North County Shelters
November 2026

Escondido Family Shelter (Interfaith Community Services)

Who do you serve? Families consisting of at least one child under the age of 18 years old or families will a disabled dependent adult child.

What are your eligibility requirements? There are no specific requirements; however, families must meet the family description mentioned in question 1.

What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer someone directly? *Referral Process*- individuals may self-refer by call our main office 760-489-6380 or a service provider may email a referral to familyshelterinquiries@interfaithservices.org

Intakes- An over the phone screening is conducted, families are then placed on the interest list, when a room (meeting their family size need) becomes available the team will contact the family for an in-person final screening and completion of agency intake paperwork. They are expected to move-in to the program on the date of the in-person screening and paperwork signage.

What documentation is required? There are no specific documents requested to enter the program; however, once in the program the team will request copies of I.D.s, birth certificates, school enrollment, health insurance, etc. for the purpose of being able to support the family prepare for housing.

What is your current availability, and how can someone check for openings? Someone can contact the main office at 760-489-6380 and request to speak with the Family Shelter site.

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? Yes, we do not serve families with recent DV due to ensuring the family is able to access and enter a program suited to support DV needs. We do not serve families that do not have children under the age of 18 years old or families who consist of all adults in the household.

What services and support do you provide? We offer mental health services and case management services. Both services focus on the well-being of each family. The supports offered can vary depending on the family's need and resources available within the agency. Additional services that can be obtained outside of Interfaith are also part of what the case manager will focus on.

Solutions for Change

Who do you serve? We serve families

What are your eligibility requirements? Adults must have a minor child and have at least 50% custody. Must be able to work legally in the state of California. Must be clean and sober. If there has been recent use, they must complete a 90-day inpatient program. If there is a mental health diagnosis and they are prescribed medication, they take it as prescribed.

What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer someone directly? Applicants can either apply in person or online at **www.solutionsforchange.org.** Outreach workers can follow up with the intake coordinator to identify as a referral.

What documentation is required? *Not all of these documents need to be turned in prior to intake. Some will be procured after they come into the program*

- Birth Certificates and Social Security cards **for all family members**
- Valid California Identification Card/ Driver's License
- Mental Health Assessment and Diagnosis ****MUST DO****
- Proof of Diploma or GED
- Physical Health Examination **for every member of family**
- Up-to-date Children's Vaccinations
- Negative TB test **(within 3 months) for every member of household over the age of 5yo.**
- Cal-Works/EBT/UI/Disability or other proof of income
- Childcare secured
- Ability to have open schedule between 8:00am -4:30pm, M-F; No exceptions.
- Release of Information (ROI's) signed for **all** outside service providers.
- Completed autobiography **(minimum 8 pages)**
- Car Insurance-**If Applicable**
- Car Registration**-If Applicable**

What is your current availability, and how can someone check for openings? We currently have a waitlist and bring families in when there is an opening. Applicants will be prioritized based on eligibility and referral.

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? We are unable to accept people who are on disability, as we are a workforce program. There are certain mental health diagnoses that we are unable to support due to the peer-to-peer coaching nature of our program. We do not have clinical staff and outsource our mental health treatment.

What services and support do you provide? This is very brief overview of the program**.** We are a 700-day academy that focuses on economic mobility and personal development. Families will spend the first 30-60 days in our communal living center. This period of time is designed for them to address childcare, appointments, and establish care in the area. When there is an opening in one of our 32 transitional living apartments, the family will move and lease their own apartment. During this time, they are participating in personal and professional development through classes, workforce training, and 12 step recovery activities. The next phase is job search/vocational training. They are actively working on their career path prior to this phase and are now implementing it. The families will continue to do workshops and continued self-development while working on obtaining outside housing before graduation.

Is there anything else outreach workers and service providers should know when referring someone to your shelter? Families should be somewhat stable as the structure of the program is intense and we don't provide permanent supportive housing.

Vista Safe Parking Program

Who do you serve? The Vista Safe Parking Program serves individuals and families experiencing homelessness from all walks of life.

What are your eligibility requirements?
Participants must:

- Have a functioning and operable vehicle
- Be experiencing homelessness
- Be able to independently complete activities of daily living
- Have no active warrants
- Not be listed on a sex offender registry
- Be willing to work toward ending their homelessness

What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer someone directly? Prospective participants can contact our intake line for initial screening. Outreach workers and service providers may also reach out directly to either Stephanie McDonald: **stephanieo@jfssd.org** or Jesse Mendez: **jessem@jfssd.org** regarding referrals.

What documentation is required?
Preferred documentation includes:

- Government-issued photo identification (Driver's License, Passport, State ID, etc.)
- For households with children: birth certificates and, when applicable, custody documentation
- We also offer a Clear to Stay process, which provides participants up to 10 business days to obtain required documentation if they do not have it available at intake.

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? At this time, we are unable to serve individuals who require assistance with activities of daily living, as providing that level of care is outside the scope of our program and staff capacity.

What services and support do you provide? Participants have access to a variety of supportive services and resources, including:

- Case management and housing navigation
- Commodity bags
- Everytable meals
- Clothing
- Toiletries
- Shower access
- Auto repair assistance
- Gas cards
- Move-in furniture assistance
- First month's rent and/or security deposit assistance, when eligible

Is there anything else outreach workers and service providers should know when referring someone to your program? We welcome participants with pets and strive to reduce barriers to accessing services whenever possible.

Interfaith Shelter Network: Winter Rotational Shelter

The Interfaith Emergency Shelter Network serves North County with temporary shelter during the winter months. Called ISN this shelter rotates among faith communities that each host guest for two weeks.

Who do you serve? Individuals and families experiencing situational homelessness. Situational homelessness refers to individuals or families who temporarily lack stable housing due to a specific crisis such as job loss, medical emergencies, domestic abuse, or natural disasters, and whose housing instability can be resolved as that situation is addressed. Clients are encouraged to call for screening if they are unsure they meet the situational homelessness requirement.

What are your eligibility requirements?

Must meet the following:

Clients are Situationally Homeless (recently homeless due to a specific crisis such as job loss, medical emergencies, loss of loved ones, financial difficulties, domestic abuse, or natural disasters, and whose housing instability can be resolved as that situation is addressed) OR people experiencing chronic homelessness who have been approved for housing but are waiting on moving in.

• Clients are free from Severe Mental Illness

• Clients are free from current substance use

• Clients are able to perform Activities of Daily Living

•Clients are willing to abide by the program structure

• Clients are willing to live with 11 other people

• Clients are willing to cooperate with congregational volunteers and follow shelter rules

• Clients are not registered as a sex offender or arsonist

• Clients do not have active arrest warrants

• No animals/service pets

What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer someone directly? Potential clients can call 211, ISN, or our assigned case managers for an intake. Case managers will vet potential clients and if they meet the criteria and there is availability, will make the referral to the shelter. Outreach workers may make a referral but the potential client needs to eventually call to set up a time for the intake. No clients can come into shelter without being vetted by one of our case managers. We do not accept walk ins.

What documentation is required? None.

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? Individuals who need a place of higher care due to addiction, severe mental health illness, or a medical condition. Individuals who are registered as sex offenders or arsonists and who have active warrants.

What services and support do you provide? Once residents are in shelter they receive case management services, referrals to stable housing, gas vouchers, or bus passes, overnight shelter, three meals per day, and access to laundry showers, and the internet. They also receive job and career readiness training.

La Posada (Carlsbad)

Who do you serve? Single adult males

What are your eligibility requirements?

- Male or male identifying only ages 18+
- Must express interest in ending homelessness
- North County priority
- Must be able to complete their ADL's
- 90-day program duration extensions contingent based upon engagement.
- What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer someone directly?
- Exclusively through the Shelter Ready App
- Referrals are submitted by outreach workers via the app
- Caseworkers connected to HMIS manage intake through the Shelter ready App.

What documentation is required? Outreach workers with access to Shelter Ready have all the required documentation needed to refer clients to La Posada. Individuals must be connected with one of these agencies in order to access Shelter Ready and submit an accurate referral.

How can someone check for openings? They are able to check for opening on shelter ready app * Monday -Thursday if there isn't any posted we don't have any availability to do more intakes that day.

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? Women and families and individuals convicted of sexual offenses

What services and support do you provide?

- Mailing address
- Medical referrals to local health providers
- Job referrals and assistance with employments leads
- Case Management
- Toiletries for personal hygiene
- Housing navigation (applications, referrals, budgeting, touring etc.)

Is there anything else outreach workers and service providers should know when referring someone to your shelter?

Important to keep in mind: We use the Shelter Ready app for referrals and bed availability. If no beds are listed in the app, it does not necessarily mean we are full. Bed openings are posted based on our current staffing capacity and the number of intakes we are able to complete that day. You are always welcome to call us (760-929-2322) to confirm whether we are truly at capacity or if we are simply limited in the number of intakes we can accommodate.

Please note that all belongings brought into the shelter will be searched for safety purposes. Unless an item is required for medical needs, we do not allow items with wheels, including carts, suitcases, or similar equipment.

It is also important to be fully transparent with potential clients about what the shelter is like and the rules they will be expected to follow while staying here.

Operation Hope North County (Vista)

Who do you serve? Operation HOPE-North County serves families with children and single adult women experiencing homelessness throughout North San Diego County. Our year-round shelter offers 12 private rooms with a total capacity of 45 beds. Our private-room model allows families to remain together in a safe, supportive environment while working toward permanent housing and long-term stability.

What are your eligibility requirements? Operation HOPE-North County operates a structured, sober-living shelter program. Applicants must:

- Be a family with children or a single adult woman experiencing homelessness.
- Be willing to maintain sobriety throughout their stay and participate in drug and alcohol screening.
- Complete a background check as part of the eligibility process.

- Be willing to participate in case management, goal setting, and programming designed to support housing stability and self-sufficiency.
- Agree to follow shelter policies, community guidelines, and program expectations.

Eligibility is determined through an individualized assessment during the application and intake process. Additional information needed to complete eligibility screening and background checks.Our intake team can clarify specific documentation requirements and discuss individual circumstances with applicants during the screening process.

What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer someone directly? We welcome referrals from outreach workers, social service agencies, hospitals, schools, community organizations, and other service providers. Operation HOPE-North County is also listed on Shelter Ready.

The best first step is to complete our online shelter application at https://operationhopeshelter.org/find-shelter/ . We are also listed on Shelter Ready.

Applications are processed on a first-come, first-served basis according to the original application submission date, subject to eligibility and appropriate room availability.

Outreach workers are encouraged to assist clients in completing the online application as soon as possible to establish their place on our waitlist.

Important: Applicants must check in every 14 days to keep their applications active. They do not need to submit a new application. Instead, they should use the check-in button on our shelter application webpage to confirm they still need shelter.

What documentation is required?

- Documentation requested during the intake process may include:
- Government-issued identification for adult applicants.
- Identification or birth certificates for accompanying children, when available.
- Information about household composition.

- Documentation of income, employment, or public benefits, if applicable.

- Additional information needed to complete eligibility screening and background checks.
- Our intake team can clarify specific documentation requirements and discuss individual circumstances with applicants during the screening process.

How can someone check for openings? Our shelter operates year-round, with 12 private rooms and a total capacity of 45 beds. Availability changes frequently depending on occupancy, household size, and anticipated departures. We currently have 3 available rooms. We maintain a waitlist and process applications on a first-come, first-served basis according to the original application submission date, subject to eligibility and room availability.

The best way to be considered for shelter is to apply online at https://operationhopeshelter.org/find-shelter/

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? Our shelter is specifically designed for families with children and single adult women. We are unable to accommodate single adult men without accompanying children. As a sober-living program, we are not equipped to provide medical detoxification or inpatient substance use treatment. Applicants must be able to comply with our sobriety requirements. We are also not a licensed medical or inpatient psychiatric facility and cannot provide intensive medical supervision or 24-hour clinical care.

We accommodate service animals and emotional support animals but do not accept general household pets. Because we have 12 private rooms, our ability to accommodate larger households depends on available space and room configurations.

What services and support do you provide? Operation HOPE-North County provides comprehensive, trauma-informed services designed to help families and individuals transition from homelessness to stable, permanent housing.

Our services include:

- Safe, year-round shelter: Private rooms for families and single women, along with access to showers, laundry facilities, and communal spaces.

- Individualized case management: Regular meetings with case managers to develop personalized goals, address barriers, and establish pathways toward permanent housing.

- Housing navigation and stabilization: Assistance identifying housing opportunities, preparing for housing transitions, and developing long-term housing stability plans.

- Employment and career readiness: Support with job searches, resumes, interview preparation, and employment-related goals.

- Financial literacy: Budgeting, money management, financial education, and resources to build financial independence.

- Parenting and family support: Parenting education, family-strengthening activities, and connections to community resources.

- Youth enrichment: Our HOPE for Kids program provides structured educational, recreational, creative, and social-emotional learning activities for children.

- Meals and food assistance: Daily meals for shelter residents, along with access to our Pantry of HOPE.

- Life skills and wellness education: Classes addressing healthy relationships, emotional wellness, domestic violence awareness, and practical skills for independent living.

- Community resources and referrals: Connections to legal assistance, behavioral health resources, healthcare providers, and other community-based services.

- Aftercare support: Continued access to certain resources, including our Pantry of HOPE and New Beginnings Boutique, for former residents transitioning into independent housing.

Is there anything else outreach workers and service providers should know when referring someone to your shelter? Operation HOPE-North County is more than an emergency shelter. We provide a structured, supportive environment where residents actively work toward permanent housing, financial stability, and greater self-sufficiency.

We are one of the few year-round shelters in North San Diego County offering private rooms that allow families to remain together. We recognize that homelessness often intersects with domestic violence, financial hardship, unemployment, and other traumatic experiences, and we approach each household with dignity, compassion, and individualized support.

Because our program emphasizes active participation in case management and life-skills programming, it is important that prospective residents understand the expectations and are willing to engage in the process.

For outreach workers, the most important referral information is that applicants should submit their online application as soon as possible and check in every 14 days to remain active on our waitlist. Applicants should not submit duplicate applications. Instead, they should use the check-in feature on our website to confirm their continued need for shelter.

We value partnerships with outreach teams and community service providers and welcome collaboration to help connect eligible individuals and families with safe shelter and the resources they need to rebuild their lives.

Oceanside Navigation Center

Who do you serve? Anyone 18+, the shelter is comprised of 2 separate dorms for men and women.

What are your eligibility requirements? Must be 18+, prioritizes residents of oceanside or strong ties to oceanside, no PC290 or arsonist charges and able to perform all ADL's

What is your intake or referral process? Can outreach workers refer to someone directly? ONC is not a walk-up shelter; clients are referred solely by the City's Social Workers, city staff at community resource centers and libraries, the Oceanside Police Homeless Outreach Team(will soon transitions out and be replaced by the city's Heart team) , and/or the facility operators. Referred clients are placed on a waitlist before being screened by the city's outreach teams for eligibility to ONC as beds open.

What documentation is required? None

How can someone check for openings? Referrals will be contacted by outreach teams as they get near the top of the waitlist.

Are there any populations you are unable to serve or specific limitations we should know about? Anyone who is a minor or unable to perform their ADL's

What services and support do you provide? Shelter, onsite meals, clothing, computer/Wi-Fi access, case management, limited transportation and referrals.

Is there anything else outreach workers and service providers should know when referring someone to your shelter? ONC is a 30-day low barrier congregate shelter with possible extensions based on the clients progress and participation. The Dorms are open with limited separation and bunk beds. Please communicate if referrals require a bottom bunk. Men and Women are housed in separate dorms. Clients are allowed 1 pet and must be kept on leash or in a crate. ONC can provided a crate during the clients stay. ONC's curfew is 8pm, accommodations can be approved by case management, and quite hours are 10pm-6am

Buena Creek Navigation Center (Vista)

This low-barrier, 48-bed facility is located at 2148 S. Santa Fe Avenue, Vista and operated by Retread Housing Services. 48 beds are allocated to the City of Vista and located near the Buena Creek Sprinter Station.

The BCNC provides wrap around case management including meals, housing, and social services to assist Vista residents on their paths to stability.

For Vista residents, please contact the San Diego Rescue Mission at 760.639.6124 to assist in making a referral.