

A plea for homeless teens

A group of teens from the Santa Fe School for the Arts, above, petitioned the City Council on Wednesday night to do something about the city's homeless teen problem.

About 15 students said they planned to camp out in front of City Hall in sleeping bags Saturday night to protest the way the city's neediest teens are treated.

"It's not just having a place for them to stay; it's the people of Santa Fe's attitude toward these teens," said Corrina Leatherwood, 12. "People need to realize these are just regular teens who need a place to stay."

Youth Shelters and Family Services, a local nonprofit that seeks to help homeless teens, had its lease for a downtown building canceled this month because of neighborhood objections to its plan to run its Street Outreach Center there providing day-time services to homeless teens.

Youth Shelters also runs an overnight shelter for youths aged 10 to 17 and a transitional living program, but the teens at Wednesday night's meeting said that was not enough.

When the teens were through making their case to the council, Paul Margetson manager of Las Palomas inn, 460 W. San Francisco St., said he would offer three casitas there for four months to help out.

He did not give details of his offer or indicate how possible neighborhood objections would affect his plan.

The New Mexican



Photos by Luis Sánchez Saturno/The New Mexican

About 15 teens from the Santa Fe School for the Arts petition the City Council on Wednesday night to help homeless teenagers.



Paul Margetson, manager of Las Palomas Inn, offered the use of three casitas for four months to help homeless teens.

Powered by [TECNAVIA](#)

Copyright © 2007 Santa Fe New Mexican 11/29/2007