

**Subject: Showers for the Safe Sleepers at UUCV**

Hello Neal, Jim, Matt, Jeff and Beth,

Thank you for your work on the City of Ventura Committee on Homelessness and the Community Development Department to improve and expand the Safe Sleep program. I am writing as the coordinator of the Safe Sleep parking lot at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura (UUCV) with good news and an invitation.

This month the UUCV Board of Directors approved a 60 day trial of the The Soap Box nonprofit ([TheSoapBox.Love](http://TheSoapBox.Love)) Shower Program for the UUCV Safe Sleepers on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 6 am to 9 am beginning Wednesday, September 5th. Keely Brown, the amazing Director of The Soap Box, created this shower program, with support from family members and many volunteers, for those without permanent housing, and the UUCV is the debut location. She offers this program at no cost to the UUCV except for the cost of water and electricity needed for the shower trailer.

**You are invited to the  
The Soap Box Grand Opening Ceremony and Bagel Breakfast  
Wednesday, September 5, 2018, 6 AM in the UUCV back parking lot.  
<<<Please let me know if you will be coming so Keely can know how much food  
to bring.>>>**

And of course the UUCV Safe Sleepers are also invited, and Keely has invited her whole team of volunteers and her family members who have supported her in this project. Keely wants us all to celebrate this beginning together and learn how her shower program will work.

After the ceremony the showers will be available to the UUCV Safe Sleepers. Each time they use The Soap Box shower, they will receive a fresh towel to use, necessary toiletries, and new under clothing to wear after their shower, all donated items. And on this opening day and from time to time on future shower days, a hair stylist volunteer will be available to give the UUCV Safe Sleepers a free haircut after their shower.

If you would like to learn more about The Soap Box go to [www.TheSoapBox.Love](http://www.TheSoapBox.Love).

Peace,  
*Neal  
Ortenberg*