

Businessman Donates Buses to House Homeless People in Siberia

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Mikhail Tereschenko / Moskva News Agency

A businessman in the city of Khabarovsk in Russia's Far East has reportedly [donated](#) several buses to serve as temporary shelters for homeless people after efforts to raise money for a previously burned shelter failed.

Yuri Vasilyev, the CEO of a local bus touring company, said that when the home shelter organization Prosperity contacted him for help, he decided to give away a number of his old buses.

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“Usually we deconstruct the old buses and use some of their parts for new cars. But when... they came to us, we decided to help. Hopefully we can give a few more buses to the homeless,” he [told](#) the Vesti Region news website.

Ivan Mankovski, the head of the Prosperity charity, told local media that the first bus had been equipped with 10 beds as well as a bathroom and heating and was “ready to take on guests for the winter.”

“We had this unconventional idea: To use these buses as shelters. The buses will also act as sanitary stations...and eating points,” he added.

Last May, a homeless shelter run by the NGO burned down, and Prosperity was unable to raise the 1.2 million rubles (\$18,300) needed to rebuild it.

Elena, one of the first inhabitants of the buses [told](#) local media that she “wanted to express her thanks to all those who had cared for us.”

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