

Four Corners Native American Ministry

Winter Homeless Shelter

In the book of Matthew Chapter 25 starting with verse 35 to 46 we are reminded to feed the hungry, cloth the naked, visit them when they are in prison and give them drink when they are thirsty. Then we are reminded in Luke 10:24-37 we are to love our neighbor as we love ourselves.

Four Corners Native American Ministry works every day to fulfill scripture. Two winters ago, it was hard to see homeless relatives pass by with no coat and no place to lay their head on cold nights. It was hard because we have beds in our dorm that no one uses during the winter months. Last winter, we asked for donations of winter clothing, coats, sweaters, hats, scarfs and gloves. These were handed out in hopes they would keep the homeless relative warm during the day and at night. As this winter approached, two doctors who work among the homeless came to us to see if we can do a winter homeless shelter from October to April.

There are a lot of homeless relatives in all societies today and nationally the age expectancy is lowered by about 30 years when a person experiences homelessness for a prolonged period of time. Minority groups experience homelessness far more than Anglos. In fact, Natives are 4 times more likely to experience homelessness than Anglos. There are a number of homeless relatives in the Shiprock area, mostly men, but there are more women joining this group weekly, ages range from 30-65. There are about 81 homeless relatives in the Shiprock rea and every week there will be at least 7 new homeless folks. There are others who have not been accounted for, for they are afraid to come out of hiding.

There are no other homeless shelters provided in the Shiprock area and every year there are a number of homeless relatives passing away from exposure even one is too many. Therefore, the Four Corners Native American Ministry heard the cry of the people and will be using their dorm area for the homeless relatives in the winter months from October to April till there is a shelter built and provided by the tribe. A petition was written, presented and approved by the Shiprock chapter house representatives. Meals will be served and hygiene products will be given to the relatives as they enter the shelter. Two doctors will check them out medically and will give covid tests as well.

Four Corners Native American Ministry will be in partnership with the following organizations:

1. Navajo Nation (NN) Community Health
2. Navajo Nation Police
3. Navajo Nation Medical Clinic (ER)
4. Healthy Native Communities Partnership, Inc.
6. Navajo Nation Social Services

There is still much to do before we open. Here is a list of needed items.

1-2 sets of pots and pan

Dish scrubbers

Rubber gloves

Serving spoons

Plastic utensils

Paper plates

Paper bowls

15 twin sized mattress cover (water proof)
35 warm, but very washable blankets
20 Pillows
35 twin sheets sets
40 Bath
30 Wash cloths
30 Hand towels

Please no clothes and if you really want to send clothing then please NO used clothing or gently used, it all has to be brand new or funds for new clothing.

Women's hygiene supplies – pads, tampons and bath soap.
Shampoo/Conditioner (Baby shampoo will work)
Toothpaste/Toothbrushes
Trash bags for kitchen/bathrooms
Brooms/dustpan (2)
Cleaning and sanitizing supplies - bleach not Lysol or alcohol based products
Toilet brush (2)

Monetary donations for the Shiprock shelter needs to be earmarked and may be sent to
Four Corners Native American Ministry
P.O. Box 400
Shiprock, New Mexico 87420

Thank you so very much for hearing God's call not only through scripture but also having it on your heart to love your neighbors as yourself. We are touching and saving lives together. Thank you for your partnership.

Grace and Peace

Rev. Tweedy Evelene Navarrete
Executive Director of Four Corners Native American Ministry

