

PRESS RELEASE For Immediate Release.

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Monday August 8, 2015

High-Tech Shelter Demonstration coming to Camp Unity Eastside Open House

Question: What could possibly replace the inadequacy of living in a tent year-round to a more respectful, safe housing option for hundreds of people without homes?

Answer: A light-weight portable shelter with walls and a roof that can be built and taken apart in a matter of hours.

A small Ann Arbor company, NewHouse R&D, has developed such an option. They call it the DecaDome[®], one of which is currently making its way by transport truck from Ann Arbor to Camp Unity Eastside (CUE) in Redmond. It will arrive for assembly on Friday, August 14th and be available to view on Saturday during a Camp Unity Open House from noon to 4:00 pm.

Camp Unity Eastside is a homeless encampment currently on the grounds of the Redwood Family Church. The community is invited on Saturday to tour the camp, share refreshments, meet the neighbors, and check out and critique a DecaDome[®].

Camp Unity Eastside is an independent, non-profit camp that rotates between local churches. The Camp Unity Board invited NewHouse R & D to display a DecaDome at the event.

“We are very excited at the possibility of finding a humane, comfortable, safe, alternative to tents,” says Chris Yager, CUE treasurer. “We spend thousands of dollars a year replacing wet, moldy, torn tents—and believe there must be a better option.”

NewHouse owner, Eric Lipson is equally enthusiastic. “So far, people have really liked this model. We are looking forward to hearing what the Camp Unity residents and the community think. That’s the whole point of this exercise.” “We will also assemble the unit with Camp Unity volunteers so they will learn how the buildings go up, and be able to do it, themselves if we build more.”

DecaDomes[®] are strong, lightweight, ten-sided shelters made of identical, panels that can be assembled in a few hours, with hand-tools. DecaDomes[®] can also be used as clinic, and office space. Units come in three sizes: 80, 120 and 175 square feet, depending on panel width. Units can be disassembled, packed and re-located. Different types of panels are available for different climates and needs.

The DecaDome[®] going to Camp Unity has a carpeted floor, cot, sleeping bag, chair, light, solar shower, water, waste containment, first aid, tools, and small water purification system. All in one box.

The community is welcomed to visit
Camp Unity Eastside's Open House
Saturday, August 15, 2015
12:00 – 4:00pm
The Redwood Family Church,
11500 Redmond-Woodinville Rd., NE; Redmond