1. John is 23 years old and recently lost both of his parents in a car accident. He just graduated from college with a degree in Engineering. For the past 6 months, he has been unable to find a job, and he needs to start making payments on his student loans from college. His savings have run out and he has nowhere to live.
2. Andrea grew up in public housing in Portland. She dropped out of high school when she got pregnant at age 16. She has since returned to school to get her GED and has been trained as a secretary. She cannot find a job anywhere. Her mom’s new boyfriend just kicked her and her two year-old son out of their apartment. She has nowhere to live.
3. Paul is divorced and 46 years old. He has never held down a job form more than 9 months in his life. If you ask him, he’ll tell you that all of his bosses have been unreasonable and expect too much of him. He jumps around from homeless shelter to homeless shelter and begs for food.
4. Maurice was a successful businessman three years ago. At the age of 57, he owned a small company that brought in nearly $900,000 in sales annually. He paid himself a very meager salary and reinvested all of his profits into his business. Two years ago, his business went bankrupt because of the bad economy. All of his savings have run out and no one will hire him. He attributes this to his age.
5. Patty is 32 years old and a mother of three young children. She recently got divorced. According to her divorce settlement, her ex-husband is supposed to pay her $2000 per month in child support. Unfortunately, her ex-husband ran off two years ago and hasn’t sent any payments. She has no savings and can’t get a job because every job she’s been offered pays less than what it would cost to put all three of her children in daycare.
6. Tom is 21 years old. He grew up in a town outside of Portland and has been working jobs paying about $9 an hour since he finished high school. He put forth little effort in school and barely graduated. College has never interested him. He has saved no money, spending all he has on his truck and his girlfriend. Two months ago, the store he worked in went out of business. Fed up with him, his parents have told him he has to move out. He has no money for food or rent, and his girlfriend recently dumped him.