



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO SUPPORT OUR DOWNTOWN UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

The Portland Downtown Neighborhood Association (DNA) is seeking volunteers to support the DNA's Good Neighbor Project.

History: The Good Neighbor Project was launched by the DNA in November, 2020. The project helps approximately 200 unhoused downtown neighbors by distributing essential goods for survival (water, cold weather gear, etc), providing information and referral, and building "good neighbor" relationships.

Teams: Volunteers work in teams of 2 or 3 people, with each team assigned to a segment of the downtown (bounded by Burnside, I-405 and the Willamette River.) Each team visits unhoused individuals within their section on an ongoing basis. We recommend a weekly visit, but teams may visit their unsheltered neighbors more frequently if they wish.

Pick up and donation of items for distribution: Teams pick up items for distribution at Meals on Wheels (1032 SW Main) available twice a week. TUESDAY AND WEDNESDAY 1-3 pm. Distribution days/times are at the discretion of volunteers.

Donated items: The Good Neighbor Project will provide survival items to volunteer teams.

Orientation/Training: Volunteers will receive ongoing training including information and referral, safety considerations, and ways to address issues of mental health and addiction.

Longer term goal: To develop trust and relationships with our unhoused neighbors and to build community and offer support. Since its inception volunteers have assisted their unhoused neighbors find a way to a better life including vaccine access, trash collection, job search, move to a safe shelter, avoidance of "sweeps", and even a memorial service for a beloved unsheltered friend.

To sign up or ask questions: Contact DNA Homeless/Houseless Team Co-chairs to sign up or ask questions:

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