

HOUSING NOT HANDCUFFS

e-news update

November 2018

Dear Supporters and Endorsers of the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign,

Follow on social media

#HNH  

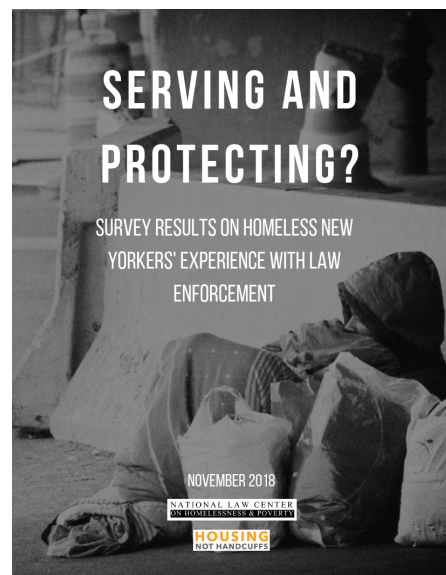
This has been a busy time for the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign, with multiple communities stopping enforcement of and even repealing their criminalization laws and beginning to explore shelter, housing, and other alternatives! See stories below. Also, the Campaign continues to grow, over 775 endorsements so far! [Keep encouraging your friends, colleagues, and elected officials to endorse.](#)

If you have submissions for the next newsletter, please fill out [this Google form](#) by **December 14.**

Campaign Updates

New Report: Serving and Protecting? Survey Results on Homeless New Yorkers' Experience with Law Enforcement

The Law Center, in conjunction with the HNH Campaign, recently released a new report titled, "[Serving and Protecting? Survey Results on Homeless New Yorkers' Experience with Law Enforcement](#)". In January 2018, the Law Center coordinated volunteers from Goldman Sachs, Fried Frank Harris Shriver & Jacobson LLP, and Cleary Gottlieb Steen & Hamilton LLP in conducting surveys of 90 persons experiencing homelessness at Holy Apostle Soup Kitchen in Manhattan using the [HNH Model Survey](#). The report analyzes results from these surveys, which overwhelmingly indicated that law enforcement often harass, cite, and arrest homeless persons for activities such as sleeping, eating, or merely existing in a place, and offers constructive policy recommendations.



The report could also be used as a template for other communities seeking to highlight the human impact of criminalization.

Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign Two Year Anniversary and Web Convening

We celebrated our two year anniversary on Thursday, November 15! The HNH Campaign was launched in 2016 by the Law Center, together with the National Coalition for the Homeless and more than 100 other national and local organizations, in order to combat the criminalization of homelessness and promote the right to adequate housing. The Campaign now has almost 800 endorsements including several from public officials and members of law enforcement, as well as over 300 from local and national organizations. In honor of the anniversary, we held a web convening in which Maria Foscarinis, Executive Director of the Law Center, gave an overview of the victories the Campaign has had over the past two years, members of local organizations gave updates about their work, and Campaign members discussed their goals for the next year. If you have not yet endorsed the HNH Campaign, please visit [our website](#) to learn more. Follow the campaign on twitter [@HNHCampaign](#).

Panhandling Campaign Victories in Vermont

HNH's Panhandling Campaign is continuing to achieve success across the nation! Thanks to the great work of the [ACLU of Vermont](#) in conjunction with the HNH Campaign, [six out of six cities in Vermont](#) have responded to the letters sent urging them to repeal their panhandling ordinances. Bennington, Battleboro, Montpelier, Rutland Town, and Winooski all repealed their anti-panhandling ordinances and Barre City placed theirs on indefinite moratorium. Since the campaign was launched, 22 cities have repealed their anti-panhandling ordinances and 36 are either in the process of repealing or are reviewing their ordinances. We are looking forward to eventually expanding this campaign and replicating its success in all 50 states!

EPA's Environmental Justice Small Grants Program

The Environmental Protection Agency's Environmental Justice Small Grants program supports and empowers communities working on solutions to local environmental and public health issues. As a result of conversations between the EPA and Kelly Miller, a currently homeless advocate, Eric Tars of the Law Center, Bob Erlenbusch of [Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness](#), and Rob Robinson of the [National Economic & Social Rights Initiative](#), the Environmental Justice Small Grants program now explicitly offers funding (up to \$30,000) for projects affecting homeless populations. We encourage you to apply if you have projects at the intersection of criminalization, homelessness, and environmental justice! Learn more about the grant application [here](#).

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
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In the News

[Bill to Decriminalize Fare Evasion Passes in DC City Council](#)

WUSA9, November 13, 2018

[Federal Judge Blocks Oakland from Removing Homeless Camp](#)

East Bay Express, November 13, 2018

[New Public Spaces Are Supposed to Be for All. The Reality Is More Complicated](#)

The New York Times, November 13, 2018

[The Homeless Crisis Is Getting Worse in America's Richest Cities](#)

Bloomberg Businessweek, November 20, 2018

[Lack of Housing and Mental Health Disabilities Exacerbate One Another](#)

Center for American Progress, November 20, 2018

[Cincinnati's Tent City Fight is Part of Larger National Debate](#)

City Beat, November 26, 2018

[A Potential Turning Point in How Cities Treat the Homeless](#)

Governing, November 28, 2018

NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

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