

# BLANKETING TAMPA BAY



SERVING THE HOMELESS OF TAMPA BAY

I USED TO  
BE YOUR  
NEIGHBOR

# BLANKETING TAMPA BAY

## Our Story...

Blanket Tampa Bay was started in 2015 when the church I was attending gave each family \$100 with the idea of doing something good and coming back together in January to talk about what we did and how we used the money. I told my husband I wanted to use the money to buy blankets for the homeless to pass out on Christmas Eve at Trinity Café . We collected 308 blankets.

In 2016 we collected over 800 blankets and became a 501c3. We also started serving at St Peter Claver Church on 1203 N Nebraska Ave every Monday from 7-8 pm where we served about 150 people every week by passing out blankets but also every kind of hygiene product. That's when I met Charles, a homeless man sitting on a bench.

In 2017 I received a call from The New York Yankees for a meeting with Ms. Steinbrenner to honor us for their annual Hope Week. I got to throw out the first pitch of a spring training game, and a team came from NYC to videotape what we do when we serve the homeless on Monday nights. Blanket Tampa Bay received a check for 10K, which supplied us for the rest of the year.

Every year since our humble beginnings, our support from corporate partners has grown through their generosity and commitment to the community. *But the needs of the homeless still outstrip our ability to provide support.*

Won't you join us as a corporate sponsor and associate your name and brand identity with our worthy cause and gain positive media attention? Here's more about Blanket Tampa Bay and our bold vision for the future. Thank you for your generous support!

*Beth Ross*  
[beth@blanketampabay.org](mailto:beth@blanketampabay.org)  
813-300-9277  
[www.blanketampabay.org](http://www.blanketampabay.org)

With Gratitude,  
*Beth Ross*  
Founder and Executive Director  
Blanket Tampa Bay



## SERVING THE HOMELESS OF TAMPA BAY



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## By the Numbers

### The Need



There are an estimated **2400** homeless people in Tampa

13% of the U.S. population is African-American. **40%** of the number of homeless people are African-American

According to a survey by Charles Schwab, **59%** of Americans are one paycheck away from homelessness.

"We rise  
by lifting  
others."

-Robert Ingersoll



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## By the Numbers

### Solutions

**10,925+** blankets for the homeless



**1200** **Humana** blessing bags with personal care essentials

More than **7000** homeless people have been helped by  
**Blanket Tampa Bay**

Our **Urban Rest Stop** will be a permanent solution to homelessness in the Tampa Bay area by providing hygiene and job training resources.

For the Urban Rest Stop to become reality, we require:

**\$75,000** plus land donation for necessary infrastructure

**\$19,200** annual operating expenses



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## What We Do

Besides giving out more than 5,00 blankets every year, these are a few of our other programs. Each and every year, we provide thousands of essentials and hygiene items across the Tampa Bay community, involving people of every age, interest and need.

### Blessing Bags provided by **Humana**

Blessing Bags consist of hygiene essentials that the homeless require, including masks, hand sanitizer, toothpaste and shampoo, feminine products and wipes.



### Clean Socks provided by **BOMBAS**

Clean, well-fitting socks are a vital part of keeping feet healthy. Proper socks provide a simple but important layer of protection between life-threatening hypothermia, infections, cuts and poor circulation.



### Rain Gear

While many of us take shelter during storms for granted, this is a tremendous need for our homeless population. We are always seeking donations of ponchos, tarps and umbrellas.



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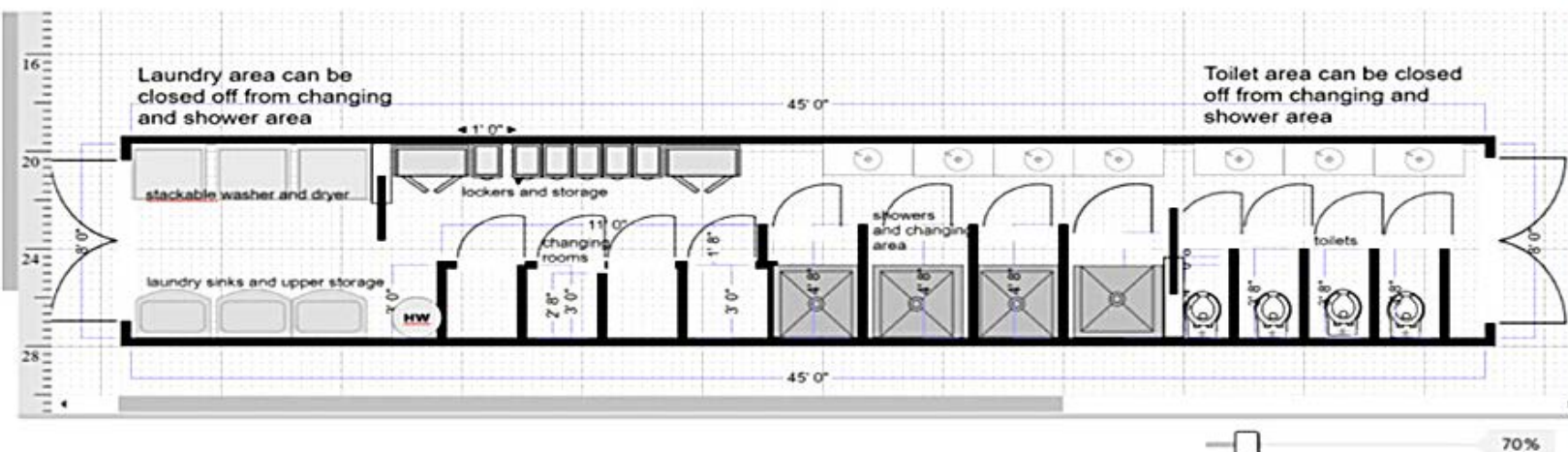


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## Our Vision

*Our vision is to provide a pathway out of homelessness and toward self-sufficiency and prosperity.* The **Urban Rest Stop** is the focus of our vision. It will be the only stand-alone hygiene facility specifically designed to assist homeless persons who are working or need to get a job interview.

Proposed design for an  
URBAN RESTSTOP



KUBED  
LIVING



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## Urban Rest Stop



**Cost estimate: 75K plus land donation**

The **Urban Rest Stop Phase One**- will be designed to serve a wide range of people: men, women, and families with children; youth, senior citizens, and people living on the streets or in shelters. The Urban Rest Stop specifically targets those who are especially disadvantaged, including disabled persons, veterans, and people of color. The facility will also be handicapped accessible.

**Phase Two**- of the Urban Rest Stop program will involve partnerships with staffing companies that will help create resumes for these folks so they can get jobs that match their skills instead of placing them in labor pools.



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## Our Impact

Our corporate sponsors are associated with our important mission to lift people out of homelessness, and their name and brand identity will be part of the media coverage of Blanket Tampa Bay, which is extensive and invariably positive.



**2,356 fans**

**196 followers**



***new  
account!***



**As seen on:**



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# BLANKETING TAMPA BAY

## Our Partners



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## Ways to Sponsor Us

**TITLE SPONSOR- \$100,000-** Naming rights for Urban Rest Stop. Custom activations available. Most prominent logo placement. Volunteer opportunities. News media coverage, Print coverage, Press Releases.

**MAJOR SPONSOR- \$75,000-** Secondary nomenclature on Urban Rest Stop. Custom activations available. Company logo on website with link to sponsor's website. Print Coverage. Volunteer opportunities.

**SUPPORTING SPONSOR- \$50,000-** Corporate logo displayed on all marketing materials and on website with link to sponsor's website. Custom activations available. Volunteer opportunities.

**SPONSOR- \$25,000-** Entry level engagement as a sponsor. Corporate logo displayed on website with link to sponsor's website. Volunteer opportunities.



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## Charles' Story

"I found Charles alone on a bus bench. A bus was unloading as I parked, and I watched as the people hurried past him, purposefully not making eye contact because he was a "bum." With my arms loaded with blankets, water, and snacks, I knew I could provide more than material things, I could give him a connection. After seeing him there two days in a row, unmoved and unwell, I knew he needed even more.

The next day I called a friend of mine who works with the Sheriff's Department. Charles was sent to St. Joseph's Hospital where they discovered he was suffering from a broken hip and kidney failure. Doctors quickly repaired his hip and worked to restore his kidney function. He spent several weeks in the hospital before going to a rehab facility.

His caregivers learned that Charles had worked for the Pinellas County Schools for more than 30 years and had accumulated a hard-earned pension. Social workers helped Charles file for his retirement and Social Security, and now he lives on his own in a warm, safe apartment.

Doctors said if we had not found Charles when we did, he would have died on that bench." - Beth Ross



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