



Building Redevelopment F.A.Q.s



When is this occurring?

We will vacate our current building around late Spring 2018. We anticipate moving back home approximately 24 months later.

Why are you redeveloping?

The decision to redevelop was made after careful deliberation by the Board of Directors and staff of Carpenter's Shelter. Rooted in the belief that homelessness is a lack of affordable housing, Carpenter's Shelter works hard to help our residents return to permanent housing in the community. To have a new purpose-built shelter as well as 97 more affordable apartments in the City of Alexandria's housing stock will create a benefit for those served by Carpenter's Shelter.

Where will you go during construction?

We have been given space by the owner of Landmark Mall. We will use the old Macy's space for the duration of the redevelopment.

Will all services continue in the temporary space?

Yes. We are planning to continue all services at their current levels.

What type of security will be at Macy's in Landmark?

Landmark has its own security team, and will increase that team by one staff member due to the extra activity. They patrol the exterior of the mall including the parking lots, as well as the interior. We will continue to have a front door buzz-in system that permits the volunteer at the front desk to verify residency or the nature of the visit by individuals wishing to enter.

What will the kitchen look like? Will I be able to cook a full meal on site?

The temporary space will have a warming station rather than a traditional kitchen. The specifics of the warming station are as-yet unknown, but it is unlikely we will have an oven. It is increasingly unlikely that we will have a stove top. Our known equipment in the temporary space includes microwaves, warming cabinet, two large refrigerators, a freezer, a pantry, sinks to wash dishes, and countertop space for preparing and serving meals.

What will the new building be like?

Carpenter's Shelter's current facility will be torn down and in its place will be a multi-story building with an underground parking garage. The purpose-built shelter and administrative offices for Carpenter's Shelter will be on the first floor. The upper floors with the 97 affordable rental apartments will be operated by Alexandria Housing Development Corporation. The apartments will range in size from studios to three bedroom units and be available for individuals and families making 40-60% of the area median income.

Will I be able to see the temporary shelter before my first volunteer shift?

Yes! As soon as staff are given the green light to enter the building, our Volunteer Coordinator April will lead open houses. Volunteers will be able to test out the front desk buzzer and phone transfer system; meal providers can see the modified kitchen to determine how it may affect their meal planning; and everyone will be able to see the space in which they will be serving.

What will my volunteer shift look like in the new space? Will my hours change? Will you even need me?

Carpenter's Shelter could not operate without its volunteers. You are integral to our programs and services. Volunteers will continue to cover two meals daily during the week, three meals daily on weekends, front desk duties (door, phone calls, donations), Children's Hour, tutoring & translating, David's Place, Winter Shelter support, and other special projects as needed.

Is there anything I can do to help with the move?

We are so thankful you asked. While we will have professional movers for the day of our move, it will be best if everything is packed and ready to go. Once our moving day is scheduled, our Volunteer Coordinator April will send a request to individual volunteers and groups with the dates, times, and types of tasks to be completed.

OR: Do you have specific ideas for what you can do or skills you can offer?

Contact
AprilShroeder@CarpentersShelter.org

How will residents get to Macy's in Landmark?

Landmark is well served by public buses. Additionally we are considering a shuttle service, particularly for guests of David's Place.

Macy's has multiple entrances. Which will be the entrance to the shelter?

The entrance faces Duke Street. The Macy's sign as removed, but a shadow of the sign exists. The door will be marked as Carpenter's Shelter.



Please contact April Shroeder,
Volunteer Coordinator, at any time:
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