



# Do **YOU** know The Shortest Way Home?

Community Engagement Committee

May 20, 2014

# The Shortest Way Home

- Homelessness Commission charge:  
*“To promote and encourage community participation in efforts to end homelessness”*
- Campaign was designed to dispel myths about homelessness and encourage community participation through volunteerism, donations, and support

*directions***home.org**



# Guerrilla Art



# Street Teams & Bus Ads





Directions Home

Posted by Marguerite Jones [?] · February 22 · Edited

CM Joel Burns racin' the 10K and rockin' a Team Home Run shirt!  
www.TeamHomeRun.org — with Joel Burns and Marguerite Jones  
at The Cowtown Marathon.



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63

1,849 people saw this post

Boost Post

# Website & Social Media

directions home   
The shortest way home.

About Us | Myths & Facts



Be the key! [Get Involved](#)

Welcome to the website of Directions Home – a plan to end chronic homelessness in Fort Worth, Texas. This plan is based on a simple fact: giving people a place to call home is the first step in addressing the issue. The "Housing First" approach is better for the person who was homeless, better for neighborhoods affected by homelessness and better for the entire community. It's also less expensive than other approaches. Using the Housing First approach, Directions Home has helped more than 1,200 people in Fort Worth find their way home in the last five years.

Spend some time on our website and learn more about Directions Home. Then, consider helping our efforts by donating or volunteering.



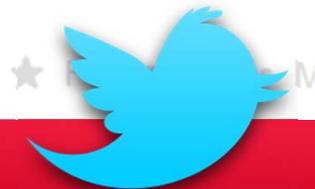
**509** Constant Contact Subscribers  
**343** Facebook Likes  
**68** Team Home Run Members



Directions Home @DirectionsHome · Mar 16

Bertha Collins WILL be opened at 8:00 PM as an emergency shelter for the homeless this evening. Need shelter? Call 2-1-1.

facebook



# Team Home Run

68 Team Home Run Members



## Run • Walk • Cheer

About once a month, a group of volunteers participate in designated fun runs and family walks wearing Team Home Run shirts.

The group helps to support Directions Home partner agencies and raises awareness about ending homelessness in greater Fort Worth.

There are no funds to be raised or a minimum or maximum number of events that you must attend. Team Home Run is a healthy and visible way to show your support for ending homelessness in Fort Worth.

[www.TeamHomeRun.org](http://www.TeamHomeRun.org)

directionshome



Sponsored by  
**FORT WORTH  
RUNNING**



# Team Home Run



## 1. Get a t-shirt.

[www.TeamHomeRun.org](http://www.TeamHomeRun.org)

## 2. Attend Designated Events.

A list is on our website; your participation supports our partner agencies

## 3. Run/Walk/Cheer wearing your t-shirt.

Represent! Raise your heart rate and awareness

## 4. Feel good, look great.

You've taken steps for a healthier community

Upcoming  
Events



# Geocache, Clean for a Cause, Partner Agency Drive

- **Geocaching Event** using GPS on National Scavenger Hunt Day
  - Caches included donations and prizes
- **Clean for a Cause** by selling unwanted goods anytime through May and donate proceeds to Directions Home partner agencies
- **Partner Agency Drives** donate to Agencies' Wish Lists (e.g. toiletries, socks, undergarments)

Table talk: A salute to Thanksgiving traditions  
 Cozy fashion proves easy does it  
 Order up: Food gifts with a Texas twist  
 The past is present in the Riviera Maya

# 360 West

A FULL-CIRCLE VIEW OF WHERE WE LIVE



Renzo Piano's glass-and-concrete pavilion shines a new light on the Kimbell Art Museum

## A Balancing Act

360 West Magazine - November 2013  
 \$3.95 November 2013  
 1 74470 25490 4



# Paracord Bracelets

360 West Magazine - November 2013

## Community Service

### Healing & Helping



Veterans Tamara Fullerton and Carla Ferguson both work in the Compensated Work Therapy program at Veterans Industries in Fort Worth; they proved to be better than the guys at sewing bracelets, and were hired for the project.

*They were once homeless. Now two veterans are trying to help others who still feel the pain and loneliness of living on the street. It's all in a day's work at Veterans Industries.*

*By Laura Samuel Meys Photos by Jill Johnson*

"We don't leave our wounded behind." It's a commitment that was very real to John Purkey during his Army service, and it remains his mantra now as program manager at Veterans Industries in Fort Worth. Besides physical wounds, many veterans returning from deployment struggle with post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), others suffer from mental illness, depression, substance abuse and sometimes just bad luck. These barriers make it difficult to get a job and can lead to homelessness. Not leaving these wounded behind means creating a game plan to address their issues, connect them to services and, ultimately, get them back to work.

At Veterans Industries, Compensated Work Therapy (CWT) gives struggling veterans a chance to work alongside those who've faced the same challenges. They also earn a modest paycheck and begin to rebuild a resume. For the homeless, there's a donated washer and dryer and a shower for cleaning up. While Veterans Industries will very gladly accept coats, hats and gloves for clients as winter approaches, what they'd most love to give them is work. "We need employers who will give them a chance," says John.

Otis Thornton, the homelessness program director for the City of Fort Worth, went to John earlier this year with a CWT project in mind: He wanted to produce red paracord bracelets to spread the word about Directions Home, the city's 10-year



Tamara models one of the bracelets she made for Directions Home.

SAVE THE  
DATE

# HOMELESS CONNECT 2014

*A one-day, one-stop service and hospitality fair  
for people who are homeless*

Thursday, April 3, 2014  
9:00 AM until 1:00 PM

First Presbyterian Church  
1000 Penn Street  
Fort Worth, Texas 76102

[directionshome.org](http://directionshome.org) 



Many thanks to our sponsors!



**LIVE UNITED**

# *directions home*

*The shortest way home.*

