

Homeless Fund Guidelines for St. Vincent de Paul

The Homeless Fund is intended to assist those who are “homeless”. A “homeless” person is a person who does not have a permanent roof over his/her head, or who will become “homeless” if immediate aid is not forthcoming from or through the St. Vincent de Paul Society. The term “homeless” includes, but is not limited to:

- those persons who are living out of their car or truck,
- those who are sleeping in a tent or merely in a sleeping bag,
- those who are “sofa hopping” or staying with a friend or acquaintance on a temporary basis

Types of assistance that can be given from the homeless fund:

1. Transportation assistance to get to a new job.
2. A used bicycle for transportation. (Check with Catholic Community Services, M & M cycling or Sun and Spokes)
3. A thirty day bus pass for an individual who does not have adequate transportation to get to a job site.
4. Providing shoes and clothing to enable a person to report to a new job or job interview.
5. Providing medical assistance (if funds are not otherwise available from another source).
6. Providing a sleeping bag, tent or backpack, tarp, propane tank and little stove, etc or daily bus pass (if not otherwise available from another source).
7. Providing a **short term** stay in a motel. Examples of appropriate motel stays are:
 - where that person can get a shower which may help in interviewing for a job, if there is nowhere else to do this.
 - Very cold or very rainy
 - Waiting for a place in GNA
 - Very sick

In other words, there must be a **valid reason** for a motel stay. If they have been homeless for a while, a motel room is not going to solve the problem.

Guidelines for hotel room:

1. **Please discuss with another caseworker prior to giving a room.** Generally limited to **one or two** nights.
2. More nights may be provided; however, a **Special case must be done**
3. Hotel preference will be done according to the below list, in that order. Any deviation will be discussed with another Vincentian.

If the Friend is on a motel’s DNR list (do not rent), then we are done. Unfortunately, at that point there’s nothing else we can do. The motels share that list. If a Friend is on that list, it is a result and consequence of their previous behavior.

PRICES MOTEL ROOMS

	Bella Vista Motel	Magnuson Hotel	Knight's Inn	Desert Inn	Blue Horizon Motel
1 person	35.80	46.95	*60.23	**62.20	***40.00
2 persons	42.60	46.95	*60.23	**62.20	***40.00
3 persons	48.25	62.00	*62.46	**68.87	
4 persons	53.90	79.00	*62.46	**68.87	
5 persons	60.55	?			

IMPORTANT NOTES:

Bella Vista Motel:

Max 5 persons per room

Knights

Inn:

*Single bed max 2 persons

*Double bed max 4 persons

Desert Inn:

**Single bed max 3 persons

**Double bed max 6 persons

Blue Horizon Motel

***Single bed only max 3 people

\$20.00 Deposit is required

Limits on the assistance that can be given

The above suggestions regarding the type of assistance that can be given from the homeless fund are not meant to be all inclusive. Other aid may be called for in a given situation. However, because the payment of rent (as opposed to a temporary motel stay) and utilities would quickly deplete the fund, and since the provision of rental assistance and help with utilities is sometimes available from other sources, including special case help, it is expressly stated that THE HOMELESS FUND SHALL NOT BE USED TO PAY RENT OR UTILITY ASSISTANCE. While it is not necessary that a homeless person have children, or the immediate prospect of a job in order to qualify for assistance from the homeless fund, priority must certainly be given to those who do have children or the prospect of a job.

NOTE TO TREASURER: It is intended that the payments from the homeless fund shall first be paid from the conference funds (monthly sum of \$160) before using the grant funds (\$300 per month). This will permit any unused amount from the \$300 grant to roll over into the next month, and to accumulate any unused amount each month in order to build the fund.