DESTINATION DIVA

Our Destination Diva program will provide 20 one- way trips per month to women experiencing homeless to various overnight emergency shelters in King County who are stranded so they will not have to sleep on the streets. Our on-call dispatch team will take calls from shelter staff with requests for client pick up or by appointment from the individual’s current location to await prearranged transportation to the shelter that serves their area. Our team will then contact overnight emergency shelter staff to confirm how many spots they have remaining and confirm with them how many will be transported to their location. Participants will be picked up and transported to the evening shelter for them to sign in. Each emergency shelter location will coordinate the time deadline for their location with our dispatch team. This will help us determine the best route for our clients. This will ensure that spaces are filled at the emergency shelters and our women facing homelessness are safe for each night. This program will also provide much needed support to staff at partnering emergency shelters as of the most common concerns amongst staff is not being able to find resolve for a woman seeking s when their agency is full or does not provide overnight stay for walk ins. The needs of a women experiencing homelessness are extreme and affects her physically, spiritually and mentally. Our priority is to create a safe outlet for them to find shelter for the night. This is especially important during the cold winter months. Our team will track the routes and person count for each trip and share logged information with each partnering agency monthly.

In the case of severe weather conditions which result in additional routes being needed. We can increase the number of routes being conducted to 10 additional trips per month. In this case an additional driver would need to be hired for the workload.

Our project is a mobile service. We will be picking our clients up from various locations and bringing them to various emergency shelters within King County.

To a woman experiencing homelessness our project meets them where their greatest need is. A safe place to sleep for the night. Although our program does not help with all of their needs, it directly impacts them during an extreme vulnerable state. When faced with nowhere to go when it is cold and dark just knowing that you can be safe for the night and receive a meal in the morning provides a sense of security. Even if only temporary. Women are faced with extreme levels of danger when forced to sleep on the streets of Seattle, most times they are abused, raped, robbed, and much worse. To feel safe is what we all want to feel. After experiencing homelessness first hand, having a safe place to sleep makes the difference in what you can accomplish the next day.

Funds will be used to cover the following expenses :

- on-call driver salary and back up on -call driver salary

- Gas and vehicle maintenance

- Diva Kits distributed to clients

- Warm beverages and packaged Snacks

- Insurance and Liability

- State toll fees

-Emergency road side assistance