

HOUSING NOT HANDCUFFS

e-news update

April 2018

Dear Supporters and Endorsers of the Housing Not Handcuffs campaign,

Our campaign continues to grow, over 650 endorsements so far! [Keep encouraging your friends, colleagues, and elected officials to endorse.](#)

Follow on social media
#HNHNow

If you have submissions for the next newsletter, send them to idebone@nlchp.org by **May 16.**

Campaign Updates

Save the Date!

Mark your calendars for the 2018 National Forum on the Human Right to Housing to be held **June 27 in Washington, D.C.** In addition to engaging speakers and panels, the forum will include strategy session to advance Housing Not Handcuffs campaign goals. [More information coming soon.](#)



The Denver Right to Survive Initiative

On March 15th, the day after the Right to Rest Act was heard and defeated in the State Legislature, [Denver Homeless Out Loud](#) (DHOL) filed a ballot initiative in the City of Denver called The Denver Right to Survive Initiative. The Right to Survive Initiative would protect people's basic human right to sleep, sit, use cover, sleep in a vehicle, and share food in public space. Supporters stated, "We know the fight for our rights is long and hard. No struggle for the rights of the oppressed has come easy – not that of black people, immigrants, people with disabilities, LGBTQ folks, or any oppressed community. The Right to Survive Initiative is part of the fight for all oppressed communities who have been forced out of their homes and into the streets to survive." The Right to Survive Initiative will be gathering signatures over the next few months to get the initiative on the May 2019 ballot for a vote of the people.

Las Vegas Sweep Stopped

Thanks to quick organizing by [Caridad Charity](#), with assistance from the Law Center and the [ACLU of Nevada](#), a planned sweep of homeless persons from in front of a service center was stopped earlier this week. According to Caridad "The police came through and alerted everyone they would need to get off the sidewalk in 10 minutes or get arrested. Then, as they proceeded to come around to get everyone up they saw us, press cameras and the ACLU. Shortly after they began, they stopped and ... those working simply didn't want to do it and left." Great work by one of our newest Campaign endorsers!

Homelessness round table with Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) & Environmental Justice (EJ)

HNH participant Kelly Miller, together with representatives from NLCHP, the Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness/National Coalition for the Homeless, and National Coalition for the Human Right to Water met with the EPA Office of Environmental Justice to discuss ways the Office could address disparate environmental impacts on homeless persons. These include access to clean water and sanitation, as well as access to housing when being displaced due to infrastructure development. Kelly received written verification following the meeting stating their commitment to homeless people from the recommendations presented last week. We are particularly excited at what this will mean for the homelessness arena!

Sweeps in Miami

The City of Miami Police recently embarked on a massive systemic sweep of homeless persons residing on the streets of downtown Miami, blatantly violating a federal consent decree, known as the Pottinger Agreement, that protects homeless persons from arrest for publicly conducting certain life sustaining activities. Police have threatened, harassed and destroyed possessions of about

60 homeless persons, and are profiling persons suspected of being homeless and threatening them with arrest for merely standing on street corners.

Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness Hosts Advocacy Day

"More than 120 advocates from throughout Michigan convened in Lansing on April 11 to call for expanded rights and services for people experiencing homelessness. The second annual Homelessness Advocacy Day provided training, factsheets, and talking points to support the lobbying efforts of shelter providers, people with first-hand experience being homeless, and their allies. The event was organized by Michigan Coalition Against Homelessness (MCAH), one of NLIHC's newest state partners." [Read more from National Low Income Housing Coalition.](#)

Announcements

Farewell to our current AmeriCorps VISTAs!

Sara, Darrell, and Lisa have spent the last year serving as AmeriCorps VISTAs for the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, working specifically on the Housing Not Handcuffs campaign. Their service year concludes at the end of April and they would like to thank the Law Center team and Housing Not Handcuffs members for an impactful and fulfilling experience! (The Law Center is also currently seeking a new batch of VISTAs; scroll down for more information!)



Join the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty!

Operations Manager Position

We're hiring for an Operations Manager. Reporting to the Deputy Director, the Operations Manager is responsible for executing the Law Center's operations, with responsibilities in human resources, financial oversight, and administration. The Operations Manger assists in the financial management of the organization, working with and coordinating outside accountants and bookkeepers. [Read the job description and details on how to apply.](#)



Calling all service-minded social justice advocates!

The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty is seeking three passionate candidates to serve a year as AmeriCorps VISTAs in the fight to end homelessness. The available positions are: a Development & Communications VISTA, a Networks & Events VISTA, and a Data Management VISTA. Applications are due April 25; [find out more information](#).



LOOKING FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?

We're looking for VISTA Members to join our team and use the power of the law to prevent and end homelessness.

NATIONAL LAW CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

AMERICORPS VISTA

VISTA
Volunteers In Service To America

more info at:
nlchp.org/employment

Our Homes, Our Voices Week of Action



OUR HOMES OUR VOICES

National Housing Week of Action
May 1 – 8, 2018

May 1-8, 2018

Join advocates from across the country in calling for greater investments in affordable homes and in our communities. [Find out more](#).

2018 National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium

May 15-18 in Minneapolis, Minnesota

HCH2018 will explore what it means to be "Working Together for Community" through intensive trainings in health care and homelessness. Sessions include "Housing, Not Handcuffs," "Developing Medical Legal Partnerships," and "Encampments: The Expanding Frontline of Homelessness in America." Register to learn and network with hundreds of colleagues from across the U.S. at this singular annual gathering of clinicians, consumers, administrators, advocates, and policymakers.



2018 NATIONAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS
CONFERENCE & POLICY SYMPOSIUM
MAY 15 - 18 | MINNEAPOLIS, MN

WORKING TOGETHER FOR COMMUNITY

Bridges to Justice: Building Coalitions and Collaborations Within and Beyond Psychology



June 29-July 1 in Pittsburgh, PA

The Society for the Psychological Study of Social Issues is hosting its summer conference in Pittsburgh, PA, June 29-July 1. An advocate and expert on McKinney-Vento implementation in Delaware and a representative from the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty will co-lead an Interactive Discussion on local and national homeless legislation. [Register now.](#)

Use of Campaign Branding

We encourage campaign endorsers to link relevant events to the national Housing Not Handcuffs campaign. Please see the guidelines for branding your materials [here.](#)

HOUSING
NOT HANDCUFFS

In the News

NPR, March 31

[Philadelphia's New NA Wants Prosecutors To Talk Cost of Incarceration While In Court](#)

NPR, April 3

[Hunger And Homelessness Are Widespread Among College Students, Study Finds](#)

AP, April 9

[Church Sues St. Paul Over Homeless Shelter Restrictions](#)

The New Republic, April 10

[More Than a Nuisance: How housing ordinances are making poverty a crime](#)

New York Times, April 11

[Homeless Children Are 3 Times as Likely to be Suspended at Some Schools](#)

Sacramento Bee, April 12

[Sacramento hit with federal lawsuit seeking to overturn city's panhandling ordinance](#)

Washingtonian, April 16

[Why DC Police Are Studying Critical Race Theory](#)

**NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY**

This newsletter was designed, drafted, and distributed by the
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nlchp.org

on behalf of the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign
housingnohandcuffs.org