

Additional Community Resource Contacts

Bellingham Police Department
Non-Emergency Line:
360.676.6911

Community Paramedic:
360.739.5413

Lighthouse Mission Ministries:
360.733.5120

Volunteers of America (VOA)
Mental Health Crisis Line:
800.584.3578

Bellingham Food Bank:
360.676.0392

Hope House: (Basic Needs)
360.671.8702
Monday -- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Tuesday -- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Wednesday -- CLOSED
Thursday -- 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.
Friday -- CLOSED

Adult Protective Services:
877.734.6277

Homeless Outreach Team

is a program of



In partnership with



During the COVID-19 pandemic, HOT will help to provide cloth face masks and hand sanitizer to those experiencing homelessness, and assist with them connecting to COVID-19 resources as available.

Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)

PHONE: 360-312-3717
HOURS: Monday—Friday,
7:00 am—5:30 pm

The Homeless Outreach Team supports those experiencing homelessness and the broader community they interact with. This includes providing response and technical assistance to businesses.

We have training and experience helping our neighbors in need connect to services and assistance.

If you are experiencing challenges with a homeless individual or group of individuals, or would like assistance with how to approach a particular situation, please contact us.

We are a support and intervention team for the community, and want to be your first call in non-emergency situations that involve those experiencing homelessness.

Tips for interacting with your neighbors experiencing homelessness:

- Remember that they are deserving of dignity and respect
- Acknowledge them, make eye contact and introduce yourself
- Be respectful of their belongings
- Remember that homelessness is a trauma
- Don't assume that you know what they need
- Ask if they are all right and feel safe
- Start your conversation the same way you would with anyone else
- Remember there are many reasons people experience homelessness
- Let them know you wish them well

HOT Hours of Operation:

Monday—Friday, 7am-5:30 pm

Phone: 360-312-3717

Fax: 855-604-0920

TTY/WA: 711

Emergency:

Call 911

Support provided by the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)

- Assesses for risk of suicide or harm.
- Listens non-judgmentally.
- Provides support and gives information.
- Encourages appropriate professional help.
- Encourages self-help and other supports.
- Support for referrals for those experiencing homelessness.
- Technical assistance and follow-up to business owners and employees.
- Relationship and trust-building with individuals who have high needs and vulnerabilities.
- Crisis intervention skills, including de-escalation assistance.
- Help with connecting to food, shelter, and other basic needs.
- Connection to behavioral health and other health care providers.
- Relationships with EMS and law enforcement providers.
- Consistent and regular presence in the downtown area.

Whatcom County Syringe Services Program

The Whatcom County Health Department offers the confidential exchange of new, sterile syringes and clean injection equipment in exchange for contaminated syringes. The Health Department offers this program on Thursdays from 2:30p - 4:00 p.m. at 1500 N. State Street in Bellingham.