

# Don't Encourage PANHANDLING

## What is Panhandling?

## Do you know where your money is going?



The term “panhandling” can best be defined as the practice of asking for money in a public space. Panhandling is not just a local issue; it is one that is experienced in communities across our state and nation and has grown significantly over the past few years.

Panhandling is often linked with homelessness, even though studies show that many panhandlers are not homeless. While some panhandlers are truly people in need, there are equally those who simply use the practice to prey off the compassion and generosity of others. The money you give to panhandlers could be used for a meal or clothing, but it could also be used to support a drug or alcohol addiction. The problem with giving to panhandlers comes from the fact that unless you know the person and their situation directly, you don't know who you are giving your money to or what it will be used for.



**There's a  
better way  
to give**



Together we can  
make change for  
the better.

## Our Commitment

## Community Resources

There is a better way to help those who are truly in need and become a valuable part of the solution: by contributing your time and/or money to local agencies that are dedicated to assisting individuals and families in need. This brochure includes a Community Resource page with information on these local partners.



The City of Shelby is committed to continue to work with the community and human service organizations to strategically address panhandling and homelessness issues. Agencies such as United Way Cleveland County, Cleveland County Health Department, men's and women's shelters, and multiple churches in our community provide free hot meals, food pantries, clothing, shelter, and also assist the needy in many other ways.

### BE PART OF THE SOLUTION

Scan the QR code below or visit [www.cityofshelby.com/panhandling](http://www.cityofshelby.com/panhandling) to learn how you can help those in need.



### United Way Cleveland County

132 W Graham St, Shelby, NC 28150  
(704) 482-7344

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

### Cleveland County Health Dept.

200 S. Post Rd., Shelby, NC 28152  
(980) 484-5100

[www.clevelandcountyhndc.com](http://www.clevelandcountyhndc.com)

### Cleveland County Rescue Mission

1100 Buffalo St, Shelby, NC 28150  
(704) 481-1889

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

For a complete list of local food pantries, hot meal programs, and other resources click [here](#) or scan the QR code below.

