



## **COUNTY HOMELESS EMERGENCY SHELTERS TO OPEN**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** PR 11:04  
November 29, 2011

**CONTACT: Karen Roper (714) 480-2805**

(Santa Ana, CA) - The County of Orange announces the opening of the Armory Emergency Shelter Program, the seasonal program that provides up to 400 beds for homeless families and individuals, on December 1, 2011. The program provides shelter to families and individuals along with a nutritious meal, warm shower, safe place to sleep, warm clothes, a wide variety of supportive services, and a friendly and safe atmosphere. The shelters will be located at the National Guard Armories in Fullerton and Santa Ana. The Santa Ana shelter location will open on December 3, however, transportation will be provided from the Santa Ana shelter to the Fullerton shelter starting December 1. The Armory Emergency Shelter Program is a vital link in our community's efforts to take care of those who lack proper shelter at night and to provide needed services to families and individuals. The Armory Emergency Shelter Program is possible due to the help of hundreds of volunteers from County agencies, churches, and other community groups.

In addition, the following agencies provide on-site services aimed at breaking the cycle of homelessness and moving families and individuals to self-sufficiency and independent living: Orange County Health Care Agency, Orange County Social Services Agency, Mental Health Association of Orange County, Public Law Center, 2-1-1 Orange County, Orange County Rescue Mission, Veteran's First and many others. Donations from other non-profit organizations, churches, and individuals add to the available resources to make this program a success. The program is operated by Mercy House through a contract with the County of Orange, OC Community Services.

"This program is a highly successful public/private partnership," stated Karen Roper, Director of OC Community Services. "It is one more action that supports the County's Ten-Year Plan to End Homelessness."

For further information on the Armory Emergency Shelter Program, please contact Mercy House at (714) 836-7188 ext. 131.

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Attachments: 2011-2012 Program Summary  
Armory Wish List



*We help people find their way back home.*

## **Orange County Emergency Shelter Program 2011 - 2012**

### **PROGRAM SUMMARY:**

The Orange County Armory Emergency Shelter program provides up to 400 beds per night for the homeless at the National Guard Armories in Fullerton and Santa Ana. The homeless will receive a nutritious meal, a warm shower and a safe place to sleep. Volunteers will pass out donations of warm clothing and service providers from Orange County will be onsite to provide needed services.

**DATES:** The opening date is:

December 1, 2011 for Fullerton

December 3, 2011 for Santa Ana

### **ARMORY LOCATIONS:**

Santa Ana Armory – 612 East Warner (Warner / Main)

Fullerton Armory – 400 South Brookhurst (Brookhurst / Valencia)

### **BUS PICK UP LOCATIONS: (There will be pick-up at these sites on dark nights)**

#### **Fullerton:**

Pick Up # 1 5:00PM

N. La Palma Park Way & Harbor, Anaheim

On North La Palma Park Way between 6th Street, Santa Ana

Harbor and Homer (Northwest Side of Park)

#### **Santa Ana:**

Pick-Up # 1 5:00PM

Flower & Civic Center - near

6th Street, Santa Ana

Pick Up # 2 5:30PM

Orange County Rescue Mission

1901 W. Walnut, Santa Ana

### **DARK NIGHTS & ALTERNATE SITES:**

The National Guard Armories are not available for use a few nights per month. On these "dark nights," clients will be sheltered at alternate sites.

**For more information, please contact:**

**Armory Emergency Shelter Info. (714) 836-7188 ext. 131**

**James Brooks at (714) 836-7188 ext. 107 or [jamesb@mercyhouse.net](mailto:jamesb@mercyhouse.net)**

**Austin Drissen at (714) 836-7188 ext. 105 or [austind@mercyhouse.net](mailto:austind@mercyhouse.net)**



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## ARMORY Wish List

Mercy House is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization whose mission is to be the leader in ending homelessness by providing a unique system of dignified housing alternatives, programs, and supportive services.

**The Armory program provides up to 400 beds per night for the homeless in Fullerton and Santa Ana.**

### For Individuals & Families:

#### **HYGIENE SUPPLIES**

- Shampoo & Conditioner
- Soap
- Laundry Detergent
- Deodorant
- Purell
- Diapers (4-6)
- Pull-ups
- Baby Wipes
- Razors & Shaving Cream
- Cologne
- Combs & Hair Brushes
- Toothbrush & Toothpaste
- Dental Floss & Mouthwash
- Band Aids
- Body Lotion
- Feminine Hygiene Products

#### **MISC**

- Gift Cards – Walmart, Kohls, Target, Ralph's/Food for Less, Payless

#### **CLOTHING**

- T-Shirts (L, XL, XXL)
- Sweatshirts (L, XL, XXL)
- Socks
- New Undergarments (in packaging)
- Gloves
- Mittens
- Warm Clothing (men, women & children sizes)

#### **FOOD**

- Snack Foods
- Dry Foods
- Muffins
- Donuts
- Cookies
- Health Bars
- Candy
- Popcorn
- Peanuts
- Sack Lunches/Breakfast

#### **Make an In-Kind Donation through Dollar Days**

DollarDays is an online wholesale distributor that allows you to donate to the Armory Emergency Shelter by directly purchasing items that are on our wish list, at bulk and wholesale prices.

We have chosen items we are in need of, and you can simply purchase them online, and they are sent directly to our shelters.

[www.dollardays.com/mharmory/wishlist.html](http://www.dollardays.com/mharmory/wishlist.html)

#### **Charitable Donations**

Charitable cash donations help to support the operations and services at the Armory Emergency Shelters.

To make a donation, please send a check to:  
Mercy House  
PO BOX 1905, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Or visit our website, [www.mercyhouse.net](http://www.mercyhouse.net), to make a secure online donation.