

For Further information related to these questions, please call or email The Rescue Mission's Director of Marketing, **Blake Douglas at 260.426.7357 ext. 151 or bdouglas@fwrn.org**.

Why have you turned away homeless residents at the new building?

In accordance to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH), The Rescue Mission continues to operate our 301 W. Superior Street facility for homeless and at-risk person's seeking emergency shelter and services. The new building at 404 E. Washington St. is being used to house our short- and long-term program residents.

Why were you releasing the homeless near St. Mary's church daily?

In accordance to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH), The Rescue Mission created an interim overflow site at St. Mary's church to support our emergency shelter and services located at 301 West Superior Street. This was a temporary solution for maintaining social distancing guidelines until the new building at 404 W. Washington St. was complete. Now that the new building is operational, emergency services are being offered at 301 W. Superior Street. The new building at 404 E. Washington St. is being used to house our short- and long-term program residents.

Is it true you are not allowing any homeless residents into The Rescue Mission?

In accordance to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH), The Rescue Mission continues to operate it's 301 W. Superior St. location for all residents in need of emergency services. These services include, but are not limited to, daily meals, cooling/warming center, emergency shelter, and temperature checks.

What is The Rescue Mission doing to help the homeless during COVID?

In accordance to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) Interim Guidance for Homeless Service Providers to Plan and Respond to Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) and the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH), The Rescue Mission is offering services to aid residents experiencing, or at-risk of, a homeless crisis. Those services include, but are not limited to, daily meals, cooling/warming center, emergency shelter, and temperature checks.

- Lunch and dinner meals are served to all community members at the 301 W. Superior St. location. These meals are served from the East side of the building during the hours of 12PM – 1PM and 5PM – 6PM.
- Cooling/warming centers are available at our 301 W. Superior St. location every day from 7AM – 6PM.
- Isolation sites are provided for people who are confirmed to be positive for COVID-19 by laboratory testing.
- Quarantine sites are provided for people who are awaiting testing, awaiting test results, or who were exposed to COVID-19.
- Protective housing is provided for people who are at increased risk for severe illness from COVID-19.
- Masks are required for all services and at all locations. If an individual is in need of a mask, one will be provided.

When will The Rescue Mission allow the community and all homeless residents into the new building?

The Rescue Mission is working closely with the City of Fort Wayne and the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH) in creating a tiered approach for safe and effective integration during the current pandemic. Partner social service agencies have already begun to provide services by appointment from the community center located at the new facility. The Rescue Mission continues to follow the recommendations from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Allen County Department of Health (ACDH) regarding operations during COVID-19.