

The Advocate

NCH Newsletter

August 27, 2012



Advocacy for the School Year, Membership Matters, and Updates from the Field

Hi there Friend,

As you or your kids head back to school, or as you run drives for school supplies or start to plan your Fall fundraising campaigns, let's all think about how we can come together this school year to [combat the root causes of homelessness](#): lack of affordable housing, lack of living wage jobs, and other economic inequities.

This year, [more children than ever](#) will be facing the school year with no permanent home, and we're only beginning to understand how the lack of a home will affect these [children's achievement](#), as well as mental and physical health.

Luckily, the National Coalition for the Homeless has the tools you need to help!

Below we've listed 3 upcoming events that give you an opportunity to engage your classmates and neighbors in finding solutions to our housing crisis.

- [Homeless and Low-Income Voter Registration Week](#)
As homelessness and poverty increase, it is more important than ever that we all take part in making our democracy work for everyone! Run a voter registration drive or hold a Candidates Forum!
- [Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week](#)
Our biggest annual awareness-raising event, H&H Week events are held in nearly 1000 communities across the country. This year, we'll be including added ways to involve the business community in events!
- [Homeless Person's Memorial Day](#)
This awareness event gives us all a time to remember

Connect with NCH



Upcoming Events

Sept. 19-21, 2012 - The [2012 National Zarrow Mental Health Symposium and Mental Health America Annual Conference](#) will be held at the Tulsa Convention Center.

Sept. 30- Oct. 6, 2012 - Start planning now to register your community to vote during [National Homeless and Low-Income Voter Registration Week](#).

November 10-18, 2012 - [National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week](#)

December 21, 2012 - [National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day](#)

NCH in the News

Altnet (August 9) - [Why We Should Care About the Homeless Vote](#)

those who have dies while un-housed. We show that they are not forgotten, and that we vow to fight the tragedy of people dying on our streets.

Want more ideas?

- Here are [More Ideas and Links](#) for what you and your classmates can do to help!

-or-

- Find additional [Advocacy Tools Here](#) for your back to school service efforts!

Your Membership Matters to Ending Homelessness!

There's still time to take advantage of our membership discounts! [Join us](#) in Bringing America Home today!

Why should you join?

1. NCH has been inspiring and training a new generation of activists through our internships, through the [Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau](#), and now through our [AmeriCorps*VISTA project](#).
2. We have a wide lens focus on the issue of homelessness and are inclusive of all populations when working on solutions.
3. We have historical success (passing the McKinney-Vento Act, Housing Now March) as well as current relevancy ([fighting criminalization efforts](#) and building the capacity of local communities).
4. Read why Membership Matters to [current members](#).

[Learn more on our website.](#)

VISTA Project Update

This spotlight is on Speakers' Bureau Coordinators in Baltimore Joanna Gervais, Michael Jefferson and Vanessa Borotz. An event to showcase speakers with many different stories was coordinated to dispel the stereotypes of homelessness. Through media efforts, partnerships, recruiting volunteers, raising funds, in-kind donations, and honorariums for Speakers, our VISTAs held this successful awareness event on July 12th: [Danger of a Single Story](#). The presenters, who are part of the [Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau](#) shared a piece of their narrative through poetry, spoken word, and heartfelt anecdotes to show that popular knowledge of homelessness and poverty is a small piece of a larger phenomenon involving human beings from a variety of backgrounds according to Joanna.

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois

Huffington Post (August 10)
- [Tampa's Maverick Cop](#)

USA Today (August 20) -
[Non-profits help give homeless children a happy birthday](#)

Special Thanks to our recent donors and renewed members!

The Aberdeen Foundation, Kimberly Allard, Diana Ames, Gaelan Armstrong, Cortney Ball, Jon Ballew, Christine Behnen, Kathy Benoit, Gorus Bix, Renee Blaze, Kierei Broadus, Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership, Nicole Campbell, Capella University - Inspire Giving Program, Jennifer Collins, Community Council for the Homeless at Friendship Place, Community Voices in Action, Sean Cononie, Heather Couture, Chandra Crawford, Robert Crosby, Stephane Dahan, Courtney Del Tufo, Mike Denevan, Nam Dinh, Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition of Jacksonville, Ronald Encarnacion, Florida Keys Outreach Coalition, Jordan Foley, Rosa Garcia Banchs, Randy Glazier, Eric Goldfischer, Kenneth Grace, Russell Grant, Sam Gray, Greater Wheeling Coalition for the Homeless, Thomas Green, Elizabeth Grim, Felisa and Blanca Guzman, Cora Hayes, Clyde Hendrickson, Christopher Herring, Hilton HHonors, Saul Holcman, Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County, Homeless Voices For Justice, Jerry Howard, Meriem Ibrahim, Integrated Community

The Lawyers Trust Fund of Illinois (LTF) is the leading state-level funder of civil legal aid to the poor in Illinois. LTF's grants support non-profit organizations that provide a legal safety net for low-income people with desperate needs and nowhere else to turn. These legal aid organizations augment the legal system and ensure that the door to justice is open to every Illinoisan, regardless of their income and resources. [Click for a full list of grant guidelines](#)

TD Charitable Foundation

The TD Charitable Foundation's 2012 Housing for Everyone grant competition focuses on Transitional Housing and Homeless Shelters. Applications should highlight the ways in which funding will expand the availability of and/or access to transitional housing and/or homeless shelters. Twenty-five grants of \$100,000 will be awarded to the best applications received. Applications will be accepted until 4:00 p.m. Eastern Time on Friday, August 31, 2012. Notification of awards will be made by mid November 2012. [Find out how to apply.](#)

Department of Agriculture

The Section 538 Guaranteed Rural Rental Housing Program provides loan guarantees designed to encourage partnerships between the USDA, private lenders, and public agencies in order to increase the supply of affordable rural rental housing. Qualifying properties include new construction for multi-family housing units and the acquisition of existing structures with established minimum per unit rehabilitation expenditure requirements. The application deadline is December 31, 2012. [Click here for more info on how to apply.](#)

Solutions, It's A Wrap Ideas, Hahn Jackson, Vickie Jackson, Andrea Johnson, Linda Johnson, Amanda Jones, John Joyce, Lauren Karl, Ed Kent, Daniel Kerr, Jason Kreag, Tyler Kull, Noelle Lane, Kathy Law, Lahkeisha Leach, Jay Levy, Helena Liber, Dawn Lillis, Randy Long, Jeanne Majors, Sahana Malik, Valerie Marshall, Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance, Wendy McQuiston, Miami Coalition for the Homeless, Mid-South Peace and Justice Center, Jule Monnens, Alleine Moseley, Jeff Myers, Sarah Neeley, The Next Step, Katherine Nguyen, Philip Nubel, Peter Orvetti, Catherine Parker, Suresh Paul, Tanya Peete, Katie Perttunen, Danielle Phillips, Delrose Pinnock-Bennett, Plasmanet, Rosemarie Poole, Alexander Reyes, Jeanine Richter-Munoz, Patricia Roberts, Michael Rossi, Ellen Rush, Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, Robert and Barbara Sanchez, Dolores Santiago, Lindsey Schneider, Hunter Scott, Carolyn Sechler, Michael Shildmyer, Joseph Simpson, Kevin Smith, Michael and Isabel Spiegel, St. Paul's Community Center, Arthur Standridge, Meghana Sthanam, Zach Stone, Street Sense, Kelsi Sullivan, Suncoast Partnership To End Homelessness, Eleanor Taylor, Mary Thomas, Evan Thompson, Brian Tiffany, Trinity Community Ministries, Bettina Vance-Johnson, Venhood Victor and Shreemati Budhan, Ginger Wallace, Jake Walters, Michael Watkins, Sue Watlov Phillips, Archie Williams, Danielle Wipperfurth,

Samantha Wolfe

2201 P Street NW
Washington, DC 20037
Tel: (202) 462-4822
Email: info@nationalhomeless.org

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