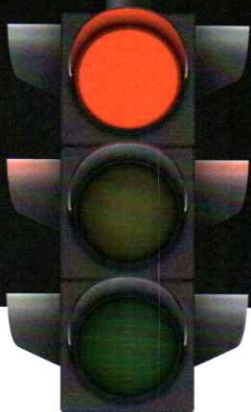


# Let's Keep Our Streets Safe – North Bay



**We all want to make a difference, but there's a safer way to help.**

It's heartwarming to want to assist when you see someone in need. However, offering help while you're driving can inadvertently put the individual you are trying to support at risk.

## **Why is Panhandling (or Soliciting) Risky?**

**FOR DRIVERS:** Even with the best intentions, stopping to give money while driving can cause distractions. Even a moment of inattention could lead to an accident.

**FOR PEDESTRIAN SOLICITORS:** Approaching vehicles, especially in busy areas, can be dangerous. Drivers may not always see you in time, putting you at serious risk.

## **A Gentle Reminder About Ontario Law**

Under Ontario's *Safe Streets Act*, panhandling (also known as soliciting) near roadways or intersections can lead to fines. More importantly, the law exists to keep everyone safe—drivers, pedestrians and those asking for help.



**Crisis Centre  
North Bay**





## How Can You Help?

The best way to support those in need is by donating to trusted local organizations, such as:

- **FOUR ELMS EMERGENCY SHELTER**

Located at 1675 Cassells Street, North Bay, this shelter offers a safe place for men, women and children, including those fleeing difficult situations. It provides not only immediate help but also support for long-term stability.

- **LOW BARRIER SHELTER**

At 590 Chippewa St W, North Bay, this shelter welcomes individuals over 16, offering a safe and supportive space, especially for those facing mental health challenges, substance abuse disorder or other barriers.

### **Want to Do More?**

You can also offer support by contributing essential items like clothing, food or hygiene products to trusted local organizations. Every bit of support contributes to building a safer and more compassionate community.

