We will prioritize the following when looking for potential candidates for *BETHLEHEM FAMILY SHELTER:*

* Families experiencing homelessness with children under the age of 18
* Couples without children who are able to live in a shelter setting
* Single women experiencing homelessness with no other safe shelter option, who are able to live in a shelter setting

The following **WILL NOT** be allowed at the *BETHLEHEM FAMILY SHELTER*:

* Single adult males experiencing homelessness
* Families with children over the age of 18
* Individuals/families with violent, predatory or sexual offenses
* Individuals/families with open warrants
* Individuals/families with severe or untreated mental health or substance abuse issues
* Individuals/families unwilling to follow the *BETHLEHEM FAMILY SHELTER* site rules

**Program Description**

*BETHLEHEM FAMILY SHELTER* is located at 4818 E Portland Ave, Tacoma, WA 98404. This is a temporary shelter set up in a church gymnasium. The shelter setting is open communal living on cots or mattresses. The shelter will serve a maximum of 40 individuals (combination of adults and children). The shelter will have 24/7 staffing and will also include: meals, case management, classes for adults and children, private meeting spaces, bathrooms, showers, laundry and connection to other needed services.

The nonprofit *Metropolitan Development Council* will operate and oversee the 24/7 day-to-day management of the shelter, along with the assistance and partnership of the resident population. Staff includes a Program Director, Site Supervisor, Peer Navigators and other agency staff as needed.

Residents will be required to read, agree to, and sign a Participation Agreement. Residents will be expected to follow all Site Rules and behavioral expectations, attend shelter meetings, adhere to quiet hours policy, the zero-tolerance towards violence policy, and other requirements commonly expected of good neighbors. No alcohol or drugs are allowed. No registered sex offenders are allowed. Individuals who cannot abide by this code of conduct will not be admitted into the program, or may be asked to leave the community to a better suited shelter. Police will be called if illegal activities or acts of violence occur. Residents must agree to meet with the case manager and develop a plan for obtaining housing, income support and services.

This is a very unique Family Shelter Program, and will not work for everyone. The ultimate goal of the program is to help families stabilize and quickly move-on to a more permanent housing intervention.

ALL REFERRALS MUST BE CLEARED WITH SITE STAFF BEFORE SOMEONE IS ACCEPTED.

Please contact ***Angela Moore*** at 253-318-9373 or the ***Shelter*** at 253- 392-4148