provided as available (with supervision and assistance as necessary) for participants to work towards goals related to their employment and housing needs.

Program participants will have access to facility space to meet with providers from other agencies as needed to support their positive outcomes in the Community Room as available. Program participants will be encouraged to recommend additional services to the Site Manager or other Program staff so that access to these services can be researched and established. House meetings will be held monthly with participants and staff to create space for participants to meet with one another, collaborate, share successes, brainstorm solutions to challenges, and build community. Program staff will post calendars throughout the Center to ensure that participants are aware of upcoming events.

How long will HOPE Village be open?

The City of Longview signed an agreement with the Salvation Army to operate HOPE Village for one year. It is the intention for HOPE Village to be a temporary solution for unhoused individuals, the first step in a multi-process solution to securing a permanent, supportive housing.

What are the qualifications of staff for HOPE Village?

The Salvation Army will make every effort to staff the Program with employees and volunteers that reflect the target population and to have at least one staff member on each shift with one year or more of experience in providing services directly to unsheltered individuals. Ongoing training and resources will be provided to maintain a safe, open culture which meets all participants' wants and needs.

LINKS TO RESOURCES AND MORE INFORMATION

Thank you for taking the time to read the City of Longview's informational documentation! Our goal is to bring clarity for our community on what homelessness is, the resources that are available, and what you can do to help. Longview is a community that relies on each other to prosper and succeed, and that begins with our most vulnerable.

- [Policy for Unauthorized Encampment on City Property](#)
- If you are homeless or at risk of homelessness, the [Cowlitz Community Resource Guide](#) provides access to important connections in the community related to homelessness.
- [October 13, 2022, press release](#) concerning the City of Longview's plan to address the issues surrounding homelessness in our community.

HOW CAN I BE PART OF THE SOLUTION?

Volunteer - Ask a local organization for volunteer opportunities to support your community.

Donate - Support the organization of your choice with a donation.