

Donate!

There are two ways to give:

Checks can be sent to: Depositor, Budget and Collections, 15th Street Meeting, 15 Rutherford Place, New York, NY 10003. Please make checks out to 15th Street Meeting, **with SHELTER clearly written on the memo line.**

Online contributions can be made at: <http://15stfriends.quaker.org/> Be sure to put **SHELTER** in the field under your contact information.

Dear Friends,

The events in New York in recent months show how vulnerable we all are, especially those of us who are already struggling.

The Friends Shelter provides a safe and respectful place to eat and sleep for fourteen homeless men and women, each and every night of the year. All of our guests are referred to us by the Main Chance drop-in center near Grand Central Station. Some of our guests just need a place to eat and sleep for a night or two, others have made the shelter their night-time home while they work day jobs and try to find permanent housing. The shelter has been operating since 1983, when a small group of Quakers started the shelter on Rutherford Place in lower Manhattan.

At the shelter we provide a light dinner and breakfast. Serving food is an essential part of what we do. Many of our guests count on us for a solid meal, and with the help of Friends Seminary School we provide nutritious, appetizing food each night and morning. We are grateful for the donations of food we receive, but we also need money to cover the cost of grocery and miscellaneous items we must continually purchase.

Our funding from New York State for meals has been eliminated, but with your help we can continue to provide food to our guests.

The shelter is able to operate on a tiny budget—less than \$40,000 per year, or approximately \$3.50 per meal—because it is staffed entirely by a community of individuals who volunteer one night each month to make the lives of these fourteen people a bit more pleasant and safe.

We are reaching out to our friends, families and community this Thanksgiving season in hope that you can help with a contribution. **Because we are an all-volunteer organization with no administrative costs, 100% of your gift goes directly to feeding our homeless guests.** Any size gift is welcome, and is tax deductible in accordance with IRS regulations.

With your help, we can continue to make a difference in the lives New York's most vulnerable citizens.

In friendship and with gratitude,

Katy Homans, clerk, shelter committee

P.S. We are also always looking for volunteers to work in the shelter. Our volunteers come from all walks of life. Some are Quakers, many are not, but all believe that this is a simple way to do a bit of good in our great city. For more information about volunteering, visit www.friendsshelter.org.



Friends Shelter

Operated by the Fifteenth Street Meeting of the Society of Friends, New York • www.friendsshelter.org