



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Celebrate the women of our community with the 4th annual Mardi Bras Party

[Spokane, WA] In a unique partnership, Volunteers of America and Transitions invite the Spokane community to participate in the solution to women's homelessness. By meeting women's basic needs with dignity, these organizations can begin to walk our neighbors down the path toward housing and hope. How can you help?

- Host. Have a Mardi Bras party in your home to start the conversation around homelessness for women in our community,
- Attend. Bring brand new bras, underwear, bus passes, deodorant, tampons, pads and other hygiene products to Berserk Bar on February 25th in support of women experiencing homelessness in the greater Spokane area,
- Volunteer. Sort donations received and make a difference behind the scenes,
- Donate. Collect monetary donations, bras, underwear, bus passes, deodorant, tampons, pads and other hygiene products,
- Text BRA to 71777 for more information.

Founded four years ago, Mardi Bras is a grassroots fundraiser supporting both Volunteers of America's Hope House and Transitions' Women's Hearth. In 2019, more than 30 parties were hosted all over Spokane by individuals and organizations. Together, they brought in \$7,141 and 8,500+ tampons. This year, their goal is \$10,000 and as much underwear and deodorant as possible.

For the second year in a row, owner of Berserk Bar, Beth McRae, is hosting this year's Mardi Bras celebration. Join VOA CEO Fawn Schott and Transition's Executive Director Edie Rice-Sauer and enjoy food prepared by Transitions' New Leaf Kitchen and a specialty cocktail created just for the occasion sponsored by Dry Fly Distillery. The only price of admission is your donation of bras, underwear and feminine hygiene products.

VOA will receive donations every Friday, starting in the month of February, until March 13th. Those who would like to donate can drop items off at VOA's headquarters at 525 W. Second Avenue Spokane, WA 99201.

Volunteers of America has been helping Spokane's most under-resourced for over 100 years. They are a local non-profit organization devoted to ending homelessness by uplifting people and meeting needs.

Transitions works to end poverty and homelessness for women and children in Spokane, WA. To achieve this mission they operate six programs—Women's Hearth, Miryam's House, Transitional Living Center, EduCare, New Leaf Bakery Cafe, and Home Yard Cottages—providing safety, support and opportunities to learn skills for success.