

**NEIGHBORHOOD NOTIFICATION MEETING
REGARDING EMERGENCY SHELTER
7:00 PM SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 24th, 2008
WEST SEATTLE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
4201 SW JUNEAU, SEATTLE WA 98136**

**SHARE'S CALVARY LUTHERAN SHELTER HAS MOVED TO
WEST SEATTLE CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE
AS OF FEBRUARY 15, 2008**

At 7:00 PM Sunday, February 24th 2008 there will be a meeting for the immediate neighbors of West Seattle Church of the Nazarene. The meeting will be held at the church, which is located at 4201 SW Juneau, Seattle WA 98136.

The purpose of this meeting is to provide neighbors with an opportunity to learn more about SHARE's Calvary Lutheran Hall Shelter – a temporary emergency shelter which has recently moved to the West Seattle Church of the Nazarene. Comments and suggestions from neighbors are encouraged as a way of assisting SHARE and West Seattle Church of the Nazarene in reducing any possible impacts of the shelter in the neighborhood.

SHARE Calvary Lutheran Shelter Hall spokespeople will provide details about the encampment. West Seattle Church of the Nazarene Church leaders will answer questions about their hosting of the shelter.

Calvary Lutheran Shelter began at Our Redeemers Lutheran Church in Ballard in 1993. It moved in 1999 to Calvary Lutheran Church at 35th & Cloverdale in West Seattle. When that church sold their property, the shelter temporarily moved to Catholic Community Services' Randolph Carter Center for one year – that year was up on February 1st, 2008, and we are delighted that the West Seattle Church of the Nazarene has taken us in.

SHELTER OPERATIONS

Calvary Lutheran Shelter is an emergency shelter for men. It has a capacity of 20. The shelter follows the same general rules of the 13 other shelters in the SHARE Indoor Shelter Network, which has been operating successfully since 1991. All SHARE Shelters require everyone present to be sober, non-violent, and to do their share of the work. Panhandling and loitering are strictly prohibited.

Screening to enter the shelter is done downtown, so that those not admitted to the shelter do not roam the neighborhood. The shelter is open only at night, and participants are provided with METRO Bus Tickets to go to and from the shelter. Random unsupervised trips to the store are not permitted.

You are welcome to review our stringent operating rules. Those not respecting them are removed from the shelter. SHARE will provide day to day oversight of the shelter, which is self managed.

SHARE has been around for 18 years, and is now the largest and most inexpensive provider of shelter in King County. WHEEL, our sister organization, is for homeless and formerly homeless women only. There are also two Tent Cities, a Housing for Work Program called SHARE2, and a Storage Locker program within SHARE. We are made up solely of homeless and formerly homeless men and women.

THE NEED FOR SHELTER IN KING COUNTY

More than 3,000 people sleep outside throughout King County after EVERY indoor shelter bed is full. You can imagine how dangerous and scary it is to sleep outside alone. Many of us have been assaulted, robbed, and abused. We have friends who have died outside. It is hard to keep healthy or hold a job.

In 2006 at least 56 people died outside or were murdered who were homeless in King County. At least 45 homeless people died outside or were murdered in 2007, and we are aware of more deaths already having occurred in 2008.

Most of us prefer normal affordable housing to shelter, but it takes a very long time for low-cost housing to get started. We want to still be alive when there is enough shelter and housing for us. That is why we have banded together in our shelters and tent cities.

OUR PROMISE TO YOU

SHARE is an organization and community with little money. Almost all that we have is our word. Given these circumstances there are few things more important to us than keeping our promises – not only to our friends, but to everyone. You can depend on our keeping our commitments.

While Calvary Lutheran Shelter is at West Seattle Church of the Nazarene:

- * You will see the property we are using, and the neighborhood we are in, being treated respectfully, with regular neighborhood litter pickups.
- * You will not see us panhandling, purchasing liquor, loitering, or being boisterous in the neighborhood.
- * We will discourage – by our presence, patrols, and by calling 911 – any illegal activity we see anywhere in the neighborhood.

The SHARE/WHEEL community of 13 shelters, storage lockers, Womens Empowerment Center, Tent Cities, and other efforts will not tolerate losing our reputation over one shelter. You have our commitment that if there is a pattern of unresolved problems, or if we fail to hold individuals accountable to our code, the violating shelter will leave the neighborhood.

COMMUNITY IMPACT

Calvary Lutheran Shelter Participants look forward to being a part of this neighborhood! West Seattle Church of the Nazarene has a strong history with SHARE and Seattle's Homeless Community. They have temporarily hosted several other SHARE Shelters in the past 5 years who have been between permanent hosts, and have consistently welcomed our community to Holiday Celebrations and worship.

The SHARE/WHEEL Office number is (206) 448-7889 where we will gladly answer questions. The West Seattle Church of the Nazarene can be reached at (206) 932-4581. Please notify us immediately of any problems, concerns or suggestions.