STREET NIGHT

Envision Mission's Street Night with the Bucket Brigade

Volunteer Training Outline and Guide

Vision

Envision Mission's Street Night with the Bucket Brigade exists to walk the streets with humility and compassion, meeting practical needs while honoring the God-given dignity of every person we encounter. We believe every individual bears the image of God and deserves to be seen, valued, and treated with respect.

We do not believe this ministry will fix homelessness.

This is a faithful act of obedience while we wait for the world to change.

Mission

To reflect the heart of Christ by serving vulnerable individuals with love and truth through practical care, prayer, and trafficking prevention resources.

"For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty, and you gave me drink, I was a stranger, and you welcomed me." Matthew 25:35 ESV

Tuesday Night Outreach

The Tuesday night street ministry is led by Envision Mission. Volunteers gather to pray together and walk into designated areas, carrying supply buckets for homeless individuals in Whatcom County. Outreach includes conversation, prayer (when welcomed), practical support, and the distribution of items.

Teams walk together for safety and accountability, engaging with gentleness, respect, and humility. **Outreach takes place on Tuesday nights from 5:30-7:00**

1. Welcome and Purpose

Why We Are Here - Serving God's Image Bearers

The Street Night with the Bucket Brigade exists to walk the streets with humility and compassion, meeting practical needs while honoring the God-given dignity of every person we encounter.

We do not believe this ministry will fix homelessness.
This is a faithful act of obedience while we wait for the world to change.

It is not about outcomes. It is about faithfulness, presence, and love.

Key Reminder for Volunteers
· You are not here to solve problems
· You are here to show up
· God handles what you cannot fix

2. Our Heart and Posture

How We See People

· Every person we meet bears the image of God
· They are not projects, problems, or interruptions
· They are people worthy of dignity, patience, and respect

Volunteer Heart Posture

· This ministry is not about fixing people or their situation
· This ministry is about presence, hope, and helping in the moment
· This ministry is about honoring image bearers
· This ministry is about reflecting Christ through love

3. What is the Bucket Brigade?

What This Ministry Is

· A relational street ministry
· Focused on listening and presence
· Rooted in prayer and humility
· Faithful, consistent, and gentle

What This Ministry Is Not

· It is not a rescue mission
· It is not a debate or argument
· It is not a transaction
· It is not conditional on behavior, belief, or response

4. Safety and Team Guidelines

Why We Walk in Teams

· We walk together for safety, accountability, and encouragement
· No one walks alone
· No one separates from the group

Safety Guidelines

· Stay with your assigned group
· Be aware of your surroundings
· Trust the leadership direction
· If something feels unsafe, step away and notify a leader
· Never enter private spaces or vehicles

5. What the Bucket Brigade Offers

We offer what we have; we do not promise what we cannot deliver.

Available Items

· Food and bottled water
· Socks and basic clothing
· Hygiene items and seasonal necessities
· Ladies Care Bags
· Resource cards for shelters and local support services
· Respectful conversation and prayer are welcome

No pressure. No expectations. No strings attached.

6. Ladies Pink Care Bags

Purpose

Women and girls experiencing homelessness face a heightened risk of exploitation. Women's care bags are designed to meet practical needs while offering discreet safety information and trusted resources.

Each bag includes feminine hygiene products, personal care items, and anti-trafficking awareness and missing persons numbers. They are assembled and distributed with care and discretion.

What Is Inside:

· Feminine hygiene products
· Personal care items
· Scripture
· Anti-trafficking and missing persons hotlines
· Socks and small comfort items
· Candle and matches
· Lip gloss
· Candy

These are given kindly and respectfully when available. Never make a woman feel singled out or exposed. This is a gift to her.

7. How We Engage with People

Opening Language

Hi, we are The Bucket Brigade. We are walking around offering food and supplies. Would anything be helpful for you tonight?

If They Say Yes - *Of course. Here is what we have… Please take whatever you need.*

If They Decline - *No problem at all. Take care tonight.*

If Shelter or Help Comes Up - *If you would like, we can help look into shelter or other resources. It is completely up to you.*

Prayer Invitation - *Would you like prayer for anything? May I pray for you?*

Prayer is always an invitation, never a requirement.

Closing - *Take care tonight. Stay safe, and may Jesus be with you.*

8. Boundaries and Commitments

Power and Posture

Why This Matters

We arrive with resources. That creates a power imbalance, whether we intend it or not.

· We do not stand over people
· We do not rush or control conversations
· We offer, never insist
· We let people choose

This restores dignity and keeps us humble

Volunteer Commitments:

· See every person as an image bearer of God
· Listen before speaking
· Protect dignity and privacy
· Do not rush conversations
· Do not make promises you cannot keep
· Serve in unity with your team
· Trust God with what you cannot fix
· We pray for the Lord to care for His people

9. Trauma Awareness

Trauma Awareness and Triggers

Many people have experienced trauma, abuse, or exploitation.

Avoid:
· Touch without permission
· Loud or sudden movements
· Standing too close
· Blocking exits
· Asking invasive questions

Gentleness communicates safety.
· Some people we meet carry deep trauma
· You do not need to know their story
· You do not need details
· You only need gentleness
· Avoid asking invasive questions
· Avoid correcting or instructing
· Calm presence matters more than words

10. Give Grace to Drug Use

Drugs are a way to escape trauma, pain, and suffering

Volunteers may witness active drug use or interact with individuals who are under the influence. This can be uncomfortable or overwhelming, especially for those new to street ministry. Respond with grace, patience, and compassion, remembering that each person's story is complex.

"How can you live on the streets without self-medicating? You can't." - Tony

What to Do:
· Stay calm, respectful, and nonjudgmental
· Maintain appropriate physical distance
· Speak gently and keep interactions simple
· Offer items and prayer when appropriate
· Follow the direction of team leaders at all times
· Step away and notify a leader if a situation feels unsafe

What Not to Do
· Do not confront or lecture about drug use
· Do not argue, shame, or correct behavior
· Do not touch drugs, paraphernalia, or personal belongings
· Do not give money or make promises
· Do not place yourself in unsafe situations

If drug use is part of your past or a present struggle, we encourage you to protect your recovery. If drug use is a struggle or a temptation, we invite you to support Street Night through prayer or by donating needed items. Choosing another way to serve is not failure, but great wisdom.

11. Prayer Before We Walk

Group Prayer

Lord, open our eyes to see Your image in every person we meet.
Open our hands to serve with humility.
Open our hearts to love without condition.
Go before us, walk beside us, and remain with those we serve.
Amen.

12. Final Encouragement

· You are not responsible for the results.
· You are responsible for your obedience
· Faithfulness and presence matter
· God sees every step taken in love

We do not believe this ministry will fix homelessness.

This is a faithful act of obedience while we wait for the world to change.

Thank you for taking the time to review this training manual and for your interest in joining the Bucket Brigade. We are deeply grateful for your willingness to serve and to step into this ministry with compassion, humility, and faithfulness.

Before joining Street Night with the Bucket Brigade, we ask that you attend an orientation. This training is designed to prepare you to serve with compassion, wisdom, and integrity, to understand our safety guidelines and boundaries, and to join the team with a shared heart and purpose. No prior experience is required; we will walk you through everything you need to know. Please plan to attend the next available orientation and arrive a few minutes early if possible.

Orientation is held on the third Tuesday of each month from 5:30 to 7:00 PM.

Location
110 Flora Street
Bellingham, Washington 98225

Orientation will be held outside, so please dress accordingly for the weather.

Once you have completed orientation, you will be fully approved and welcome to join the Bucket Brigade on any Tuesday night going forward. More details will be provided on orientation night. We count it a privilege to serve alongside you as we seek to love our neighbors well and walk in faithful obedience while we wait for the world to change.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact one of us:

Mitch Senti at Info@EnvisionMission.org

We truly look forward to meeting you and serving together.

Thank you for joining us!