

**Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center
14945 Jefferson Davis Highway
Woodbridge, VA 22191
703-680-5403**

History of the Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center & the Cooperative Council of Ministries

In 1987 five churches began the Prince William County Homeless Program.

Homeless people were first housed in churches, on a rotating basis, staffed by volunteers. Then in 1990 the Cooperative Council of Ministries partnered with Prince William County and Volunteers of America to open the first Homeless Prevention Center in the County. Nine years later our current Hilda Barg Homeless Prevention Center was constructed at 14945 Jeff Davis Highway.

Today the Cooperative Council of Ministries continues to coordinate with partners, including churches, civic groups, businesses and other individuals and organizations to provide meals at the Center three times every day throughout the year.

If you and/or your organization would like to participate, please visit the Contact Us page in this website and give us a call or send us an email.

St Francis of Assisi Parish provides meals for The Hilda Barg Shelter twice a year. One week in the summer and one week in the winter.

**Bill Mehr Drop-In Center
14730 Potomac Mills Road
Woodbridge, VA 22191
703-897-0199**

History of the Bill Mehr Drop-In Center & the Cooperative Council of Ministries

The Bill Mehr Drop-in Center opened on May 6, 2002, with one employee, and several volunteers. Bill Mehr (1954-2010) was the leader of the effort. He spent much of his time at the Center and in the surrounding woods. He also worked with the police department, hospital and transportation companies. After a pilot period the Center was closed for evaluation on March 31, 2003 and Bill prepared a report for the Prince William County Department of Social Services, including accomplishments and recommendations for a permanent Drop-in Center. The Department of Social Services then recommended that the Cooperative Council of Ministries operate a permanent Drop-in Center at the site of the Prince William County Winter Shelter.

On June 24, 2003 the Prince William County Board of County Supervisors approved Resolution 03-556, establishing a permanent Drop In Center with the understanding that the Cooperative Council of Ministries (working with it's independent 501c(3) affiliate Servants at Work) would pay for staffing, supplies, laundry, and part of the utilities. Today this costs almost \$50,000 per year.

Hours of Operation

Monday: 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

Tuesday: 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Wednesday: 1:00 pm - 6:00 pm

Thursday: 7:00 am - 12:00 pm

Friday: 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Saturday: 7:00 am to 10:00 am

Sunday: CLOSED

Services

Showers
Hot Meals
Counseling
GED Classes
Religious Education
Referrals for Health Care Services
Job Readiness Training
Computer Access
Case Management Services

St Francis of Assisi Parish provides meals for The Bill-Mehr Drop in Shelter all year around. Breakfast every Saturday from April 1st to October 31st. Dinners every Saturday from November 1st to March 30th.