



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

**1. WHAT IS BARRIE OUT OF THE COLD (BOOTC)?**

BOOTC started in Barrie in 1998 at St. Andrew's Church. We are a non profit group of volunteers working a few hours each month to help feed and shelter the homeless in the Barrie area.

**2. WHO DOES BOOTC PAY?**

There are no paid positions at BOOTC. We are all non paid volunteers (including the Board of Directors).

**3. WHO SUPPORTS BOOTC?**

We receive professional support from the David Busby Street Centre as well as other social agencies within the City of Barrie.

**4. HOW IS BOOTC FUNDED?**

We are funded by private donations from companies, individuals and church groups.

**5. WHY IS BOOTC NEEDED WHEN WE ALREADY HAVE OTHER ORGANIZATIONS HELPING THE HOMELESS?**

Although there are four other shelters in the Barrie area, there are a limited number of beds available. BOOTC operates during the winter months, from mid November until the end of April, and provides emergency shelter for those who cannot obtain a shelter bed. This service eases the burden on the shelters and ensures that nobody is sleeping outside in sub zero temperatures.

**6. WHAT SERVICES DOES BOOTC PROVIDE?**

We provide an alternative to sleeping on the streets of Barrie during the cold winter months. Our guests are provided hot food and a warm place to sleep.

**7. WHAT ARE YOUR HOURS OF OPERATION?**

We open our doors at 6:00 PM; curfew is at 7:30 PM. Each guest is screened in accordance with our admission policies. Each guest receives a hot meal between 6 -7:30 PM and breakfast is available at 6.30 AM the following morning. Our guests depart at 7:30 AM. The doors are closed at all other times.

**8. WHERE IS BOOTC LOCATED?**

We provide for our guests at six locations throughout the week.

Monday:	St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Tuesday:	Bethel Community Church
Wednesday:	St. Mary's Church
Thursday:	Barrie Free Methodist Church
Friday:	Central United Church
Saturday:	Collier Street United Church
Sunday:	Collier Street United Church

We are indebted to these churches for their generosity!



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**8. WHAT IS BOOTC'S RELIGIOUS AFFILIATIONS?**

We are a non denominational organisation and we welcome all volunteers from various faith backgrounds.

**9. WHO CAN VOLUNTEER FOR BOOTC?**

Anyone over the age of 18 years old, without a criminal record, who meets the criteria for all volunteers, can apply to be a volunteer for BOOTC.

**10. WHO ARE BOOTC'S GUESTS?**

Our guests are people, young and old, who need help.

They need a temporary, warm place to sleep and have a hot meal. Like everyone, they have their own personal problems, strengths and weaknesses. Many are trying to find work or have part time jobs. Some suffer from broken homes, marriages and lack of support from their family and friends. Many have lost hope and feel they have no future to plan or work towards. Each one is grateful to have a place in the warm on a cold, winter's night.

**11. HOW CAN I FIND OUT MORE ABOUT BOOTC?**

To learn more about BOOTC please visit our website at [www.barrieoutofthecold.org](http://www.barrieoutofthecold.org). You may also wish to contact us through email at [info@barrieoutofthecold.org](mailto:info@barrieoutofthecold.org) or by phone at (705) 331-1396.