



City of Cambridge  
Department of Human Service Programs  
51 Inman Street, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, 498-9076

EMERGENCY SERVICES FOR THE HOMELESS IN CAMBRIDGE

CAMBRIDGE SHELTERS FOR INDIVIDUALS

WOMEN'S EMERGENCY SHELTER. 40 York Street, Catholic Charities, East Cambridge. 22 beds for women.

CASPAR EMERGENCY SERVICE CENTER. 240 Albany Street, Central Square. Open 24 hours. 55 beds for men and women from Cambridge and Somerville who are actively drinking, homeless alcoholics.

SHELTER, INC. 109 School Street, Central Square. 20 beds for men and women in separate rooms.

YMCA EMERGENCY TRANSITIONAL ROOMS. 820 Massachusetts Avenue, Central Square. 20 beds for men, by referral from MultiService Center only.

FIRST CHURCH SHELTER. 11 Garden Street, Harvard Square. 15 beds for men.

SALVATION ARMY. 402 Massachusetts Avenue, Central Square. 35 beds for men only.

UNIVERSITY LUTHERAN CHURCH. 66 Winthrop Street, Harvard Square. 23 beds for men or women.

SHORTSTOP EMERGENCY SHELTER. 62 Meacham Road, Somerville, Davis Square. For young people ages 8-17.

YOUNG ADULTS TRANSITIONAL LIVING. 3 Bigelow Street, third floor, Central Square. Supervised apartment living for three young persons.

TRANSITION HOUSE (Battered Women's Shelter), call 354-2676 or 661-7203 (hotline). The hotline gives referrals for shelters 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

IF ALL SHELTER BEDS IN CAMBRIDGE ARE FULL, TRANSPORTATION WILL BE PROVIDED TO A SHELTER NEARBY. PHONE: DAY, 864-6340; NIGHT, 547-6703.

DIVISIONS:

Childcare  
498-9076

Community & Youth  
498-9037/9072

Low Income Fuel Assistance  
498-9038

Recreation  
498-9028

Community Learning Center  
547-1589

Council on Aging/Elderly Services  
498-9039

Planning & Development  
498-9076

MultiService Center/Homeless Services  
864-6340

## CAMBRIDGE FAMILY LODGING HOUSES FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES:

### YWCA ADMINISTERED:

BIGELOW HOUSE. 3 Bigelow Street, Central Square. For 5 families.

YWCA, 7 Temple Street, Central Square. For 5 families.

### ST. PAUL A.M.E. CHURCH ADMINISTERED:

HILDEBRAND FAMILY SELF CENTER. 41 Columbia Street (3 family suites) and 39 Bishop Allen Drive (7 family suites), Central Square.

### DAY DROP-IN PROGRAMS FOR THE HOMELESS:

SALVATION ARMY DAYTIME DROP-IN CENTER. 402 Massachusetts Avenue, Central Square. Showers, lunches, emergency clothing and laundry. Men and women.

EMERGENCY SERVICE CENTER. 240 Albany Street, Central Square. For men and women from Cambridge and Somerville who are actively drinking, homeless alcoholics. Lunch and dinner served.

### CHILD CARE PROGRAM FOR HOMELESS CHILDREN:

SALVATION ARMY EMERGENCY CHILD CARE PROGRAM. 402 Massachusetts Avenue, Central Square. Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

### MULTISERVICE CENTER FOR THE HOMELESS (MSC):

19 Brookline, Central Square. The MSC is a program of the City of Cambridge, Department of Human Service Programs. The Department of Human Service Programs provides at the MSC an Emergency Community Caseworker, YMCA Transitional Rooms Caseworkers, the Housing Search Program for families, Elderly Housing Assistance, as well as administrative staff. Services offered by other agencies at the MSC include: the Cambridge Furniture Bank (St. Paul AME Church); a Department of Mental Health social worker; a Shelter, Inc. social worker; and social workers from the Teens in Transition Resource Center (Cambridge Children & Family Services).

### HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS

Offices: Cambridge Hospital, 498-1174

Clinics: Salvation Army - Monday-Friday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. &  
Monday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
240 Albany St. - Monday, 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.  
Wednesday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.  
Thursday, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Dental Clinic Fridays, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m., alternating between the Salvation Army & St. Paul AME Church.  
Call 498-1174.

No insurance or payment needed.

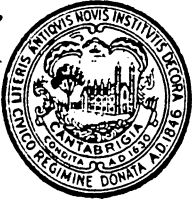
COMMUNITY MEALS IN CAMBRIDGE (All Are Welcome)

LUNCH

- Monday ---- Friday, Salvation Army, 402 Mass. Ave., Central Square,  
12-12:20 p.m.  
Saturday -- Metropolitan Baptist Church, 16 Beech Street, Porter  
Square, noon (open 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.)

DINNER

- Sunday ---- Salvation Army, 4 p.m. (open 3 - 5 p.m.)  
Monday ---- Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church, 146 Hampshire St.,  
6 p.m. (open 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.)  
Tuesday ---- Committee of Elders, 15 Pearl Street, 5:30 p.m.  
First Parish in Cambridge, Unitarian, 3 Church St.,  
Harvard Square, 6 p.m., (open 5:30 - 7:30)  
Wednesday - Committee of Elders, 15 Pearl St., Central Square,  
5:30 p.m.  
Thursday -- Harvard Square Churches Meals Program - 6 p.m., Christ  
Church, Zero Garden St. (open 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.)  
Friday ---- Massachusetts Avenue Baptist Church, 146 Hampshire St.,  
6 p.m.  
(open 5:30 - 8:30)  
Saturday -- Pilgrim Congregational Church, 35 Magazine Street,  
Central Square, 6 p.m. (open 5:30 - 8 p.m.)



CITY OF CAMBRIDGE  
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
City Hall Annex - Inman & Broadway - Cambridge, Mass. 02139

498-9034

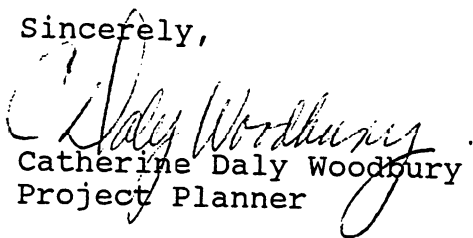
24 October 1990

Carl Barron  
Putnam Furniture, Inc.  
614 Massachusetts Avenue  
Cambridge, MA 02139

Dear Carl:

Enclosed is the information you requested. Please call me if you have any questions or need additional information.

Sincerely,

  
Catherine Daly Woodbury  
Project Planner

Enclosures (2)

## Central Square Advisory Committee

### Meeting Notes

September 12, 1990

**Members Present:** Scott Levitan, Wendy Landman, Cosmo Cremaldi, Carl Barron, Reginald Johnson, Richard Foot, Richard Chipman, George Metzger

**Members Absent:** Frank Pedro, Arnold Goldstein

**Staff:** Catherine Daly Woodbury

**Guests:** Win Poor, CASPAR  
Stephanie Ackert, Human Services Dept.  
Gerry Bergman

C. Woodbury handed out a summary of findings on the economic conditions in Central Square. The findings were compiled by C. Woodbury following an informal interview process which involved contacting several property owners, realtors and leasing agents in Central Square. C. Woodbury also handed out copies of two City Council Orders which were discussed at last Monday nights City Council meeting. C. Barron discussed the orders and their importance for Central Square. One order will provide for the placement of signs in Central Square which identifies the location of public restrooms at City Hall, the Police Station, and the Fire Station at Lafayette Square. The second order provides for a more intensive presence of various city departments, ie. police and public works, and that the City Manager report back to City Council within a month on these actions. The order as approved by the Council stops short of requiring stricter enforcement of vagrancy laws which several councillor felt were wrongly directed at the homeless.

S. Levitan asked C. Barron that the public rest room signs contain the hours which each building is open.

C. Barron asked if the city could look into the issue of signage control and removal of non-conforming signs, specifically Roger's Jewelry and Banes Furniture. C. Woodbury stated that a request is in the city solicitor's office to review the legality of the provision in the Central Square Overlay District which calls for the removal of non-conforming signs when the space adjacent tot he sign is vacant.

G. Metzger called attention to the Committee's original agenda and introduced Stephanie Ackert from the Cambridge Human Services Department. S. Ackert distributed a listing of the Emergency Services for the Homeless in Cambridge and discussed the services which are funded (at least in part) by the city.

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There are approximately 260 shelter beds in the city. This number will vary by season. When asked if Cambridge is seen as an "attractive" place for the homeless due to the services which are provided. S. Ackert stated that Cambridge does attract some outsiders due to the services which are provided in Cambridge. A majority of the services in the city are located in or around Central Square. The Human Services Dept. does not have any good numbers to compare the number of homeless in Cambridge today with previous years. S. Ackert also discussed the likely problem with under representation of the homeless in the 1990 census.

Win Poor is the Program Director at CASPAR. W. Poor gave a brief history of CASPAR. CASPAR opened in November 1979 as a response to a request made by community leaders. The problem has gotten worse over the years due to the lack of affordable housing, deinstitutionalization, and an increase in substance abuse. There seems to be new faces hanging out in Central Square. CASPAR has a strict administrative policy and limits its services to people from Cambridge only. Some shelters receive money from the state welfare department and they usually need to serve whomever comes in. CASPAR has an agreement with the Police Dept. to take in whomever the Police bring to them. When the police are called to pick up a homeless person they bring them to a shelter.

CASPAR believes it needs to be located near Central Square so that it is accessible to the people it serves. To date they have not found an available site to relocate to. MIT is the property owner where the CASPAR facility is located. If and when MIT cancels their lease they will have six months to vacate the premises. W. poor stated that he believes the situation in Central Square will worsen if CASPAR were to disappear. The ideal/preferred location for CASPAR to be located is in Cambridgeport.

CASPAR presently has 45 beds but averages 55 people per night in two trailers. People use 240 Albany Street when they are picked up by the Police so as to avoid being vagrant and many charges are not pursued. The police have dropped off over 2000 people at CASPAR last year instead of placing them in protective custody.

CASPAR is open 24 hours/day. A large number of people are staying in which lightens the load in Central Square and gives the CASPAR councillor an opportunity to work with them. The salvation army also has a day program which attracts people from all over.

W. Poor was asked what business people can do when there is CSAC

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someone lying in their doorway. Call the police and keep calling, the police will bring them to CASPAR. W. Poor also stated that support of CASPAR by the residents, business community and local government will improve the situation in Central Square.

The Community Residence Ordinance was deemed unconstitutional and no longer exists. Central Square presently contains over half of the City's facilities for homeless people. Shelters are not easy to locate and are dependent upon those who will accept them.

The CSAC members agreed that it would be advantageous if groups throughout the City would adopt a policy of equal distribution of services throughout the City, then it would be difficult for them not to permit the location of a facility in their neighborhood. Many of the CSAC members present agreed with the position that "The CSAC supports the existing services and the location of a permanent facility for CASPAR, but not the expansion or location of new services in Central Square".

At the next meeting of the CSAC the committee will work on a position statement which will go to the Cambridge City Council. A draft position statement (attached) was prepared by W. Landman for discussion.

Next meeting of the CSAC is October 17, 1990 at 6:30 p.m.



614 Massachusetts Ave.  
Cambridge, MA 02139

October 26, 1990

Honorable Members of the Cambridge City Council

RE: Statistics in Central Square

At the City Council meeting, on October 22, 1990, Chairman James McDavitt, of the Cambridge License Board, referred to me as the source of certain statistics of the number of alcoholics in the Central Square area, and what percentage of them originated from Cambridge. I felt that the Members of the Cambridge City Council would like to know the source of the information.

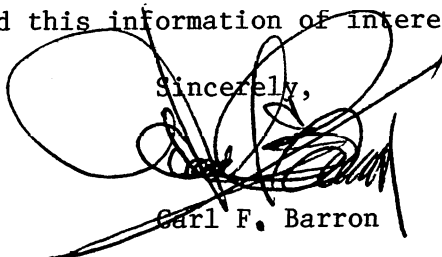
Enclosed, you will please find a photostatic copy of the notes of the Central Square Advisory Committee. Please note that 2 of our guests that evening were Win Poor, director of CASPAR, and Stephanie Ackert, a member of the Human Services Department of Cambridge. The information came from both of our guests, in response to direct questions from members of our committee. It was agreed that there were 50-55 alcoholics who utilize the facilities of the shelter, nightly, and that said numbers left over 200 from outside of Cambridge, but who congregated in the Central Square area.

The second paragraph on page 3 also has the quote, "Central Square presently contains over half of the cities Facilities for homeless people. Shelters are not easy to locate, and are dependent on those who will accept them."

On a personal basis, I believe that the use of the words "homeless," and "alcoholics" may or may not be the same. There are many homeless people who are not alcoholics, without questions. There are some who are both, and there are others who are alcoholics only, and who have roots in Cambridge and suburban Boston. The vast numbers of those who spend their days in Central Square seem to fall into the category of alcoholics, primarily, and a small percent of which are homeless. In evaluating this situation, I do not feel that the 2 terms should be interchangeable, at all times.

I trust you will find this information of interest.

Sincerely,



Carl F. Barron

CFB/b.3356

11. S-1080  
Comm. from Carl P. Barron, Central Sq.  
Association, transmitting statistics for  
the Central Square area.

In City Council,

November 5, 1990

*Placed in file*

NOV OCT 30 AM 4:15  
CAMBRIDGE MA