

# GET THE FACTS...

## MYTH

**All panhandlers are poor and have no source of income.**

## FACT

The majority of panhandlers have some source of income. Numerous panhandlers have worked for pay in the last month and/or received income from family or friends. Many receive monthly benefits and/or income from the Social Security Administration, Veterans Administration, Ohio Department of Job and Family Services and other federal, state and local entities.

## MYTH

**Panhandlers have no place to live or sleep.**

## FACT

Panhandlers are often not homeless. For those individuals who are, emergency shelter is available. Some individuals also have the option of living with family or friends.

## MYTH

**Panhandlers have no food and no means to get a meal.**

## FACT

Faith Mission, Holy Family Church, and numerous other organizations provide free meals to individuals who are in need. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are available 365 days of the year.

## MYTH

**Panhandlers use the money they collect for food and shelter.**

## FACT

In most cases, the money collected by panhandlers is used to support a drug, alcohol or gambling addiction.

Please support organizations that are devoted to making a real difference in the lives of those who are struggling. Below is an abbreviated list of area service providers. For a more comprehensive list, call 614-237-6333.

### **Capital Crossroads SID**

**614-228-5718**

**DowntownColumbus.com**

### **Discovery SID**

**614-228-5718**

*Provide outreach services in downtown Columbus to individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.*

### **Columbus Coalition for the Homeless**

**614-228-1342**

**ColumbusHomeless.org**

*Advocates for homeless people in the greater Columbus area.*

### **Faith Mission**

**614-224-6617**

**FaithMissionOfOhio.org**

*Offers temporary, emergency shelter to men and women. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are available free of charge 365 days a year to anyone who is in need.*

### **Friends of the Homeless**

**614-253-2770**

*Provides temporary, emergency shelter to men and women.*

### **Holy Family Church**

**614-461-9444**

**HolyFamilyColumbus.org**

*Operates a food pantry and also provides free meals to the area's hungry and homeless.*

### **The Engagement Center at Maryhaven**

**614-449-1530**

**Maryhaven.com**

*Provides temporary emergency shelter to publicly inebriated homeless men and women. Offers drug and alcohol treatment.*

### **Southeast Inc.**

**614-445-8131**

**SouthEastInc.com**

*Provides mental health and homeless outreach services.*





**pan•han•dle** *verb*  
to stop people on the street  
and ask for money or food

**Aggressive panhandling is illegal.** It involves begging with the intent to intimidate another person into giving money or valuables. If you feel you have been aggressively panhandled, contact the Division of Police immediately.



- No parking lots
- 25 feet of an outdoor patio
- 25 feet of a bank or check-cashing business entrance
- 25 feet of an ATM machine
- A bus shelter and 10 feet beyond its walls
- 20 feet of bus stop sign where no shelter exists
- 25 feet of a drive through window
- 15 feet of a pay telephone
- No right-of-way

ANY verbal panhandling is considered aggressive.

City of Whitehall Code, Chapter 545.13

## **GIVE WISELY.**

### **SERVICE PROVIDERS NEED YOUR HELP**

#### **Give the gift of cash:**

Make tax-deductible donations directly to the non-profit agencies that help people get off the street.

#### **Give the gift of time:**

Take advantage of a rewarding volunteer opportunity at an area service provider.



**IF PEOPLE STOP  
GIVING MONEY  
TO PANHANDLERS,  
PANHANDLING  
WILL STOP!**

**PANHANDLERS  
USE THE  
STRATEGIES  
THAT WORK  
FOR THEM...**

- Playing on your sympathy
- Creating a sense of urgency
- Tugging at your sense of obligation

## **TIPS FOR RESPONDING TO PANHANDLERS**

Walk briskly and confidently;  
keep your head held high.

Politely say "no" or "sorry".

Call 237-6333 to report a  
panhandling in Whitehall.

Call 911 if you feel threatened.