Oasis Youth Shelter

Welcome Packet

125 N 5th St
Mount Vernon, WA 98273

Landline: (360) 419 - 9058
Hotline: (360) 230 - 0587

WELCOME TO OASIS

This packet gives an overview of what you can expect at Oasis



Oasis is a low barrier emergency shelter.

YMCA Oasis Youth Shelter provides youth ages 13 - 17 with a safe place to spend the night every day of the year.

OASIS IS AN EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT YOUTH SHELTER

OPERATIONAL HOURS:

OCT 15-MAR 15 - 6PM-8AM
MAR 15-OCT 15 - 8PM-8AM

OASIS MUST WORK WITH GUARDIANS OR CPS FOR PERMISSION

A STAY AT OASIS IS VOLUNTARY, YOUTH WILL NOT BE FORCED TO STAY

MANDATED REPORTING



WHAT IS MANDATED REPORTING, AND WHY IS IT IMPORTANT?

In Washington, people who work closely with youth, children, and vulnerable adults are required by law to report suspected abuse or neglect

ALL OASIS STAFF ARE MANDATED REPORTERS

Keep this in mind when sharing with Oasis staff

If you share that you or anyone else has or is currently being abused or neglected, Oasis staff will report the abuse to CPS



Youth have a right and are welcome to listen in on a CPS call if a report needs to be filed, or even talk to CPS themselves

Community Expectations

Be kind. If you can't be kind, be neutral.

Help out where you can.

Clean up after yourself.

No touching. Please keep your hands to yourself.

No touching other people’s things without permission.

Be willing to compromise; this is a shared space.

Share your ideas and needs.



Unsafe Actions

Harming or threatening to harm oneself or others.

Bullying or consistent disrespect. That includes pronouns!

Willful pushing of other people's boundaries.

Forcing anyone to do or say something they do not want to.

Taking people's things without permission.

Bringing weapons, drugs or alcohol into Oasis.

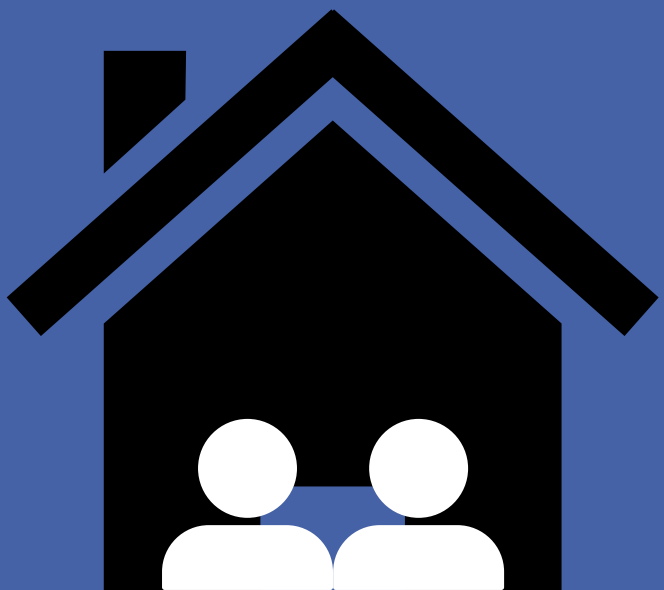
Consistently violating Oasis community expectations.

Failure to avoid unsafe actions
may lead to exit from Oasis



Oasis is a 14 bed shelter with six bedrooms. During your stay at Oasis, it is very likely you will have a roommate at one point.

During intake, staff asks about rooming gender preference. You may room with cisgender or transgender folks that share the same gender identity.



Oasis will **NOT** have co-ed rooms, or room people together who have a three year age gap.

Room Inspections At a Glance

Room inspections happen regularly to help keep everyone at Oasis safe and comfortable.

We Check:

- On your bed
- Under your bed
- Inside your assigned locker

What We're Looking For

☑ Storage

- All belongings are stored on/under bed or in locker**
- Locker is closed & locked
- Space is organized and generally tidy

☑ Safety

- Walkways clear of tripping hazards
- Exits are clear and accessible
- Room is free of illegal substances, weapons, and other prohibited items
- No fire risks (electronics are turned off, unplugged, etc.)

☑ Cleanliness:

- Trash is in provided cans and taken out when full
- Food and beverages are in assigned kitchen cubby
- Area is free of spills and sticky surfaces

☑ Environment

- Shared space is respected
- Laundry is washed and put away regularly
- Space is free of strong or unpleasant odors

If you're struggling to meet these expectations, ask a youth advocate for assistance. We're here to help you!

**To help keep rooms safe and organized, belongings left on the floor or outside of assigned spaces may be placed in the staff office. Youth are responsible for retrieving items directly from staff.

Donation Room

The Oasis Donation room can only be accessed by youth during business hours with a staff member.



Youth are encouraged to look around whenever and grab whatever they may need or want!

Showers are required every 24hrs. If you do not have something to change into after a shower, make sure to grab something from donations before taking a shower.



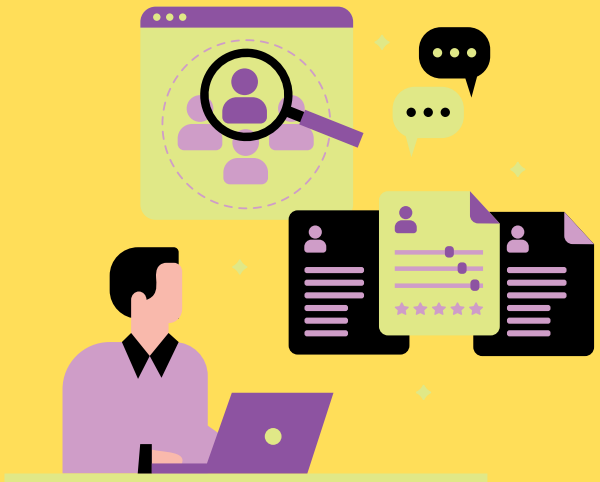
Talk to a Youth Advocate if you need to access the Donation Room.

Resource Navigation

All youth are expected to participate in regular case management meetings to help support housing needs.

Meet with our Care Coordinator to get connected with basic needs and extra resources including:

- Applications for jobs or programs
- Headphones
- Work clothes
- Personal goals



Education Support

Youth at Oasis are encouraged to pursue some sort of educational plan. This could look like traditional school, online classes, a GED course, NCTA, Open Doors, etc.

What does this mean?

- **If you *are currently enrolled* in an education program, the Care Coordinator will assist in making sure you have access to your education while at Oasis.**
- **If you *are not enrolled* in an education program, the Care Coordinator will work with you to explore the right program for you and your academic goals.**



DAYTIME CENTERS



Oasis is CLOSED during day time hours.

Here is what is open nearby at that time:

Staff can always help get you directions to anywhere

Sedro-Woolley Recreation Center

802 Ball St., Sedro Woolley

Hours: Tues & Thurs. 2:30 PM – 6:00 PM

Summary Hours may vary

Skagit Valley YMCA

1901 Hoag Rd., Mount Vernon

Hours: Mon - Fri. 5:00 AM – 10:00 PM

Sat. 7:00 AM - 4:00PM Sun. 12:00 PM - 4:00 PM

NWYS Skagit HUB

134 E. Victoria Ave., Burlington

Hours: Mon. - Thurs. 9:00AM – 4:00 PM

MORE PLACES



Mount Vernon City Library

208 W. Kincaid St., Mount Vernon

Hours: Monday - Friday 10:00 AM - 6:00 PM

Saturday 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Wifi, books, and seating

Download the UMO app for Skagit Transit Routes

Skagit Valley Food Co-op

202 S. 1st St., Mount Vernon

Hours: 7:00 AM - 9:00 PM daily

Wifi and seating

Burlington Public Library

820 E Washington Ave., Burlington

Hours: Fri. - Mon. 10:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tues. - Thurs. 10:00 AM - 8:00 PM

Wifi, books, and seating

Not sure which bus route to ride?
Ask a Youth Advocate for help!



OASIS IS A WEAPON & SUBSTANCE FREE SHELTER

Help us keep you and others safe by not bringing weapons or substances onto or into the shelter property.

Bringing these items onto or into the shelter property can impact your ability to stay at Oasis.

Commonly found items that are not permitted to be on or inside the shelter
(ask staff for a complete list)

Gun
DAB PEN
vape
BONG
LIGHT SABER
Pipe
Nunchucks
MARIJUANA
mace
TAZERS
BRASS KNUCKLES
KUBOTAN



Planning to stay away overnight?

We understand that sometimes you may need to spend a night away from the shelter. To help you hang onto your bed and ensure everyone is safe, please follow these guidelines:

Let us know ahead of time

If you plan to stay a night away from Oasis, please communicate your plans with staff in advance! Because we care about your safety and are responsible for knowing your whereabouts while you are enrolled in our program, we will ask you to provide the following information:

- The dates you plan to be away
- The address where you will be staying
- The name of an adult you will be staying with and their phone number so we can contact them if needed

How long can youth be away?

- You may stay away for up to **2 consecutive nights** and keep your bed at Oasis.
- If you do not return by curfew after the 2nd night, your bed will no longer be held for you.

Curfew Reminder- 9PM!!!

If you have not received approval to stay away overnight and are not back to the shelter by 9pm, staff are required to :

- Contact your legal guardian(s)
- File a missing person's report

These procedures are in place to ensure your safety and well-being.

Running late, change of plans, or need help? When in doubt, contact shelter staff!
Letting us know what's happening helps us support you and make sure we know you are safe.