

## LOCAL SERVICE AGENCIES

### H.E.L.P. Inc.

*Non-profit organization that ministers to the dignity and needs of the people in Hampton Roads*  
P.O. Box 190, Hampton, VA 23669  
757.723.2242 | [www.helpushelpu.org](http://www.helpushelpu.org)

### LINK of Hampton Roads

*Non-profit organization with a vision to break the cycle of poverty*  
1043 Warwick Blvd., Newport News, VA 23601  
757.595.1953 | [www.linkhr.org](http://www.linkhr.org)

### Menchville House

*An emergency housing facility for homeless families*  
P.O. Box 22687, Newport News, VA 23609  
757.833.5980 | [www.menchvillehouse.com](http://www.menchvillehouse.com)

### National Alliance on Mental Illness

*National grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for Americans affected by mental illness*  
281 Independence Blvd., Building 414, Virginia Beach, VA 23462  
757.499.2041 | [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

### Salvation Army

*Organization which strives to assist those in need with housing, utilities, food, after school child care and youth camp opportunities*  
1033 Big Bethel Road, Hampton, VA 23666  
757.838.4875 | [www.virginiasalvationarmy.org/hamptonva](http://www.virginiasalvationarmy.org/hamptonva)

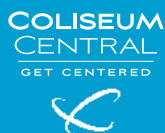
### Virginia Peninsula Foodbank

*Provides food to people who live on the Peninsula, who would otherwise go hungry*  
2401 Aluminum Avenue, Hampton, VA 23661  
757.596.7188 | [www.hrfoodbank.org](http://www.hrfoodbank.org)

## NATIONAL SERVICE AGENCIES

### Wounded Warrior Project

*National organization which provides direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members*  
P.O. Box 758517, Topeka, Kansas 66675  
855.448.3997 | [www.woundedwarriorproject.org](http://www.woundedwarriorproject.org)



4410 East Claiborne Square, Suite 211  
Hampton, VA 23666  
[www.coliseumcentral.com](http://www.coliseumcentral.com)  
phone 757.826.6351

WANT CHANGE?  
GIVE RESPONSIBLY.



COLISEUM CENTRAL



HELPING HANDS  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE.



## Panhandling and the Larger Problem

Panhandling is defined as the act of approaching strangers to beg for money and food. Like many communities around the country, Coliseum Central is home to panhandlers requesting money or other resources from the community at large. Perhaps you've even encountered a panhandler in or near your business. The issue of panhandling is complex and multi-faceted – it encompasses financial, economic and societal issues among many others. When approached by a panhandler, your immediate response may be to give to the person requesting assistance. For a number of reasons, this may not be the best approach to get to the root of the issue and, though it may seem counterintuitive, it may make matters worse. The good news is that local charities provide an abundance of services including food, shelter, healthcare and skill-set training. The last page of this brochure will highlight a few local and national agencies whose mission is to help those in need. Additionally, we will address how your business and employees can effectively respond to panhandlers.

## WHAT YOUR BUSINESS CAN DO TO HELP THE HOMELESS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Your business can best help the homeless in our community by partnering with a local service agency! These organizations have the resources and connections in place to make your monetary contributions and/or volunteer efforts stretch farther than what can be accomplished by giving to an individual.

Additional benefits of working with a local service agency include:

- Guidance from expert staff trained to handle the unique challenges of this complex issue
- Increasing the safety of your employees by removing them from potentially threatening situations involving aggressive panhandlers
- Maintaining a comfortable atmosphere for your customers. Your customers may feel uncomfortable being approached by strangers and, as a result, may choose not to frequent your business if panhandling is an issue. By working with a local service agency, you are helping your community and maintaining an environment in which your customers can be relaxed

## How to Respond to Panhandlers

### As a Business:

- Contact your property manager regarding any concerns
- Complete a Hampton Police Division "Trespass Letter of Authorization" which will serve to ban an individual from your property. Visit [coliseumcentral.com/prog.html](http://coliseumcentral.com/prog.html) for a link to complete a "Trespass Letter of Authorization"
- Politely decline if solicitations are requested
- Call the Hampton Police Division non-emergency line 727-6111
- Call 911 if you feel threatened

### As an Individual:

- Politely say "no" or "sorry"
- Walk briskly and confidently
- Call the Hampton Police Division non-emergency line 727-6111
- Call 911 if you feel threatened