

#HOUSINGNOW

Hosted by:



National Day of Action

***Protect Housing. Protect People.
Housing Is a Human Right.***

**Uniting Communities Across the Nation to
Protect Housing and Advance Housing Justice**

Tuesday, October 21, 2026

National Day of Action

Washington, DC (Location TBD) + Communities
Nationwide

On Wednesday, October 21, the National Coalition for the Homeless invites communities across the country to unite for the second annual Housing NOW! National Day of Action. Together, we will raise our voices to protect housing, defend homeless assistance, reject the criminalization of homelessness, and demand bold action that puts people before politics. Because housing is a human right, and lasting change happens when the people unite.



Together, let's demand Housing NOW!

Why We're Mobilizing Again

Across the United States, millions of people are struggling to afford a place to live while communities face rising homelessness and deepening housing insecurity. At the same time, critical housing programs are threatened, homeless assistance is under attack, and more communities are turning to criminalization instead of proven solutions.

We call on Congress, the Administration, state leaders, and local governments to protect people by protecting housing and to advance policies that end homelessness through investment, not punishment.

Specifically, we support the following:

Five National Priorities



1. **Protect Housing:** Protect Housing Choice Vouchers, Public Housing, and Project-Based Rental Assistance. Prevent the displacement of low-income renters and invest in affordable housing before families lose their homes.
2. **Protect Homeless Assistance:** Preserve Permanent Supportive Housing, Continuum of Care funding, and the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program. Expand investments in homelessness prevention, rapid rehousing, and other evidence-based solutions that help people obtain and maintain stable housing.
3. **Protect Marginalized Communities:** Defend the civil rights of people of color, LGBTQ+ people, people with disabilities, women, veterans, immigrant communities, older adults, and all populations disproportionately impacted by housing instability. Oppose discrimination and promote equitable access to housing and services.
4. **Stop the Criminalization of Poverty:** Reject policies that criminalize homelessness, including laws that punish people for sleeping outside when housing is unavailable. Invest in housing, healthcare, and community supports rather than fines, incarceration, or forced institutionalization without due process.
5. **Center Lived Experience:** Ensure people with lived experience of homelessness are represented at every level of decision-making. Support peer leadership and uphold the principle of "Nothing About Us Without Us."

Our Story

On April 25th, 2025, thousands of people gathered in Washington, DC, and in communities across the country to launch the first **Housing NOW! National Day of Action**. In the wake of the Supreme Court's decision allowing cities to criminalize people for sleeping outside when they have nowhere else to go, advocates, people with lived experience, service providers, faith communities, labor partners, students, and local leaders stood together to demand a different path, one rooted in housing, dignity, and human rights.

Today, the National Coalition for the Homeless proudly returns with the **second annual Housing NOW! National Day of Action**, taking place on **October 21st**. What began as a single day of protest has grown into a national movement to protect housing, defend civil rights, and ensure that people with lived experience are leading the fight for lasting change.

As our Executive Director, Donald Whitehead Jr., has proclaimed before crowds across the country:

"The people united can never be defeated."

Those words have become more than a chant, they have become the heartbeat of this movement. Every rally, every march, every community action, and every voice raised in solidarity is testament to the lasting change that happens when people come together with a shared purpose.

Together, we believe homelessness is solvable. Protecting housing prevents homelessness. Protecting homeless assistance saves lives. Protecting marginalized communities advances justice. Criminalizing poverty solves nothing. Lasting solutions must be shaped by the voices of those most directly affected.

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Stand With Us

Join thousands of advocates, organizations, people with lived experience, faith communities, labor partners, service providers, and local leaders standing together to protect housing, defend human rights, and end homelessness. Together, our voices are stronger. Together, we can build a future where everyone has a safe place to call home.

Scan the QR code to sign the Housing
NOW! Organizational Letter.

