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The Advocate

eNews

NCH Newsletter

May 24, 2012



In Memory, News from the Field, Grant Opportunities

Hello {FIRST_NAME|Friend},

It is with great sadness that we report the recent passing of two great advocates and friends of the National Coalition for the Homeless: Jesse Smith, Jr., a Faces of Homelessness Speaker, and Roosevelt Darby, Jr., a long time Board Member. Both of these men had passion and kindness that made them incredible advocates and giving mentors to others struggling with homelessness.

Please read more on our blog, where staff and current Board members share their memories about both [Jesse](#) and [Roosevelt](#). We pay tribute and express our sincere gratitude for these great men's time with us!



News From the Field: VISTA Project to Attack Hunger and Veterans Issues

In our last newsletter, we told you that we were hiring Summer

Follow us on your favorite social media site!



Upcoming Events

May 30-31, 2012 - Join Horizons for Homeless Children for their [7th Annual Young Children Without Homes Conference](#) in Boston, MA.

May 31- June 1 - The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans will hold their annual conference in Washington, DC. This year's conference is entitled, "[Halfway Home: Progress in the Plan to End Veteran Homelessness](#)"

NCH in the News

San Francisco Chronicle (May 14) - [RI considers 'Homeless Bill of Rights'](#)

Ashland Daily Tidings (May 14) - [Independent but vulnerable Hard-to-reach](#)

VISTA volunteers to expand on the current projects in our [national VISTA program](#). These short term VISTA volunteers will be working to address the specific needs of veterans and families, connecting clients to resources (like VASH housing vouchers or SNAP food benefits) that exist in their own local communities.

About 1.5 million veterans are considered at risk of homelessness due to poverty, lack of support networks, and dismal living conditions in overcrowded or substandard housing. From the Departments of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and Veterans Affairs (VA) estimate that over **67,000** veterans are homeless on any given night. Only eight percent of the general population can claim veteran status, but nearly one-fifth of the homeless population are veterans. Our Veterans Project Summer VISTA Members will create a Veterans Services Information Resource that will have every resource from employment assistance, healthcare, and community meals will be available along with hours, contact information, and transportation details.

The Hunger Summer VISTA Members will address the issues of family hunger. Approximately 21 million children access free and reduced price meals during the school year and **only 2.3 million children** receive meals through USDA's summer feeding programs. The Hunger Summer VISTA Members will work with their sites on outreach to the homeless family population to connect them with the Department of Agriculture's summer food service program as well as helping families apply for the SNAP benefit program (Food Stamps).

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

Department of Veterans Affairs

The [Homeless Providers Grant and Per Diem Program](#) provides support for efforts to end homelessness among veterans. Proposed efforts should promote increased housing stabilization, provide transitional housing and services for homeless veterans in rural areas, provide transitional housing and services on Indian tribal property, or create transitional housing and services that are sensitive to the needs of justice-involved homeless veterans (i.e., veterans who are not incarcerated but are involved in the criminal justice system). The application deadline is **May 30, 2012**.

BI-LO Charities

[BI-LO Charities](#) supports nonprofit organizations and K-12 schools in communities served by the company in Georgia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The Charities' areas of interest in the Hunger Relief category enhances food banks, soup

[homeless are often victims, advocates say](#)

Huffington Post (May 16) - [The Many Faces of Homelessness](#)

Special Thanks to our recent donors and renewed members!

Kimberly Allard, Barbara Anderson, Gaelan Armstrong, Jon Ballew, Gorus Bix, Pascal Boissette, Fred Brady, Burt and Diana Cutler Family Foundation, Capella University - Inspire Giving Program, Congregation Or Chadash (Ms. Eden's 2nd Grade Class), Sean Cononie, Kelly Craigmile, Stephane Dahan, Ronald Encarnacion, Gannon University, Greater Than Shelter, Halloween Party Productions, Haven House Services, Laura Hehman, It's A Wrap Ideas, Rebecca Loebe, Justin Low, Wendy McQuiston, Claire Miller, Jule Monnens, Norfolk State University – Aviators, David Odiorne, Peter Orvetti, Over-the-Rhine Community Housing, Linda Palmer, Suresh Paul, Plasmanet, Polk County School Board, Rosemarie Poole, Jenefer Robinson, Michael Rossi, Carolyn Sechler, Southernmost Homeless Assistance League, The Aberdeen Foundation, Brian Tiffany, Teresa Torres, University of Maryland (National Student Campaign Against Hunger & Homelessness's 28th

kitchens, and feeding programs. Grants of \$5,000 to \$50,000 are provided. The application deadline is **June 30, 2012**.

Tom's of Maine

[50 States for Good](#) is a national initiative to support the goodness behind grassroots community projects. Grants are open to any nonprofit groups promoting healthy, human and environmental goodness. One finalist will be chosen from every state, customer votes determine which six organizations share \$150,000 Top award is \$50,000. [Apply Now](#) through **June 12**. Voting starts September 10 Winners announced by mid-November.

Annual Hunger Cleanup),
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