

## What We Do

### Stabilize Lives:

We provide consistent services to help individuals stabilize their lives. Shelter guests returning by 8pm have their beds reserved, and those with legitimate reasons for arriving later, such as work, night school, family visits or hospital visits, also have their beds reserved.



### Case Management:

Our dedicated Case Management team assists shelter guests in finding suitable affordable housing and connecting them with essential services to enhance their lives. This includes conducting Vulnerability Assessments and aiding guests with applications for housing, social services, ID replacements, detox, and treatment.

*"Don't give up if you're out on the streets. Go to the Unitarian Shelter. They really do care and they really do what they say. They found me a home and I thank the team for being so understanding, and helping me when nobody else seemed to care."*

~ D.M., former guest

### Shower Program:

In partnership with the City of Nanaimo, we offer a shower program for unhoused individuals from 7am to noon, Monday to Friday at Caledonia Park. This program ensures a basic human right to sanitation and hygiene for people experiencing homelessness in our community.



### Clean Team:

Our Clean Team actively contributes to improving the neighborhood surrounding the shelter. This includes tasks like picking up garbage and removing graffiti from fences. Shelter guests receive an honorarium for assisting with neighborhood clean-up every second week.



# NANAIMO UNITARIAN SHELTER

595 Townsite Road



## Celebrating 15 Years of Service

Since 2008, the Nanaimo Unitarian Shelter, operated by the Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo, has served as a temporary home for hundreds of adults struggling with poverty including seniors, people with disabilities, low wage workers, students, those suffering with mental illness and people struggling with addictions. We provide a warm refuge and hot meals for people experiencing homelessness.

For more information visit our website at [ufon.ca/weather-shelter](http://ufon.ca/weather-shelter), or contact our team at 250-754-3729 or [shelter@ufon.ca](mailto:shelter@ufon.ca).



## Meeting the Growing Need

Every evening at 5pm, our shelter opens its doors, offering a warm dinner and a safe place to sleep, with breakfast served before guests depart at 7:30am. In severe weather, the shelter remains open throughout the day. It's a vital lifeline for those in need, but our shelter is consistently at full capacity, and almost every night people are turned away.

As the demand for our services rises with the growing number of individuals affected by homelessness in our community, your support is crucial. Our shelter needs essential capital repairs to meet BC building code regulations and to ensure the comfort and well-being of our guests. Your generous donation will ensure that we can continue to provide life-saving shelter and support to those who need it most.

I'm 71 years old... this is not how I thought I would spend my retirement.

~ E.B.



We gratefully acknowledge the support of BC Housing, the City of Nanaimo and United Way British Columbia - Central & Northern Vancouver Island.



## From Hardship to Hope

"Living in my car was difficult, I was getting harrassed a lot. It's not comfortable."

~ J.M.



Our services make a life-changing difference for people like E.B., a 71-year-old retiree who, after being renovicted from his apartment, found himself homeless.

And for J.M., a 64-year-old widow surviving on a modest pension. When she lost her home, she spent weeks living in her car before seeking refuge at the Unitarian Shelter.

Then there's J.C., a lifelong resident of Nanaimo since 1983, whose limited disability allowance makes it extremely challenging to secure and retain affordable housing. "It's stressful not having a place to live, and it's mentally exhausting," she shares.

E.B., J.M. and J.C. received not only a warm bed and two hot meals a day but also the respect and dignity they rightfully deserve. Our dedicated shelter staff worked tirelessly to help them find affordable housing.

## Your donation supports essential services for those in need.

### Yes! I would like to make a donation:

\$15.00     \$115.00     \$1,500.00     Another Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

My Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email / Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make cheques payable to 'First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo'. Write 'Shelter' on the cheque memo and mail to: 595 Townsite Road, Nanaimo BC V9S 1K9. To donate online please visit [ufon.ca/weather-shelter](http://ufon.ca/weather-shelter). All donors will receive a charitable tax receipt. Our charitable tax number is 83023 6949 RR0001.