



Clean Start

Clean Start is a homeless-to-work program operated by Central City Concern. Established in 1996, Clean Start provides trash removal and cleaning services to the Portland metro area.

Over the span of six months, Clean Start trainees receive peer mentoring while learning job skills and building confidence for future employment opportunities. They are also connected to Central City Concern's wraparound services, including supportive housing, integrated health care, addiction treatment, employment assistance and more. The majority of trainees exit the program with long-term employment and housing.

SERVICES

- Garbage and debris removal
- Graffiti removal
- Needle removal
- Human waste and biohazard removal
- Day storage for homeless people's belongings

2020 at a Glance

58
Clean Start
trainees



3.9 million
pounds of trash removed



242,741
needles removed



MEET A TRAINEE:

Carol Shriki

Carol Shriki lived outside for six brutal years after losing her job, her home and eventually her child. Determined to put homelessness and addiction behind her, Carol entered treatment and turned to Central City Concern for supportive housing and employment assistance. She joined Clean Start and was hired permanently after training.

Carol's favorite part of the job is being a role model for the people she used to know on the street. "Just the other day, I ran into three people I used to hang out with. They told me I was an inspiration to them." She hopes someday they'll think of her and get into treatment. "I told them, 'If I can do it, you can do it!'"

HOW TO REQUEST SERVICES

Make a cleaning request online at portlandoregon.gov/toolkit/70039 or call 311.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

One Clean Start cleaning crew can remove up to 880,000 pounds of trash in a single year. To sponsor a cleaning crew, please contact [Chris Wilhite](#) at 503-200-3903.

Every year, Central City Concern serves more than 13,000 people experiencing or at risk of homelessness with affordable and supportive housing, integrated health care, addiction recovery and employment assistance.

Clean Start honors the dignity of our neighbors experiencing homelessness and is proud to work with campers to keep their living areas clean and tidy. Clean Start does not take personal belongings or assist with camp sweeps.

 centralcityconcern.org

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