



*Dorothy Day
1897-1980*

*Do not neglect
to show hospitality
for by that means
some have
entertained angels
without knowing it.*

Hebrews 13:1-2



At, Dorothy Day, we are a community
of people who care about our brothers and
sisters by providing love, compassion and rest.
We provide rest in the form of a shelter and
love and compassion in the way we welcome
those in need.

Give us just one night a month and the rewards
will last a lifetime.


*Dorothy
Day
Hospitality House*



How you can help...

How great is the need?

The facts are clear. The economy is unpredictable and the cost of living continues to escalate — forcing more and more of the lower income population into poverty. The supply of affordable housing in the Danbury area is shrinking, as almost all replacement and new housing development is targeted to upper income homeowners. The result is that people are forced to live on the streets in one of the most affluent counties in the United States.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House was born out of this rising need for basic food and shelter. Established in 1982, the operation is modeled after the Houses of Hospitality which were organized by Dorothy Day across the United States during the Great Depression. True to the philosophy of Dorothy Day, anyone who appears at the door is welcomed as a *guest* with no

questions asked about their need for food or lodging.



How you can help...

All the work done at Dorothy Day Hospitality House is provided by a large group of volunteers. It is these individuals who provide the extra dimension of *hospitality* that extends beyond the basics of food and shelter. The shelter has relied on some of the same volunteers for many years. That's why the need for new help is greater than ever.

Dorothy Day Hospitality House provides a bed for 16 men and women 365 days a year. We are filled most nights, and have a particularly urgent need for volunteers (preferably men) to spend the night at the shelter.

What's involved:

- Arrive at 9 pm when the shelter opens. An experienced volunteer coordinator will be present to check guests in and assign beds
- Help coordinator settle guests in
- Lights out around 10 pm. The coordinator leaves and you are in charge
- Run laundry for guests
- Catch a few hours sleep — a bed is saved for you
- Turn on lights at 5:30 am
- Get guests up and moving
- Serve coffee to guests as they depart
- Quick cleanup — 5 minutes
- Leave by 6:15 am so guests (and you) can get to work



Can you give a little bit of yourself and your time?
You really will make a difference in people's lives.

How is it funded?

Dorothy Day Hospitality House is not a social service agency, and does not solicit funds from local, state or national government agencies. About half of the necessary food and supplies are donated; the remainder and other expenses must be covered by cash donations from individuals, churches, corporations and other community organizations. Although funding is important, it's the generosity of volunteerism that brings this cause to life.



I'd like to find out more

This is challenging, but rewarding work. If you are thinking about giving it a try, please call one of our shelter coordinators for more information.

Joe Simons 203-746-7189 (evenings)
Paul Hines 203-792-7494

The shelter is located at 11 Spring Street behind our soup kitchen in Danbury, Connecticut.