

Durham's strategy on panhandling

- Provide a positive alternative to giving spare change
- Offer assistance through established neighborhood agencies
- Recognize that the problems of homelessness and panhandling are not necessarily related
- Protect the public from aggressive panhandling

Project partners

Downtown Durham, Inc
Durham Businesses Against Crime
Durham Congregations in Action
Durham Convention and Visitors Bureau
Durham County Sheriff's Office
Durham Police Department
Durham Regional Association of Realtors
Durham Rescue Mission
Forest Hills Neighborhood Association, Inc
Housing for New Hope
Ninth Street Neighbors
Seagroves Realty
Urban Ministries

www.CanYouSpareAChange.org

Let your generosity be a part of the solution

Our mission is to educate our community on giving, sharing, donating, and to think of more effective ways to improve our programs and care for our homeless.

We encourage citizens to donate their time and money to local organizations that offer services including meals, shelter, job training, rehabilitation, mental health, and health care.

More Information on INC can be found at
www.InterNeighborhoodCouncil.org



Durham,
can you
spare a
change?

Durham,
Ensure your **generosity**
can you
is part of the **solution**
spare a
not adding to the **problem**
change?



Campaign of the

InterNeighborhood Council
of DURHAM 

InterNeighborhood Council
of DURHAM 

Support alternatives to giving cash to panhandlers

The InterNeighborhood Council of Durham (INC) has developed the “Durham, Can you Spare a Change?” campaign to encourage people to support alternatives to giving cash directly to panhandlers. INC suggests **redirecting** spare change to agencies in our community that provide food, shelter, and mental health services to individuals in crisis.



How the campaign developed

INC interviewed the directors of local homelessness and substance abuse agencies and found that they overwhelmingly prefer people to donate time or money to local organizations that offer services, such as meals, shelter, job training, rehabilitation, and mental health support, instead of giving money directly to panhandlers. Many of the service agencies, and the recipients of their services, are certain that money given to individuals on the street rarely goes toward the services listed above. Yet, these are the services most people who share money with panhandlers would like to think they are supporting.

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Panhandling is not illegal, but the City of Durham has ordinances that set limits on soliciting money. These ordinances strike a balance between public safety and the freedom of Durham’s public spaces. Aggressive panhandling or threatening behavior is never acceptable. Panhandlers have the right to ask you for money, but never the right to threaten or harass you.

donate time or money to local organizations that offer services, such as meals, shelter, job training, rehabilitation, and mental health support

Change for the better

There are struggling citizens in our community. We can play an integral part in improving their lives and enriching our own. We must ensure our generosity is part of the solution, and not adding to the problem. The community must take responsibility for how its charitable dollars are used.

Have questions, want to help, or ready to contribute?

Would you like to learn more about *Durham, Can You Spare a Change?*, volunteer your time toward the campaign, or contribute to this InterNeighborhood Council effort so we can print more of these brochures?

For more Information and Resources: www.CanYouSpareAChange.org

Real Change, Not Just Spare Change.

May we suggest . . .

Ways you can help

- Volunteer your time at a shelter or soup kitchen
- Bring food, clothing, or toys to a shelter in Durham
- Urge your faith-based or other organization to donate space or resources to provide solutions

