

HOUSING NOT HANDCUFFS

e-news update

Summer 2018

Dear Supporters and Endorsers of the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign,

Follow on social media

#HNH  

Our campaign continues to grow, over 700 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 **August 20.**

Campaign Updates

Right to Housing Forum

On June 27, 2018, more than 150 advocates, attorneys, currently and formerly homeless individuals, funders, and government representatives, from over 100 organizations and 30 states gathered in Washington, D.C. for the annual National Forum on the Human Right to Housing organized by the **National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty**. This year, the Forum's focus was on the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign, to strategically advance our collective work *against* criminalization of homelessness and *for* housing. The Forum was designed to draw on the resources that each participant brought to the table and to help create new ones. The event provided the opportunity to share victories and challenges and strategize for future advocacy, particularly around issues with panhandling, encampments, renter's rights, and youth homelessness. [Read our post-Forum report.](#)



Homeless San Diegans Ask Court to Stop Ticketing Vehicles

Homeless people in San Diego are fighting to stay in their RVs without being fined. The Law Center, Disability Rights California, and Fish & Richardson PC filed an injunction to stop ticketing and removing homeless people's vehicles during the class-action lawsuit *Bloom et al vs. City of San Diego*. In San Diego, "safe lots" do not allow RVs, and RV parks charge high rates that homeless people cannot afford. The current ticket policy in place also does not help homeless RV owners; if an owner does not pay their fines after receiving five tickets, their vehicle will be impounded. Advocates are hoping the court will approve and uphold the injunction while the suit is still taking place.

HerStory Ensemble and the Delaware Art Museum Social Justice Themed Exhibits

The Delaware Art Museum invited HerStory Ensemble to be one of several community participants to link current day issues including the lack of affordable housing, racial inequality and homelessness, the criminalization of homelessness, and advocacy for homeless legislation to three civil rights themed exhibits focused on racial and social justice as a call for action. Their calls to action will be displayed on cards on a wall labeled "Make Change" that visitors can take with them, and follow suggestions to take action on the issue of homelessness. The exhibit, which opened on June 30 and will run until September 9, is coordinated with the city-wide effort to mark the 50th anniversary of the powerful public response that followed the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. HerStory Ensemble is an advocacy and empowerment community-based organization comprised of women experiencing homelessness, who are formerly homeless, or at risk of homelessness. Learn more about the exhibit.

In Sacramento, Judge Issues Preliminary Injunction against Panhandling Ordinance

U.S. District Court Judge England issued a preliminary injunction stopping the City of Sacramento from enforcing an expansive anti-solicitation ordinance because it violates people's First Amendment rights by restricting free speech. The lawsuit was filed by Legal Services of Northern CA and the ACLU Foundation of Northern CA on behalf of the Sacramento Regional Coalition to End Homelessness and James "Faygo" Clark.

Chicago Coalition for the Homeless Utilizing Illinois Bill of Rights for the Homeless Act

Earlier this year, the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) successfully reached a settlement with the City of Chicago in a suit involving a homeless man whose possessions were thrown away by city sanitation crews. This was the first substantive case filed under the Illinois Bill of Rights for the Homeless

Act, which was enacted in 2013 under advocacy by the CCH. Since then, two more cases responding to the city's actions in Uptown and in the Lower Wacker area have been filed by the CCH based on the Homeless Bill of Rights. [Learn more about the work of the CCH.](#)

Announcements

Introduction of New Americorps VISTAs!

Dejah Craddock, Nicole Davies, and Rachel Lee are the new Americorps VISTA members who will be serving at the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty over the next year. [Read their bios.](#) They are primarily working on the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign. They look forward to expanding the Campaign's capacity and contributing to the work of the Law Center. Rachel Lee will be the primary point of contact for the HNH network, contact her at rlee@nlchp.org.



VISTA
Volunteers in Service to America

Call for Paper Submissions about Homelessness and Environmental Justice

Environmental Justice, a peer-reviewed journal that explores the equitable treatment of all people with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies, is welcoming submissions of your research, opinions, commentaries, and other academic writing related to homelessness and environmental justice. This could be an opportunity to talk about homeless persons' criminalization including sweeps of encampments based on "environmental concerns", and lack of adequate access to water and sanitation. The manuscript submission deadline is **September 15, 2018**. [Learn more about this opportunity.](#)

SAVE THE DATE! Housing Not Handcuffs Network Web Convening

On ---September 13, 2018, there will be a web convening for the entire Housing Not Handcuffs campaign network! [Register now](#). If you have any agenda items for the meeting or updates that you would like to share, please email Rachel Lee at rlee@nlchp.org.

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](#).

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In the News

South Seattle Emerald, July 19

[Why Is a Statewide Anti-Union Group Trying to Stop a Tiny House Village in Seattle?](#)

The Mercury News, July 23

[Downtown San Jose welcomes first 100% homeless housing project](#)

The Washington Post, July 24

[In L.A., skid row's homeless deal with yet more misery as tents go up in flames](#)

The San Diego Union-Tribune, July 26

[Judge weighs injunction on RV parking restriction](#)

NJ.com, July 27

[With private funding, Newark reopens temporary homeless](#)

Fox 12 Oregon, July 27

[A \\$12M pilot program hopes to tackle homelessness and mental illness in Portland](#)

**NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY**

This newsletter was designed, drafted, and distributed by the
National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty
nlchp.org

on behalf of the Housing Not Handcuffs Campaign
housingnohandcuffs.org