



Mission and History of the Arlington Life Shelter

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Mission

The Arlington Life Shelter provides shelter and support services to help our neighbors who are homeless integrate into society and become self-sufficient, thriving contributors to the community.

What Sets Us Apart

The Arlington Life Shelter is the only shelter in the DFW area with a work requirement for residents receiving more than emergency shelter. In 2012, the shelter served 800+ homeless men, women and children with an average length of stay of 9 weeks. Remarkably, 80% of program participants are currently employed in full-time positions



History

- **1987** - Cold weather shelter begun at First Presbyterian Church by concerned citizens
- **1987** - Agency led entirely by volunteers and 13 faith communities
- **1987** - Evening education program begun
- **1988** - Current Division Street facility opens Christmas Eve
- **1988** - Mayor Richard Greene assists with facility renovation
- **1989** - Non-profit status granted
- **1990** - First professional staff member hired
- **1991** - Recipient of Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service
- **1993** - Facility's mortgage retired
- **1994** - Recipient of Hope Award for exemplary service to the homeless
- **1994** - Shelter capacity doubled to 87
- **1994** - Employment program begun
- **1997** - Transitional housing program begun
- **1998** - Substance abuse and mental health programs begun
- **1998** - Children's program begun
- **1999** - Project Link Welfare to Work pilot program begun for the Arlington area
- **2000** - Recognized as Charter Member of UTA Service Learning Center
- **2000** - Each Baby Counts March of Dimes program begun
- **2001** - Agency name *Arlington Night Shelter* changed to *Arlington Life Shelter* to better reflect the agency's mission
- **2001** - Telepsychiatry program begun for persons with major mental illness
- **2002** - PALS (Partners of the Arlington Life Shelter) Auxiliary formed
- **2006** - Recipient of Bank of America Neighborhood Excellence Award
- **2008** - Outreach services for the unsheltered chronic homeless piloted
- **2009** - Therapeutic arts program begun
- **2012** - Major facility renovation made possible by the Joe Barton Family Foundation

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Contact Us

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Newsletter

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