

## 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter Frequently Asked Questions

### 1. What is the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter?

- The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter is a temporary, low-barrier overnight shelter for up to 75 adults that offers safety off the street and connections to housing and services to help support people experiencing homelessness regain stability, connect to essential support services, and access stable and permanent housing options.
- This program is an intentional, strategic component of A Home for Everyone – a community-wide effort to house homeless Multnomah County residents.

### 2. Who can stay at the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter?

- Men, age 18 and older, with priority for people 55 and older, those with disabilities and Veterans.

### 3. What are the hours and location for the shelter?

- **Hours:** Open 7:00pm – 6:30am, 7 days a week.
- The program will operate on a reservation basis and there will be no lining up outside the shelter.
- **Address:** 421 SW 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Portland

### 4. How does someone get a space at the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter?

- A bed can be accessed by calling 503.280.4700, coming to the Transition Projects Resource Center at 650 NW Irving, Portland, or emailing [Corrine.Thiem@tprojects.org](mailto:Corrine.Thiem@tprojects.org).
- The 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter is not a drop-in program; **all guests are required to have a reservation prior to arrival.**
- Once a space is reserved, the guest may continue to use the space until they no longer need it.

### 5. What is it like at the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter?

- 3 sleeping rooms
- A space for coffee and tea, books and board games
- Single beds
- Food is usually not provided – guests should access a meal before arriving
- Bathrooms and basic hygiene supplies

### 6. Other than basic shelter, what services may be available?

- Housing-focused supports: 1:1 support to set short- and long-term housing goals and overcome housing barriers. Case managers help guests get application ready, including obtaining ID and addressing past debt and legal issues, and provide direct housing placement assistance.

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- Employment and benefit assistance: Individual and group services to help guests identify opportunities for earned income and qualify for social security and VA benefits.
- Health-focused services: Wellness staff and peer-supports connect guests with Oregon Health Plan, alcohol and drug treatment, mental health treatment, and primary care.

#### 7. Are pets welcome?

- Yes. Guests will be able to bring their animals that are well behaved, safe, and housebroken.
- The owner of the animal is responsible for caring for, feeding, and cleaning up after the animal.

#### 8. What are the rules?

- **Be Respectful**
  - Be a good neighbor
  - Disruptive, threatening, and disrespectful behavior will not be tolerated
  - No racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, hate-speech
- **Be Safe**
  - No smoking inside
  - No possession of alcohol, drugs or weapons
- **Be Kind**
  - Don't steal, destroy property, or litter in or around the shelter
- **Repeat rule violations and situations resulting in a 911 police call may result in exclusion**

#### 9. How can the community get involved?

- **Donations** are welcome and appreciated! See [tprojects.org/donate](http://tprojects.org/donate) for current wish-list items.
- **Volunteers:** Our primary volunteer need is for volunteers to provide meals at the 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter. Learn more about our meal provider program at [tprojects.org/volunteer](http://tprojects.org/volunteer).
  - To get involved, please contact Emily Coleman, Volunteer Coordinator with Transition Projects, [emily.coleman@tprojects.org](mailto:emily.coleman@tprojects.org) or 503.488.7745.

#### 10. Contact information:

- **5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Shelter:** 503-416-6210 (phone answered daily 7pm – 6:30am)
- Sven Geirnaert, 5th Avenue Shelter Manager, 503-560-7905 or [sven.geirnaert@tprojects.org](mailto:sven.geirnaert@tprojects.org)
- Shayna Hobson, Director of Shelter Services, 503-488-7760 or [shayna@tprojects.org](mailto:shayna@tprojects.org)

**This program is in partnership with the Portland/Multnomah County Joint Office of Homeless Services.**