

Nightwatch News

July, 2020

How's it going at Nightwatch?

By Ann Sakaguchi, Deputy Director



I get asked this all the time, and it's nice that people care.

The answer is not simple. We're in a pandemic, that affects us all. We're in the midst of an effort to address racial injustice. It's long overdue.

We've had food and other survival items pour in for our homeless friends. Cleaning supplies, PPE, and cloth masks just appear. Our senior tenants receive special treats. We are very grateful.

Our greatest need right now is shelter.

Partner agencies, where we used to fill empty beds each night, can no longer take our people. Social distancing in shelters has reduced capacity. This

leaves Nightwatch with few options for shelter.

The hardest thing we do, is telling someone we have no place for them to go that night.

We're working on some ideas. It takes a lot to set up a new shelter. But we need to keep everyone safe.

As for racial injustice in our country being brought to the forefront, we believe our work speaks for itself.

How can you help? **Please pray.** We need a miracle. ●

When Pastor Rick returns to work, his article will return to this space. Please pray for his recovery from COVID-19.

Listening

By Ben Curtis, Street Minister

We came to the park with our bags full of sandwiches, chips and socks. It was not long before folks ventured out of their tents to talk.

A man, about my age, began sharing his story with me: how he used to work in a hospital, his struggle with substance abuse, losing everything he owned by living on the street. It was heart-wrenching, vulnerable, sincere, and wonderful.

It's an honor when someone you've just met opens up about their life. I try to be a good listener. Make eye contact, nod, give small affirmations, ask questions.

Sometimes these friends apologize for talking so much. I assure them it's okay, it's why I'm here. The reaction we get most often is gratitude. "Thanks for listening to me."

Listening is powerful. It forms a connection with another, regardless of their gender, race or socioeconomic status. It doesn't take much effort on our part; just a little practice. **Listening to others is a simple way to make the world a better place.**

By listening, we learn what people need. Listen. Pray. Give. We need you. ●



NIGHTWATCH

**Serving the night
community in the
name of Christ**

**The pandemic is
hitting our homeless
community really hard.
Please give.**



**Make the switch to
email newsletters!**

Email your request to
coleen@seattlenightwatch.org

Memorials & Tributes

Memorials

Bill Branom
Mary Branom
Charley Bush
Paul Rollins
Craig Davis
Bruce Davis
Robert Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Tony Domzalski
Mark & Lisa Domzalski
Pat Domzalski
George Floyd
Irma Evans
Chris Graff
Norma Jean Hanson
Patty Forbes Gross
Nancy Winslow
Mal & Effie Higgins
Linda Martin

Mary Ellen Ingersoll
Jim & Jan Sullivan
Al & Maxine Lobb
John & Jody Fenlason
Daisy Neves
The Neves Family
Mike Potts
Catharine Fletcher
Howard Rippee
George & Carolyn Rippee
Mary Rippee-Bender
George & Carolyn Rippee
Christa Rippee-Pogue
George & Carolyn Rippee
Dick Shipe
Gary & Theresa Shipe
Mary Speltz
Jack & Sheila Giesler

Frances Taylor-Bourne
Samuel Taylor
Robert "Mugs" Tracy
Eileen Anderson
Zollie & Sylvia Volchok
Tony Volchok
& Cindy Monsen
Glenn & Shirley Weed
Jim & Cynthia Weaver
Leo Werlech
Theresa Werlech
Brooks Wilson
Judy Richardson
Mary Wooldridge
Holly Boone & Pat Braus

Pastor Rick thanks you for all your well-wishes and prayers!

Grateful

By Tonette Winston, Shelter Dispatch Center Manager

Our homeless clients remain patient, resilient and forgiving. I still aspire to master these attributes.

The past three months have been challenging; not only logistically, but emotionally. Being homeless is like being a person of color; it's not something you can easily hide. I can relate.



We have struggled through these days together, and had many discussions, while they wait for food and shelter placement outside the Dispatch Center.

When this all started, the City was concerned that COVID-19 would run rampant through the homeless population. Many believed hygiene habits, life choices, and limited awareness would catch up with them.

I am happy to say that most of our sheltered clients continue to test negative, despite living without an ideal, safe environment as laid out by Public Health. This is not a virus of color or community but of opportunity. **This virus has revealed we are all vulnerable, regardless of skin color, living situation or faith.** It has crossed all socioeconomic and color barriers to prove that none of us are immune.

At Nightwatch, we have an amazing support network. **You, our community, answered the call to action. You came prepared, armed with faith and no judgment.** We are so fortunate and forever grateful.

Please don't forget us. Please give. ●

Tributes

Anne Down
Harvey & Geri Nelson
Rev. John Forman
Carolyn Terry
Daven Hee
Deandra Ludovice
Vicky Jacoby
Lee Phelps
Vijya Patel
Nancy Bennett-Evans
Wonderful staff
Yukio & Julianne Kumasaka

Shopping List

Please help by collecting these items for us to distribute to our homeless friends and tenants (travel sizes are preferred):

- Juice (single-sized)
- Bottled water (8 oz. preferred)
- Protein bars
- Chewy granola bars
- Cereal bars
- Chips (single serving size)
- Fruit snacks
- Fruit cups
- Trail/nut mix (individual pack)
- Cheese-n-cracker snacks (individually wrapped)
- Beef jerky sticks
- Wrapped candy
- Cookies and pastries (individually bagged)
- Whole individual fruit (apples, oranges, bananas)
- Disinfectant wipes
- Bleach

For more information about these items please contact:
info@seattlenightwatch.org

Amazon Wish List:

Ship donations to our door!
<https://amzn.to/2NwV2JG>

Shelter Dispatch Center & Senior Apartments

302 14th Ave. S
Seattle, WA 98144

Contact us:
PO Box 21181
Seattle, WA 98111

206-323-4359 Administration
206-860-4296 Senior Housing
206-329-2099 Shelter Dispatch

Info@seattlenightwatch.org
www.seattlenightwatch.org



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