



# Homeless In Kitsap

The voice of and for the  
homeless community in Kitsap County



## Welcome to the "Homeless In Kitsap" newsletter

June 1  
through  
July 31,  
2009

Your  
children

**CANNOT**

be taken  
away from you  
just because  
you're  
homeless  
per  
WAC 388-15-009  
(5)(a)



### *Are you homeless?*

The Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (the definition local organizations go by) defines it as "an individual who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate residence" those that live in shelters and transitional housing, and as of May 2009, include individuals or families who will imminently lose their housing, including housing they own, rent, or live in without paying rent, are sharing with others, and rooms in hotels or motels not paid for by federal, state, or local government programs.

***You are considered homeless if you are staying temporarily with family or friends (couch surfing), live in your vehicle, tent, or in a building not meant for humans.***

. There are hundreds and hundreds of homeless people in Kitsap County. Many of them are children and youth.

At this time, the reason is primarily because of the failing economy. Folks have lost their jobs or had their hours cut to

the point they can't pay their rent, or their landlord can't pay the rent or mortgage on the unit, or their own home is foreclosed.

For others, mental illness, addiction, or being released from foster care, jail or prison keep them from being able to find and keep a place of their own.

***Everyone deserves a place to call home. It's a human right.***

The purpose of this newsletter is to help you find the resources you need to survive, answer questions you may have, and to let you know you're not alone. People DO CARE about you, and are trying to find ways to help you change your circumstances, and to hold on..

The Kitsap County Homeless Advisory Board and The Salvation Army (SA) contribute to and review this newsletter. If you have info to give or questions to ask, call SA at (360) 373-5550 or email editor Sally Santana at [sally.santana@wavecable.com](mailto:sally.santana@wavecable.com).

**CALL**

**2-1-1**

If you need help finding services like medical, housing and financial.

~

**Call**

**Crisis Clinic  
of the  
Peninsulas**

at (360)

**479-3033**

if you need emotional support.

~

***Necesita ayuda con el Ingles?  
Llame al Centro de Asistencia para inmigrantes al (360) 440-2376***

## HARRISON MEDICAL CENTER NEEDS YOUR HELP TO KEEP COSTS DOWN

Because the number of those without medical insurance has risen due to the poor economy, and because it doesn't require payment before service, HMC reports visits to its Emergency Department for other than emergency health needs has skyrocketed. For these and other reasons, HMC has had to cut staff and services.

A visit to the ED costs thousands of dollars, but a trip to the Urgent Care clinic is about the same as one to a doctor's office. If you are unable to pay, this will help because it is a not-for-profit hospital.

From its Web site, HMC states:

“Seek **urgent care** for conditions that require attention but do not pose an immediate, serious threat to your health or life, such as:

- Allergies
- Back pain
- Cold or flu symptoms
- Cough or bronchitis
- Earache
- Minor burns or bruises
- Rash, poison ivy, allergic reaction
- Rising temperature
- Scrape or cut
- Sore throat
- Sprain

“Seek **emergency care** - or call 911—immediately if you think someone could suffer significant harm or die without prompt care. Examples of emergency situations include:

- Change in mental status

- Chest pain that lasts longer than two minutes
- Coughing or vomiting blood
- Difficulty breathing, shortness of breath
- Major burns
- Poison
- Severe or persistent vomiting or diarrhea
- Sudden dizziness, weakness, change in vision
- Sudden or severe pain
- Uncontrolled bleeding

**Harrison Urgent Care** is on the bus line and is located in Port Orchard at 460 South Kitsap Blvd. It is open 24/7 and the phone # is (360) 744-6275.

## ARE YOU RECEIVING FOOD-STAMPS?

The income guidelines for food stamps changed in April 2009. Check out these monthly gross income limits and if you qualify, contact DSHS at 4710 Auto Center Way in Bremerton.

- 1 person: \$1,805
- 2 people: \$2,429
- 3 people: \$3,052
- 4 people: \$3,675
- 5 people: \$4,299
- 6 people: \$4,922



**QUESTION:** I always paid my child support on time. Now I've lost my job and can't pay. Am I going to jail?

**ANSWER:** Contact the Division of Child Support as soon as things change for you. There are a number of steps that can be taken to ensure you don't end up in jail, within certain circumstances. You don't want to give the appearance of willfully failing to pay your obligation. If you can go online, go to <http://www.dshs.wa.gov/pdf/publications/22-991.pdf> and it will print out a brochure, "I do not have a job, what happens to my child support?" If you can't make a copy of this brochure, the Salvation Army office can give you one.

The "Homeless In Kitsap" newsletter is written and edited by Sally Santana ([sally.santana@wavecable.com](mailto:sally.santana@wavecable.com)) bi-monthly and is reviewed, produced and distributed by The Salvation Army and the Kitsap County Homeless Advisory Board. Send info and updates to Sally.

## GIMME SHELTER

Plans are being made now for next winter's severe weather shelter.

When asked, "Did You Use The Severe Weather Shelter?" on this year's annual Homeless Count form, 240 people responded, saying they were either in some form of temporary housing or shelter, or didn't know about it.

Would you have used it if you had known?

Some folks have said that they wouldn't want to leave their camping gear and belongings for fear they would be taken while they were gone, or that they wouldn't be able to leave their pet. If these, or any other things come to mind as reasons that would keep you from using the shelter, would you please let us know? We want to make it as accessible as possible.

We would also like to know how you heard about the shelter (if you did), and if you used it, what you liked and disliked about it so we can try and make appropriate changes. Email the editor with your information.



## FREE MEALS

**(If there are any changes,  
please let us know.)**

### **Bainbridge Island Super Suppers**

Last M/T/Th/F of mo. 3-6 pm  
Eagle Hbr Cong. Ch./105 Wins-  
low Way W./ (206) 842-4657  
Last W of mo: 5 pm St. Ce-  
cilia/1310 Madison Ave. N.  
(206) 842-3594

### **Bread for Bremerton**

Last Friday of the Month  
4:30pm-6:30pm  
United Methodist Church  
1150 Marine Dr, Bremerton  
360-373-3510

### **Bremerton Community Church of God**

Saturday  
8:30am-10am  
1904 8<sup>th</sup> St & Hewitt Ave,  
Bremerton 360-373-0583

### **Christian Life Center**

Wednesday  
5pm to 6pm  
1780 SE Lincoln Ave,  
Port Orchard 360-876-5595

### **Family Church of God Pentecostal**

Friday  
5pm to 7pm  
1003 5<sup>th</sup> Ave, Bremerton  
360-782-1199

### **God's Kitchen & Closet**

Monday  
12pm-2pm  
Family of God Lutheran Church  
7625 Central Valley Rd, Brem.  
360-692-7729

### **Joy of Freedom**

Sundays  
10:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.  
Westgate Fire Hall  
1550 Rocky Pt. Rd. / Bremerton  
(253) 851-0339

### **Salvation Army**

Monday – Friday  
Breakfast 8am-8:45am  
Lunch 12pm-12:45pm  
832 6<sup>th</sup> St, Bremerton  
360-373-5550

### **Silverdale Lutheran Church**

Wednesday  
Noon to 1:30pm  
11701 Ridgepoint Dr NW,  
Silverdale  
360-692-9263

### **South Kitsap Family Kitchen**

M, Tu, Th, F Last 2 weeks/mo  
5pm to 6:30pm  
2483 Mitchell Rd, Port Orchard  
360-876-3901

### **Team Jesus Ministries (Pastor Art)**

Tu & Th 6:30 pm  
Sylvan Way Baptist Church  
900 Sylvan Way, Bremerton  
360-689-3219

### **The Lord's Neighborhood Diner**

Saturday and Sunday  
3pm-5pm  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
700 Callahan Dr, Bremerton  
360-377-0106

### **North Kitsap Baptist Church**

4th Tuesday / 4pm to 6 pm  
20516 Little Valley Rd. NE  
Poulsbo  
1-360-779-4689

## LOOKING FOR SOME PLACE TO TAKE A SHOWER?

The Lord's Neighbor-  
hood Diner at St. Paul's  
Episcopal Church,  
700 Callahan Dr.,  
Bremerton  
Sat and Sun, 3 to 5 pm.

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The Coffee Oasis  
322 Burwell, Bremerton  
25 & UNDER:  
Mon. thru Fri. 2 to 5 pm  
Anyone:  
Tues & Thurs ONLY  
2 to 5 pm.

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You can get a shower  
voucher for the  
Bremerton YMCA  
from:

- \* The Salvation  
Army office
- \* the St. Vincent de Paul  
Food Bank at  
1137 N. Callow.

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Spirit of Truth  
Fellowship in  
Port Orchard  
Call for appt.  
(360) 876-1870

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North Kitsap Fishline  
gives a voucher for a  
local provider.  
18916 3rd Ave. NE  
Poulsbo

## The Coffee Oasis and Hope In Christ Ministries

"Where the cold streets meet a warm welcome"

Is a safe haven for the street-oriented 25 and under. Here you can hang out, have someone to talk to, take a shower and do your laundry, feed body and soul, and receive tutoring should you want it.

Services offered, besides the above, include hygiene products, assistance with clothing, case management, mentoring, spiritual counsel, jail and hospital visitation, Bible studies, and activities. They also offer a barista training program for those that qualify.

Where: 822 Burwell St.

Hours: Call for schedule

Phone: (360) 373-0461

Website: [www.thecoffeeoasis.com](http://www.thecoffeeoasis.com)



**If you have exhausted all possibilities and assistance, and find yourself living in your vehicle, on the street or in a tent, please contact Pastor Art Speight of Team Jesus Ministries (360) 689-3219. He can provide you with sleeping bags, blankets, hygiene kits, clothing, snackpack, etc. or possibly direct you to other resources in the area.**