

NATIONAL COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS

Four Educational Project/Activities

Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau Panel Presentation – Up to three currently or formerly homeless individuals will share their personal stories and experiences with homelessness. There is Q&A, and a NCH moderator facilitates the discussion, provides statistics, information, and ways to become involved. Presentations are given either at the NCH office or at the group's location. For each speaker the total cost is \$60 (\$50 speaker honorarium, plus a \$10 program fee), and you may book up to three speakers.

Organizing for Housing Justice – For more than 30 years, the National Coalition for the Homeless has fought to protect the human rights of homeless communities across the country. From mobilizing thousands of people to protest against the lack of decent, affordable housing during the Housing Now! March to organizing communities across digital landscapes to rally for fair treatment of homeless persons by local municipalities; participants will learn about the plight of modern day homelessness from a social justice perspective.

NCH offers this critical workshop in a time where the criminalization of homelessness is increasing and resources to solve the epidemic are decreasing. We need housed and unhoused communities to stand together against the discrimination and inequality that low income people frequently face in addition to a lack of a safety net. Serving as part history lesson, part organizing training; this 1-2 hour workshop offers a historical look into the campaigns that brought us such accomplishments like the McKinney-Vento Homeless Act and offers suggestions for how you can take action on the issue of homelessness now. This class is led by NCH staff and a currently/formerly homeless individual. The homeless/formerly homeless presenter will receive a \$50 honorarium, and there is an additional \$10 program fee to NCH. The total cost for this program is \$60.

Homeless Challenge – Students (minimum age is 18) spend 24 to 72 hours on the streets panhandling, eating at meal programs in the parks, dumpster diving, applying for jobs, trying to use a restroom at a fancy hotel, trying to get a library card, etc. Students spend the duration of the challenge on the streets with one or two partners – students will never be alone. The students have a homeless/formerly homeless guide each night from 9pm-6am. The group's size will determine the number of guides needed. There is one guide per 3-5 students. Each guide will cost \$150 (this includes guide's honorarium and program fee to NCH). NCH has a Homeless Challenge Manual that must be read prior to the experience to properly prepare interested persons for the "homeless challenge."

Outreach Runs – Groups bring and distribute socks, hotel-size toiletries, and bottled water to those living in parks and on the streets. In winter, groups bring clothing like thermal underwear, SOCKS (socks are a big hit!), gloves, hats, and jackets. Groups meet at the NCH office to receive a brief introduction to the program and homelessness issues before going out to distribution areas with a homeless/formerly homeless guide. This guide will give a short version of his/her personal story, and then accompany the group to a local park. The group's size will determine the number of Outreach Run guides. Each guide will cost \$60 (honorarium/program fee).

National Coalition for the Homeless

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