



NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

LOCAL EVENTS – AS OF TUESDAY DECEMBER 23, 2008 1PM EST

(THIS LIST WILL BE UPDATED REGULARLY THROUGH DECEMBER 21, 2008)

THE NATIONAL HEALTH CARE FOR THE HOMELESS COUNCIL, THE NATIONAL CONSUMER ADVISORY BOARD AND THE NATIONAL COALITION FOR THE HOMELESS HAVE LEARNED OF THE FOLLOWING EVENTS:

Don't see your event listed here? [LET US KNOW!](#)
Don't know of an event in your area? [PUT ONE ON YOURSELF!](#)

For general inquiries, please email Jony at jbell@nationalhomeless.org

ALABAMA

MOBILE

There is going to be a memorial for the homeless of Mobile, to take place at Franklin Primary Health Center's H. E. Savage medical clinic (553 Dauphin St.) on Friday, December 19, from 12:30-1:00pm.

Following the memorial there will be refreshments and a gift bag for HCH clients.

For more information, please contact:

Michael Capata
(251) 694-1801

mjcapata@franklinprimary.org

ALASKA

ARIZONA

TEMPE

A Tempe-based group that helps people move out of homelessness will hold a memorial service for people in Maricopa County who died homeless this year.

The memorial will be held at 6:30pm Saturday December 20 at Desert Palm United Church of Christ in the 1200 block of East Guadalupe Road, as the local observation of National Homeless Persons Memorial Day.

People attending are asked to bring a blanket or sleeping bag to donate to help the homeless.

The service is being coordinated by the Interfaith Homeless Emergency Lodging Program, and is part of a national commemoration across the country.

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I-HELP is made up of more than 20 Tempe faith communities that provide homeless people with hope and opportunity for a better future by offering shelter, meals and connections to community services.

For more information, please visit:

www.az-ihelp.org

ARKANSAS

LITTLE ROCK will have a Memorial Day Event. For information, please contact Patty Lindeman at HungerFreeARK@aol.com

CALIFORNIA

ISLA VISTA

St. Athanasius Orthodox Church and our homeless outreach ministry called St Brigid Fellowship are holding a memorial service at 5:00 p.m., a dinner at 6:00 p.m. and an all-night vigil and safe sleeping event on Sunday the 21st. 976 Embarcadero Del Mar, Isla Vista, CA 93117.

For more information, please call:

(805) 968-8028

LANCASTER

Grace Resources – a local organization which provides food and sundry goods to the homeless and other poor people – is going to do a service on December 21, at 6:30PM.

For more information, please contact:

LeeRoy Halley lhalley@stei.com or (661) 942-1139

LOS ANGELES – SANTA MONICA

3rd Street Promenade (Just South of Arizona)

When: Sunday December 21, 2008; 4:00 pm - 5:30 pm

For more information, please contact:

Claire Douglas

claire@lacehh.org

(213) 251-0041 x105

LOS ANGELES – STUDIO CITY

Candlelight Vigil for Those who Died Homeless in Los Angeles County

Where: Corner of Laurel Canyon and Ventura Blvd. - Studio City, CA (north-east corner in front of Washington Mutual bank. Ample parking available in the bank parking lot.)

When: Sunday December 21, 2008; 4:00pm - 5:30pm

Background:

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December 21, 2008 is National Homeless Memorial Day. Los Angeles Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness will join with thousands across the country to memorialize those in our community who died homeless.

In 2008, 393 people died homeless in Los Angeles County.

Please join L.A. Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness for a memorial vigil to remember those 393 people who died homeless in Los Angeles County this year. We will read each of the 393 names during the ceremony followed by "Presente."

Please bring signs. Suggested wording: Memorial for those who Died Homeless.
Candles will be provided.

Please let us know you are coming by contacting:

Susie Shannon

Los Angeles Coalition to End Hunger and Homelessness

susie@lacehh.org or (323) 939-5475.

If you would like to organize your own neighborhood memorial vigil for the homeless, please contact us at susie@lacehh.org

LOS ANGELES – VAN NUYS

St, Mark's Episcopal Church in Van Nuys, California will be observing Homeless Persons Memorial Day on December 21, 2008. Michael Menchaca will preach at their 8:00 and 10:00 regular services on that date. He plans to preach on the topic of Birthing Christ Into a Cold, Dark World. In addition he will be facilitating a discussion regarding issues of homelessness in Los Angeles after each service.

As part of the Prayers for the People we will be reading names of those who have died on the street, celebrating them as part of the human family and commending their souls to God.

For more information, please contact:

Michael Menchaca, RN, AHNP, MS

Northeast Valley Health Corporation Homeless Healthcare Project

(818) 765-8656 x50608

SACRAMENTO

On December 23, Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee's Homeless Leadership Project and many other co-sponsors are having a Safe Ground Homeless March and Press Conference and Rally at Cesar Chavez Park. At the Park we will read the names of those that died homeless this past year, lead by Reverend Linda Kelly.

Safe Ground March starts at Loaves & Fishes at 1321 North C Street, Sacramento, CA. Press Conference, Rally and Memorial will be at Cesar Chavez Park (10th and J Streets, Sacramento) from 2:00 to 3:30pm.

For more information, please see:

<http://shoc.wikispaces.com>

SAN FRANCISCO

Thursday December 18th. An interfaith service hosted by Rev. Glenda Hope.

For more information, please contact:

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Paul Boden
Western Regional Advocacy Project
(415) 621-2533

SAN JOSE

The names of 82 people who died homeless in Santa Clara County were read Wednesday, December 17 in a ceremony at the Boccardo Reception Center. The event was put on by ECH Lifebuilders.

San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed responded to the 82 names read during the ceremony and the candles that were lighted for each one. He said the number of deaths are too many and the problems leading to the deaths should not be taken as an accepted fact.

SANTA CRUZ

We will be hosting our tenth annual Memorial Service for people in the homeless community in Santa Cruz County who have died in the past year. The service will be Monday morning, December 22 at 10 am at the Homeless Services Center, 115-D Coral Street, Santa Cruz California.

Along with the traditional reading of the names of all the people who have died over the past 12 months, we also intend to display the names of all of the people in the homeless community who have been memorialized over these ten years.

For more information, please contact:

Matt Nathanson, RN
Homeless Persons Health Project
831-454-5187

VENTURA

There will be a Homeless Persons' Memorial Service at Plaza Park in Ventura, California at 3 p.m. on December 21, 2008.

It is sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura and the Universalist Unitarian Church of Santa Paula and will remember those who have died homeless in Ventura County.

For more information, please contact:

Jan Christian
minister@uuventura.org

COLORADO

DENVER

A candlelight vigil will be held on Thursday December 18th from 5:30-6:00pm on the steps of the City and County Building (1437 Bannock St). The mayor will speak.

COLORADO SPRINGS

The Street Church will host a Homeless Persons Memorial Service on Sunday, December 21st (6pm) at Antlers Park, downtown. On the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, we join more than one hundred cities across the country to remember our neighbors and friends who have died without homes. The service will be followed by dinner. Friends welcome.

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For more information, please contact:

Robert Moran
(719) 494-9912
robert@thestreetchurch.com
www.thestreetchurch.com

CONNECTICUT

BRIDGEPORT

The Southwest Community Health Center McKinney Health Care for the Homeless Program
And Bridgeport Rescue Mission present:

The Fourth Annual Community Memorial Service
In Honor of those Homeless Citizens Who Died in 2008

Sunday, December 21, 2008

1:30PM – 2:30PM

Bridgeport Rescue Mission

1088 Fairfield Avenue

Bridgeport, Ct 06605

1:15PM - Praise and Worship Team singing

Opening Prayer – Rev Terry Wilcox, Director Bridgeport Rescue Mission

Welcoming Remarks – Katherine Yacavone, CEO/President Southwest Community Health
Center

Bill Finch (or representative), Mayor of Bridgeport

Jodi Rell (or representative), Governor State of Connecticut

David Jackson of Taste and See Ministries will sing and give testimony

State Sen: John McKinney (or representative)

Some Men and Women of Bridgeport Rescue Mission will give testimony

Church Choir to sing Amazing Grace

The reading of the names of Homeless people who died this year and the placing of flowers in
the wreath

Closing Remarks – Father Michael Moran, Bridgeport Rescue Mission

Bridgeport Rescue Mission will be serving the days' main meal from 2:30-4:00pm for all who
want to partake.

Dress warm – The Memorial is being held outside

For more information, please contact:

Rick DeNisco or Betsy Baldwin
(203) 330-6010

PARKING AT 968 FAIRFIELD AVENUE OR ON THE STREET

NEW BRITAIN

Please join us in remembering the homeless individuals that have died in the past year, and to
support the ongoing fight to end homeless in our community.

Beginning at 1pm on December 19th, a memorial service and candlelight vigil will be held at
the Erwin Chapel of South Church, 90 Main Street, New Britain.

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Guest speakers will include Mayor of New Britain Timothy Stewart, Greg Howey, chairman of Okay Industries, Executive Director of the Friendship Center Ellen Perkins Simpson, Congressman Chris Murphy, and State Senator Donald DeFronzo.

Music will be provided courtesy of Jeanette Gross of the Friendship Center. Tea and hot chocolate will be served, and goody-bags filled with everyday essentials will be provided.

For more information please contact:

Agi Erickson

860-224-3642 ext. 5551 or ericksa@chc1.com

MIDDLETOWN

****Due to the forecast of inclement weather for Friday**

THE MEMORIAL SERVICE HAS BEEN POSTPONED TO MONDAY, DECEMBER 22ND AT 4PM.

We are sorry for any inconvenience & hope to see you at the memorial service on Monday.**

(PLEASE NOTE: The information below has been changed to reflect the above notice.)

A memorial service and candlelight vigil will be held at the Church of the Holy Trinity located at 381 Main Street beginning at 4pm on December 22nd. Join us to remember those who have passed, and to support the ongoing battle against homelessness in our community.

Guest speakers will include Mark Masselli, CEO of the Community Health Center, Inc, Lydia Brewster from the Coalition to End Homelessness, Mayor Sebastian Giuliano of Middletown, executive director of St. Vincent DePaul Ron Krom, executive director of CT River Valley Services Howard Reid, Anthony Gaunichaux and Neil Greenway from American Legion Post 206, and consumers John Sarno and Azure Smikle from the Middletown area.

Other activities will include music from Paula Dutilly, Nancy Stanley, Joel Dodd, and Jeanette Gross. Tea and hot chocolate will be served, and goody-bags filled with everyday essentials will be provided.

For more information please contact:

Agi Erickson

860-224-3642 ext. 5551 or ericksa@chc1.com

DELAWARE

Each year, on the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, December 21st, communities throughout the nation hosts events to bring attention to the tragedy of homelessness. Many organizations and churches throughout the State will be hosting events on Sunday, December 21st. A listing of events include:

- ❖ Spiritual Awakenings: Prayer Meeting, Dinner, Clothing Give Away
2 pm; Girls Inc (26th and Carter Street, Wilmington, DE)

- ❖ House of Joseph II: Memorial Service at 6 pm (7-9 West 18th Street, Wilmington, DE)

A current list will be available on the Homeless Planning Council's Website (www.hpcdelaware.org). For more information about the memorial service, call **Susan Starrett** at (302) 654-0126.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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WASHINGTON

The National Coalition for the Homeless, the National Health Care for the Homeless Council and the National Consumer Advisory Board present the 19th Annual National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Vigil on December 21st at 7:00pm in Columbus Plaza outside of Union Station (40 Massachusetts Ave NE).

The Vigil will include testimonials, music, poetry and the reading of the names of those who have died while homeless in Washington, DC.

For more information, please contact:

Michael O'Neill

(202) 462-4822

moneill@nationalhomeless.org

FLORIDA

CHARLOTTE COUNTY (MURDOCK CITY)

10th Annual Vigil for the Homeless

The Charlotte County Collective (C3) invites the public to participate in a candlelight vigil for deceased homeless persons on Sun., Dec. 21 at 6:00 p.m. at the Genesis Center located at 1476 Kenesaw Street in Murdock. A meal will be available at 5:00 p.m.

The C3 is holding the event in conjunction with National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, an annual event held throughout the nation to remember those who have died as homeless persons. It is also an opportunity to raise awareness of homelessness in America and individual communities.

Eleven people will be memorialized with a permanent plaque at the Genesis Center. Danny Collins 47; Austin Brockman 62; David Kasin 41; Steven Winters 50; David Siler 49; Robert McCalley 51; Roy G. Carter 53; Danny Reta 46 and three United States Military Veterans: William Harrison 57; Frank Ezzelle 66; Paul Mickiewicz 48.

For more information, please contact:

Iain E. Ocasio, B.A.

Charlotte County Homeless Coalition, Inc.

(941) 627-4313

FT. LAUDERDALE

Help us celebrate the Holidays with our Homeless Neighbors!

Date: Saturday, December 20, 2008

Time: 9:00 a.m. Haircuts

11:00 Event Opens

Noon – Lunch Served

Location: City of Ft Lauderdale Parking Garage, Next to City Hall 100 N. Andrews Ave.

Includes complete lunch, Live Entertainment, Holiday Gifts, Haircuts and many other special treats!

For more information, please contact:

The Coalition to End Homelessness

(954) 792-4000 - Ask for Laura or Ric

FT. MYERS

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In 2008, at least 15 homeless individuals lost their lives while living on the streets or in shelters in Lee County. The Lee County Homeless Coalition's 12th Annual Candlelight Vigil will be held on Sunday, Dec. 21, at 6:00pm on the steps of the Old Lee County Courthouse located at 2120 Main St. in Fort Myers. The Candlelight Vigil mourns those who have died while living on the streets or in shelters, and it educates communities that the lack of affordable housing, shelter, living wages, and accessible health care is a problem that must be addressed. The Candlelight Vigil will include opening remarks by Janet Bartos, Coordinator of the Lee County Homeless Coalition, and Allan Bratton, Chairman of the Community Awareness and Education Task Force. Father Robert Browning will provide the opening prayer and Christian Allmendinger will perform Taps.

For more information, please call:

(239) 533-7948

www.leehomeless.org

KEY WEST

On December 19th the Florida Keys Outreach Coalition for the Homeless will dedicate a recently acquired vault at the historic Key West Cemetery. The vault will provide a final resting place for as many as 300 individuals who die homeless and without family or friends to claim their remains.

Clergy associated with the Outreach Coalition, in partnership with the Southernmost Homeless Assistance League and Monroe County Social Services, will also conduct an internment service for 11 individuals who died homeless or indigent in Monroe County over past months. The cremated remains will be then placed in a common vault maintained by the County.

The service will begin at 3:00pm and the public is welcome to pay their respects. Please meet at the cemetery's front entrance (located at Passover Lane and Angela Street) to be escorted to the mausoleum.

For more information, please contact:

FrBraddock@cs.com

MELBOURNE

Daily Bread, a non-profit organization in Melbourne, FL which feeds the poor, hungry and homeless in our area, will have our annual memorial ceremony on our premises, 815 East Fee Ave., Melbourne, Florida 32901 on December, 19, 2008, at 3PM.

There will be an opening by the ranking officer of Salvation Army, prayer and Scripture read by 9 other clergy of different denominations, reading of a proclamation dedicated to the celebration of the day, promulgated by the Brevard County Board of Commissioners, a reading of the names of those homeless known to us who have died in the past twelve months, a wreath laying ceremony and "blowing" of "Taps".

For more information, please contact:

John E. Farrell

(321) 723-1060

MIAMI

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The Miami Coalition for the Homeless, the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and the Homeless/Formerly Homeless Forum will be having The Homeless Person's Memorial Day on Thursday, December 18, 2008 from 12:30 pm – 1:30 pm. The service and vigil will be held at the lobby of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center located at 111 NW 1st St., Miami, and will include the reading of the names of those homeless and formerly homeless people who passed away in Miami-Dade County over the past 12 months.

For more information, please contact:

Michelle Cerrato Dominguez
(305) 571-8101

michelle@miamihomeless.org

ORLANDO

First UCC Church of Orlando, Holy Angels Catholic Church, First Vagabond Church of God and Orlando Food Not Bombs present a Homeless Persons' Memorial Day event on September 21st on the Plaza in Front of Orlando City Hall on Orange Avenue @ 7:00pm

For more information, please contact:

Alan Clapsaddle

alan@lovepeacejustice.org

TALLAHASSEE

Join us for a candlelight vigil to honor and remember those who died, while homeless, in our community & around the world.

Carter-Howell-Strong Park (Corner of Georgia & Copeland)

Sunday, December 21st 5:00 – 6:00pm

Services facilitated by Eric Camil of Breakfast in the Park, Inc.

A light dinner and refreshments will be served.

For more information, please contact:

Stephanie Shepherd

The Big Bend Homeless Coalition:

(850) 205-6010

sshepherd@bigbendhc.org

TAMPA

Our event will be held on December 22, 2008 (the day after the national day). It will start at 6 pm and is located at Joe Chillura Courthouse Square (across from County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd., Tampa, FL 33602)

For more information, please contact:

Cheryl DeFlavis

(813) 223.6115

cheryl@homelessofhc.org

WEST PALM BEACH

Project Connect taps into the resources within the community to find creative solutions to help the homeless. Through relationships with business owners, professionals, and

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volunteers in the community, the homeless and those facing homeless will be provided with services on Friday, November 21, 2008 from 9:00am-12:00pm.

PROJECT CONNECT is a community event being held at the Palm Beach County Health Department, located at 1150 45th Street, West Palm Beach. Services being provided to the homeless include identification cards, haircuts, phone station for the homeless to make phone calls, and food. Health screenings will be offered. Donations of clothing, small household items and hygiene kits will be available to all the homeless attending this event.

A memorial service for those who have lost their lives to being homeless will conclude this community event. Sadly, every year, there are several homeless who die in our community. The memorial service is to remember those who have died as a result of their homelessness, those without homes in Palm Beach County.

GEORGIA

ATLANTA

The Georgia Coalition To End Homelessness invites you to join with us, Saint Josephs Mercy Care Services and The National Health Care for the Homeless Council for the Homeless Memorial Vigil.

December 19, 2008 5:30pm

424 Decatur Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30312

Join us on December 19, 2008 for a candlelight vigil to commemorate the members of our community who died homeless in 2008.

For more information, please contact:

Tom Plamann

tom@gahomeless.org

(770) 575-5786 x102

ATLANTA

NCH Board Member Anita Beaty reports on the Memorial Day events in Atlanta:

“We have for twenty years celebrated Homeless Memorial Day beginning on All Saints Day, November 1 – we select the weekday closest to November 1 for a day of action, celebration and mourning. We end the day with a huge Requiem for Homeless people who have died during the past year, and we walk crosses and markers up the aisles and lay them on the altar; we light a candle for each person and we call the names out and the Cathedral bell rings. We fill the cathedral with homeless people, advocates, service providers, elected officials and all the folks who care about homelessness and justice. It is a glorious day.

We begin the day with coffee and donuts and then we march down Peachtree Street with two coffins -- an adult coffin and a white child's coffin. This year, on Monday, November 3, we had about three hundred people marching to City Hall, where we held a rally with elected officials and we prayed a Litany and laid all the new crosses on the grass outside. A church we love brought a wonderful meal, which we shared and then went inside to the City Council Meeting where we presented a request for resolution asking Fulton County Marshall to agree to a moratorium on evictions from foreclosed rental property and from public housing (we got that on Wednesday of last week!!!).

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After the City Council meeting we began the transportation to the Cathedral for dinner and the Requiem.”

For more information, please contact:

Anita Beaty

anitalawbeaty@aol.com

HAWAII

HONOLULU

Remembering people in our communities who have passed on without shelter

Friday, December 19, 2008 3:00-6:30pm

Kaumakapili Church in Kalihi

(N. King & Palama, across Tamashiro Market – street parking only)

3:00pm - Free lunch & live entertainment!

4:00 & 5:00pm - Free prize drawings!

5:45pm - Candlelight ceremony!

6:00pm - Clothing, toiletries & Christmas gifts giveaway!

Please join families, friends and houseless persons as they speak about their losses

For more information, or to donate blankets, towels, clothing, toiletries, toys & Christmas gifts, please contact:

Street Beat

Sherry (808) 946-9324

Ron (808) 351-7759

sbhawaii@yahoo.com

IDAHO

BOISE

For more information about the Memorial Day Vigil planned for Boise, please contact:

Ashley Kauffman

El Ada Community Action Partnership

(208) 345-2820 x17

ILLINOIS

CHICAGO

Together with Heartland Health Outreach's Health Care for the Homeless Consumer Advisory Board, the HHO HCH Outreach Team is holding a Memorial gathering to honor, celebrate the lives, and remember those who have died in 2008 while experiencing homelessness.

Date: Wednesday, Dec 17, 2008

Time: 9 am

Address: 4750 N. Sheridan Rd, first floor – Lumumba Room

For more information, please contact:

Kathleen Kelleghan

(773) 751.1788

INDIANA

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FORT WAYNE

The city of Fort Wayne, Indiana had their service on Sunday December 21 in sub-zero temperatures with wind chill factors reaching 14 - 20 below. (!!)

"We meet at the Rescue Mission at 6:00 p.m., walk about 6 blocks to Headwaters Park, circle up under an open pavilion and a minister, pastor, priest, or rabbi, chosen every year, delivers the message. We end with a moment of silence for those who have died and walk back to the Rescue Mission. This year we had over 50 people including some who were homeless come out carrying flashlights or battery operated candles. The wind was blowing too hard for real ones. This event is well covered in the media and there are articles in both the Journal Gazette and the News Sentinel. You can view these articles on line. Our local WANE TV also covers the event annually. Fort Wayne has been holding this memorial service without fail since 1992. It is always on the 21st at 6:00 p.m. at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission if you would like to post it for next year. It is always the same."

For more information, please contact:

Ann Helmke

mahelmke@vincenthouse.net

INDIANAPOLIS

Annual memorial service honored deceased homeless. The Mayor joined community in reflection of 38 lives lost. The Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) honored 38 local homeless neighbors who died this year at its annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Service.

The annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Service was held on the Friday before winter solstice, December 19th, at 11:00 a.m. at Christ Church Cathedral, 125 Monument Circle. The community was invited to join in this service as the lives lost this past year are not forgotten.

The service featured remarks from Indianapolis Mayor Gregory A. Ballard, a supporter in the fight to end homelessness. Two formerly homeless neighbors, Valerie Hogston and Kayona Bingham, shared their individual struggles with homelessness and the inspiring events that helped them regain their lives and homes.

Following the service, CHIP hosted a complimentary luncheon for the homeless and formerly homeless neighbors in attendance as well as the service providers and volunteers who work with those experiencing homelessness on a daily basis.

For more information:

Emily Hervey

(317) 472-7640

www.chipindy.org

www.endhomelessnessindy.org

KOKOMO

CAM, Inc. Invites You to the 11th Annual National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Sunday, December 21st ~ The Longest Night of the Year

Please Come to the Porch of CAM (210 N Market St)

For a Candlelight Vigil 6:00pm

We come to remember and honor all of our friends and family members of CAM who have died since last year's Memorial Service. Pastor Paul Sutherland will be speaking at this service.

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We will light a candle and share memories of CAM Clients and Volunteers who have passed since our last Memorial Service.

This service will only last 30 minutes. If you come, please dress very warm. It is always cold on this night.

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Ruth Lawson
(765) 452-8963

IOWA

KANSAS

WICHITA

The 12th annual memorial will take place on the 21st of December at St. Paul's United Methodist Church

For more information, please contact:

Sandy Swank
sswank@ifmnet.org

KENTUCKY

EVANSVILLE

A memorial service to bring attention to the tragedy of homelessness will take place Thursday morning in Downtown Evansville.

During the 10 a.m. event at Trinity United Methodist Church, 216 SE Third St., six more candles will join 59 already lit, symbolic of six local people who died this year while facing the day-to-day realities and long-term effects of being homeless, or without stable housing.

That brings the number of such deaths recorded in Vanderburgh County since 1990 to at least 65, according to Kat Isbell, education specialist with Aurora, a local group working to end homelessness.

Someone will light an additional candle for the "unknown" deaths.

Contributions of time, money or personal care and household items can be made by calling the number below.

Isbell said Aurora is encouraging those who can't attend Thursday's service to pause and remember, and if they know of someone who died while homeless to **call the agency** at (606) 428-3246.

LOUISIANA

MAINE

BANGOR

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I am writing to inform you that Penobscot Community Health Care is organizing its third annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day event in Bangor, Maine. There will be a candlelight walk from the local homeless shelter to a church, followed by a memorial service. The service will include music, speakers, and a reading of the proclamation declaring the 21st as Homeless Persons' Memorial Day in Bangor. A candle will be lit and the bell will toll for each homeless individual who has passed away. We are aware of six homeless individuals who have died in 2008, and fifty-one who have passed away in the last decade.

For more information, please contact:

Julia Oakley
Summer Street Community Clinic
(207) 992-2636 x506

LEWISTON

There was a vigil in Lewiston Monday (Dec 22) evening, to remember the homeless. Organized by the Lewiston-Auburn Alliance for Services to the Homeless, it was part of a nationwide observance of National Homeless Memorial Day, held each year on the longest night of the year.

For more information, please contact:

Mary Ruchinskas
(207) 795-4077

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE

A public memorial service will take place on Sunday, December 21 (5:00pm at Baltimore's Inner Harbor Amphitheatre), to remember those men and women who died in 2008 without a regular place to stay. Memorial Day events are organized locally by SHARP, a coalition of individuals and organizations working to "Stop Homelessness And Reduce Poverty."

For more information, please contact:

Adam Schneider
(410)837-5533 x1398
aschneider@hchmd.org

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON

19th Annual Memorial Service for People Who Died Homeless

Two events:

1) Sunday, December 21 at 4:15 pm till Monday, December 22 at 11:30 am

A new twist this year –

A candlelight vigil in solidarity with those who are still homeless will begin at Sunset on Sunday, December 21st (the longest night of the year) and continue throughout the night, with music and prayers offered periodically.

Location: On the steps of St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 138 Tremont Street

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2) Monday, December 22 at 1:00 pm

An Interfaith Remembrance of Those Who Have Died Without Homes will include prayers and readings from several faith traditions, and speakers representing organizations that work to end homelessness. All are welcome.

Speakers: Mr. Robert Pulster

Director, Massachusetts Interagency Council on Housing and Homelessness

Ms. Sharon Reilly

Executive Director of Women's Lunch Place

Others to be announced

Location: St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 138 Tremont Street

Sponsored by Ecclesia Ministries common cathedral, Doorbell Ministries, Church on the Hill, Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance, St. Francis House, Pilgrim Church in Dorchester, Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries, and the Cathedral Church of St. Paul's

For more information, please contact:

The Rev. Kathy McAdams

(617) 347-8582

RevKathyMcAdams@yahoo.com

or

Mike Banciewicz

(617) 599-9773

Moxie12794@aol.com

HYANNIS (CAPE COD)

National Homeless Persons Memorial day will be marked Dec. 21 with a service on the village green in Hyannis at 5:30 p.m. and an overnight "camp" of tents on the grounds of the Salvation Army on North Street in Hyannis.

Organizer Alan Burt is looking for volunteers to speak to people about homelessness and hand out fliers for the events. "My prayer," Burt wrote, "is that one year we will fill the Hyannis Village Green as we do when the Boston Pops comes each year."

For more information, please contact:

Alan Burt

(508) 648-2084

alanburtmail@yahoo.com

WORCESTER

Ten-mile-per-hour winds made the 31-degree temperature seem even colder Dec 17 during the first of three vigils to commemorate the homeless women.

Real Solutions, which is a local antipoverty group, Community Healthlink, South Middlesex Opportunity Council, and Sts. Francis and Therese Catholic Worker held another vigil at 5pm Dec 18 at Park Avenue and Parker Street for a woman identified as Nancy who was found dead outdoors near that location.

A third vigil was held at 5 p.m. Dec 19 at 856 Main St. for Joyce Coughlin, 51, who was sexually assaulted before her body was found after a fire at that address. There was also a memorial service at 3 p.m. Sunday at the People in Peril shelter, 701 Main St.

Against a backdrop of signs saying that "We're all responsible" and "Homelessness is violence," Cha Cha O'Connor of Real Solutions said the groups are paying special attention to the women who perished because sexual assault and other factors make homelessness

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especially dangerous for them. There is a stereotype that all homelessness is a male phenomenon, said Deborah J. Ekstrom, head of Community Healthlink.

For more information, please contact:

Brooke Doyle
(508) 860-1057

MICHIGAN

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS

To honor and remember those who have died while homeless in Minnesota. The Homeless Memorial March is a silent march. We ask all in attendance to respect the spirit of the event and the memory of those who have died.

Thursday, December 18, 2008

5:00 pm | March & Silent Vigil

Hennepin County Government Center [3rd Ave S & 5th St S, Minneapolis]

The march will follow 5th St S westward to Nicollet Ave and proceed south to 28th St

6:30 pm | Service of Remembrance

Simpson United Methodist Church [2740 1st Ave S, Minneapolis]

Speaker: John Song, Assistant Professor, Center for Bioethics; Assistant Professor, Department of Medicine, University of Minnesota Medical School

Music to include: Bag-piping, George Mejia; Cello, Saleha Erdman

7:30 pm | Community Meal

Simpson Shelter, lower level of Simpson UMC

All are welcome.

Shuttles to the march will depart from Kmart, Lake St & 1st Ave, Mpls. at 4:20 pm sharp

For more information, please contact:

John Petroskas
JPetroskas@ccspm.org

RED LAKE

Memorial Feast and Fire

Mishkwaa-ga-mii-wii-zaaga'iganiing Giiwishiiwigamig

(Red Lake Homeless Shelter – at the Red Lake Indian Reservation)

Thursday, December 18, 2008

Memorial Fire – dawn to dusk

Ceremony & Feast – 11:00am

Please join us for our 5th annual remembrance of our sisters and brothers whose lives were shortened by being without housing.

For more information, please contact:

Carol Priest
(218) 679-3368

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priest@paulbunyan.net

MISSISSIPPI

JACKSON

On Friday December 19 a circle ceremony, complete with drumming, will remember homeless people who have died on Jackson's streets during the year.

The Mississippi State Hospital Community Services Stubbs Homeless Program and the Partners to End Homelessness Continuum of Care will co-sponsor

James Ivory Homeless Persons' Memorial Day at 10:00am at Opportunity Center, a Stewpot Community Services day shelter at 845 Amite St. in Jackson.

Locally, the annual observance has been named after the late James Ivory, a former director of the Jackson-Hinds Comprehensive Health Center's Homeless Clinic. Jackson is among more than 100 U.S. cities observing this event.

For more information, please call:

(601) 351-8523

MISSOURI

ST JOSEPH

Bring a flashlight and light the night in a silent walk in memory of homeless men and women and in memory of Mike Feurt, a veterans homeless advocate, and the Rev. Richard Dierkes, a homeless advocate and supporter.

A National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day silent walk and lighted service will begin at 5:30 Dec. 18 at the Salvation Army, 618 S. Sixth St. It will end at Juda House, 700 Olive St.

The local event is sponsored by St. Joseph's Continuum of Care.

Donations of blankets, sleeping bags, gloves, hats, socks, insulated coveralls and work boots will be accepted and will be given to area shelters for distribution.

For more information, please contact:

Kathy Welsch at (816) 390-8884 or kathy@communitymissionscorp.org

Kelly Ingram at (816) 232-5824 or Kelly_Ingram@usc.salvationarmy.org

ST. LOUIS

In memory of those who have died without a home:

Please join us at the National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Vigil

Sunday December 21st 4:00 – 5:00pm

@ Centenary Church (55 Plaza Square – 16th and Olive)

A candlelight vigil and ecumenical memorial service will be held to honour those persons who have died in St. Louis without a home. Please join us as we gather nationally to reflect and rededicate as a community to end this tragedy.

Please join us immediately after the service to share a meal with some of St. Louis' homeless individuals and families.

For more information, please contact:

LuAnn Oros

(314) 238-4056

Judith Ewbank

(314) 772 8801 x242

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MONTANA

BILLINGS

A small crowd gathered on the lawn of the Yellowstone County Courthouse Monday afternoon (December 15) to commemorate Homeless Persons Memorial Day.

The Yellowstone County Homeless Project and the Healthcare for the Homeless program of RiverStone Health held a candlelight vigil to remember homeless individuals who have died in the past year.

The homeless living in the Billings community, as well as families with children without food and shelter were also honored during the ceremonies.

A proclamation read during the ceremony declared homelessness as a significant community concern in the Magic City and urged residents to work together to end the problem.

The Yellowstone County Commission has designated December 15th as Homeless Remembrance Day, and the month of December as Homeless awareness month.

NEBRASKA

NEVADA

LAS VEGAS

The Homeless Memorial Candlelight Vigil is scheduled for Thursday, December 18, 2008, starting at 4:00pm.

We will hopefully start collecting items of nonperishable food, warm clothes, sleeping bags, blankets, and hygiene items from now until December 13th, 2008.

Please contact us with any items that you may have to contribute.

For more information, please contact:

Linda Lera-Randle El

Elusivebtrfli@aol.com

NEW HAMPSHIRE

CLAREMONT

At 6 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 21, the Open Hands Mission, an ecumenical soup kitchen and food pantry, is sponsoring a Homeless Memorial Day Candlelight Vigil on the steps of Claremont City Hall. Claremont's City Hall is located in the Claremont Opera House, 58 Opera House Square.

Bring a candle

CONCORD

Candlelight Vigil in Honor of Homeless Memorial Day

Friday, December 19

4:30 - 5:30 p.m.

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In front of the New Hampshire State House, Concord, NH
Please bring a canned food item to share with a local food pantry.
Sponsored by American Friends Service Committee.

For more information, please contact:

Maggie Fogarty
(603) 224-2407

KEENE

They touched our lives ~ Candlelight Memorial for the Homeless.

December 21 – 4:30-5:30pm

The Community Kitchen (37 Mechanic St, Keene)

Please join us to remember our homeless brothers and sisters and others that have touched our lives in our community that died recently.

We will consider the roots of homelessness and how our community can take action to address them.

Please bring gas cards, bottled water, diapers, towels or toiletries to donate to the local shelters. Sponsored by Southwestern Community Services Homeless Service Program, Working Families Win and the Community Kitchen, A Monadnock United Way Agency.

For more information, please contact:

Jaime Contois
(603) 504-2906
Jaime@wfwins.org

LACONIA

NH Catholic Charities, the Greater Laconia Ministerial Association and the Belknap County Continuum of Care are sponsoring a Homeless Memorial Day Remembrance Service Sunday, December 21, 2008 at 5:30pm at Veteran's Square. The community is invited to come and remember those who have lost their lives in 2008 because of homelessness and to support the many people who are living in shelters around the state.

Governor Lynch proclaimed this day Homeless Memorial Day as a way to realize that housing is essential for healthy families and the Continuum of Care recognizes housing is essential for strong communities. NH Catholic Charities and the Greater Laconia Ministerial Association acknowledges housing as a basic right that respects the dignity of each human person.

For more information, please contact:

Leonard Campbell
NH Catholic Charities
(603) 528.3035 x14
lcampbell@nh-cc.org

LEBANON

Please join 10 Brinks Homeless Programs for a candlelight vigil to remember those who have lost their lives in homelessness. December 21st from 5:00pm in Colburn Park (on the Green).

For more information, please contact:

(603) 443.6150
or visit www.tccaphomeless.org

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MANCHESTER

The Manchester vigil will be at 6:00pm on December 21st in Veterans park downtown.

For more information, please see:

www.nhunderthebridge.blogspot.com

NASHUA

A candlelight vigil on Monday, **December 22, 2008 from 5:00-6:00pm.**

In front of Nashua City Hall.

And let our candles be a beacon of light for those who have died.

Let us remember all the homeless people.

Homeless people die from exposure to the cold.

Let us not allow another homeless person to die for lack of caring.

Homeless people die from a society that does not care; what you do not see does not exist.

Housing, safety and health care is a right not a privilege.

For more information, please contact:

Ken Lewis, Harbor Homes

(603) 882-3616 x. 1151

NEW JERSEY

ATLANTIC CITY

Mission HealthCare - AtlantiCare Health Services is having their candle light vigil on December 22nd. It is in collaboration with the clinic, homeless center, soup kitchen, Jewish Family Services and Covenant House.

Names of those who died in the past year will be read aloud and refreshments are served afterwards.

For more information, please contact:

Bridgette M Richardson LCSW

(609) 344-5714

NEW MEXICO

ALBUQUERQUE

Join communities across the nation as we remember those who passed away in 2008 while homeless or as result of experiencing homelessness.

1:00pm: Meet at the ABQ Health Care for the Homeless "Memorial Wall" for a short ceremony (1st & Mountain on the northwest side of the building)

1:15pm: March from ABQ Health Care for the Homeless to First United Methodist Church

2:00-3:30pm: Memorial Service & Vigil inside the First United Methodist Church (4th & Lead)

For more information, please contact:

Lisa at the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness

(505) 217-9570 or Lisa-L@nmceh.org

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LAS CRUCES

Mesilla Valley Community of Hope and the Southern New Mexico Homeless Providers present the Annual Candlelight Memorial Vigil and Dinner

Monday Dec. 15th from 5:30-7 pm at El Caldito Soup Kitchen (999 W. Amador Ave.)

Remembering those in our community who died on our streets this year.

Volunteers needed to sign up in two-hour shifts

Set up: 4-6 pm

Serve 5-7 pm

Clean Up 6-8 pm

Email hope@zianet.com or call Pamela at 523-2219 to sign up

We are also accepting small monetary donations to help pay for the food and serving supplies.

Checks should be made to MVCH and a notation in the memo that says Vigil or Dinner.

For more information, please contact:

Pamela Angell

hope@zianet.com

SANTA FE

The Santa Fe vigil happens on December 19 beginning at 5:30pm. The vigil will begin at St. Elizabeth Shelter and the group will march through the new Rail Yard Park to the offices of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness where a short ceremony will be held to remember those who died in Santa Fe.

For more information, please contact:

Hank Hughes

Hank-H@nmceh.org

NEW YORK

New York

Unnamed... Unforgettable

Some we know their names, many we don't – but none are forgotten.

Join Picture the Homeless for an interfaith memorial service dedicated to our homeless brothers and sisters who have passed away this year.

Hosted by Judson Memorial Church – Sunday, December 21

55 Washington Square So. 6:00-7:30pm

Service followed by refreshments and fellowship, 7:30 -9:00pm

[Metro cards will be provided for PTH members.]

Directions: A,B,C,D,E,F,V Trains to W. 4th St., Walk east to Washington Square Park

Or the #6 train to Astor Place or Bleecker St. or the N,R,Q train to 8th St

Failed housing policies, indifference, greed, empty buildings, poverty, racism and hate crimes all lead to early deaths. Join with us to change the conditions that lead to homelessness!

For more information, please contact:

Brandon King

(646) 314-6423

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

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brandon@picturethehomeless.org

NORTH CAROLINA

DURHAM

Join fellow Durham citizens in recognizing and remembering our homeless citizens that passes away in 2008 with a candlelight vigil, words of remembrance and singing.

Downtown City Hall

Sunday, December 21st @ 5:30pm

For more information, please contact:

(919) 682-0538 x21

pdonlon@umdurham.org

NORTH DAKOTA

OHIO

CINCINNATI

December 21, dusk (5:30) in Washington Park (near Nast Trinity Church)

For more information, please contact:

The Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless

(513) 421-7803

CLEVELAND

The NE Ohio Coalition for the Homeless is having their Homeless Memorial Day/Candlelight Vigil on Sunday December 21, 2008 at 12:30 pm at St. Augustine Church 2486 West 14th St. with an elected official speaking and the reading of the names of those who passed away.

For more information, please contact:

Brian Davis

briandavis@neoch.org

COLUMBUS

The Columbus Coalition for the Homeless and the Interfaith Association of Central Ohio will hold an Interfaith Memorial Service to celebrate the lives of homeless and formerly homeless people who died in 2008 on Thursday, December 18th at 5:30 pm at Trinity Episcopal Church (125 E. Broad St.)

For more information, please contact:

Shea

(614) 228-1342

columbushomeless@yahoo.com

DAYTON

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

The Emergency Housing Coalition is hosting a memorial service at Courthouse Square in downtown Dayton on Friday, December 19.

The 30-minute service will begin at 12:00pm (noon), honoring the memory of those who have died during 2008 – on our streets, in shelters, in abandoned properties, or from ailments or conditions related to homelessness. Each individual's first name and age will be read aloud, followed by a bell toll. The event will also include performances by the Target Dayton Choir, whose members are currently experiencing homelessness.

In remembering those who have died, the cause of ending homelessness is kept urgent, as is our community's collective commitment to preventing such deaths in the future.

The event is free, and the general public is encouraged to attend.

Light refreshments will be provided following the service.

For more information, please contact:

Andrea McGriff
(937) 263-4449 x410

OKLAHOMA

TULSA

Memorial Service & Candlelight Vigil – to remember those homeless persons who have died in 2008 - Tuesday, December 16, 2008 5:30 pm

Tulsa Day Center for the Homeless
415 W. Archer

For more information, please contact:

Mack Haltom
(918) 583-5588
mhaltom@tulsadaycenter.org

OREGON

PENNSYLVANIA

PHILADELPHIA

What: On the longest day of the year, hundreds of Philadelphians will gather to remember the 83 homeless and formerly homeless Philadelphians who died in 2008 and to call for an end to homelessness

Who: Councilwoman Jannie Blackwell will issue a City Council Proclamation

Dainette Mintz, City of Philadelphia Deputy Managing Director for Special Needs Housing; S. Mary Scullion, Project H.O.M.E.; Adam Bruckner, Philadelphia Kixx; and Rev. Robin Hynicka, Arch Street United Methodist Church will offer words of inspiration and challenge.

Homeless and formerly homeless participants will perform skits, poetry, and call to end homelessness

Sign language interpreter provided

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

When: Monday, December 22 from 12 to 1:30 p.m. (*Gather with Music at 12; kick-off at 12:30*)

Where: Love Park, 16th Street & JFK Boulevard

Why: This year's event, with the theme, "Remember, Hope, Heal," assembles a planning committee of 30 organizations that remember the lives of Philadelphia's homeless citizens who perished this year and will renew their commitment to end homelessness

Visuals: Individual placards with the names of each person who died will be held by participants.

Homeless men who reside at the Ridge Avenue Center will display a scroll depicting the life and struggles of homeless veteran.

For more information, please contact:

Jennine Miller

Project H.O.M.E.

(215) 232-7272

Cell: 215-990-5668

Jenninemiller@projecthome.org

OR Connie Naylor, (215) 452-5389

Participating organizations (as of December 16, 2008): Arch Street United Methodist Church – Artists for Recovery – Bethesda Project – Broad Street Ministry – Calcutta House – City of Philadelphia Office of Supportive Housing – Covenant House – Catholic Health East – Department of Veterans Affairs Regional Office – Dignity Housing – Drueding Center/Project Rainbow – Episcopal Community Services St. Barnabas Mission – Food For Life – Homeless Advocacy Project – Horizon House – Impact Services Corporation – Liberty Resources – Mental Health Association of Southeastern Pennsylvania – New Start I and II – Northwest Philadelphia Interfaith Hospitality Network – Nurse Family Partnership/National Nursing Centers Consortium – Public Health Management Corporation – Point Man Soldier Heart Ministry – Project H.O.M.E. – Raise of Hope Inc. – Ready, Willing & Able – Resources for Human Development/Ridge Avenue Center – Sobriety Through OutPatient – St. John's Hospice – Tenant Union Representative Network – Traveler's Aid of Philadelphia – The Salvation Army – Vote for Homes!

PUERTO RICO

RHODE ISLAND

SOUTH CAROLINA

CHARLESTON

For more information about Charleston's event, please contact:

Leigh C. Danley

Crisis Ministries in Charleston, South Carolina.

(843) 723-9477 x132

SOUTH DAKOTA

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

SIoux FALLS

The Minnehaha County Department of Human Resources had their homeless memorial event on the night of November 21st in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. [Hugh says, "December gets too cold to hold an outside event so we traditionally do the memorial in November."]

For more information, please contact:

Hugh Grogan

hgrogan@minnehahacounty.org

TENNESSEE

NASHVILLE

Honor the lives of the homeless who have died in the last year

Every year the streets of Nashville claim the lives of many of our homeless brothers and sisters. While the Nashville Homeless Power Project (NHPP) has been organizing this event for many years, this year the event is especially important to us because a member of our leadership team, Cyndi Demuth passed away while homeless. Come remember her life with us along with the lives of many others.

"I love to talk to people, you know and if I can make somebody else smile, somebody who's out here like I am, if I can just give 'em a hug or a smile, that makes me feel good." - Cyndi Demuth 1971 -2008

Saturday December 13th

Riverfront Park

9:30am Breakfast Served

10:00am Homeless Memorial

NOTE TIME CHANGE FROM PREVIOUS YEARS

For more information, please contact:

info@homelesspower.org

(615) 733-0633

TEXAS

BRYAN / COLLEGE STATION

Churches from the twin cities of Bryan and College Station, Texas and the organizations of the Brazos Valley Coalition for the Homeless invite you to attend a memorial service on December 21, 2008, National Homeless Person's Memorial Day. The service will be at 2 p.m. in the Fenced park at the corner of North Main and 21st Street in Bryan.

Join us as we celebrate with music and stories, the lives of those who have died in our community from conditions directly related to homelessness.

For more information, please contact:

Lenni Lissberger

(979) 324-5427

CORPUS CHRISTI

8th Annual National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Sunrise Service

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

Friday, December 19, 2008 @ 7:00am

Kinney Street Park

Located on Kinney at Shoreline

Hosted by Homeless Issues Partnership, Inc. Memorial Committee

For more information, please contact:

Cynthia Contreras

CContreras@trla.org

HOUSTON

Since the early 90's, on the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County, Inc has sponsored a Homeless Persons' Memorial Day event to call attention to the tragedy of homelessness. This event is done in conjunction with memorial services being held around the country in remembrance of those individuals who died while homeless. On Sunday, December 21, 2008 we are asking that all religious services pay final respect and remember those individuals who were homeless and died this past year in Houston and Harris County.

Those who die in homelessness truly die unnoticed. The Coalition collected the names of 51 people who died while homeless this year. Over 300 are known to have passed away while homeless since 1989. While we honor those who have passed away during the year, it is also a tribute to those who are surviving against great odds and those who are working and volunteering their time and talent to understand and serve this population. The names were gathered from social workers and homeless individuals alike. There are countless more that cannot be found and/or identified. We remember and honor all who have passed.

For more information, please contact:

Anthony Love

(713) 739-7514

alove@homelesshouston.org

SAN ANTONIO

Please come to Milam Park on Sunday, December 21st at 6:30 pm for a candle light vigil and memorial service to honor the homeless. This service will be highlighted with scripture, songs, prayer, sacred dancers, bagpipe, and the reading of names of those who died in San Antonio this year while homeless.

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Becky Hamann

(210) 979-6188 ext. 3043

UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY

Following the first day of winter and the longest night of the year, please join us in remembering our homeless brothers and sisters who died during 2008.

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

Monday, December 22 from 5:30pm–6:00pm

Pioneer Park (400 West 400 South)

Sponsored by the Salt Lake County Homeless Coordinating Council, advocating for homeless persons by coordinating services, sharing information and increasing public awareness.

For more information, please contact:

Joseph Dane

joseph@fourthstreetclinic.org

(801) 205-9696

VERMONT

BURLINGTON

The Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) will host a candlelight ceremony in Burlington, Vermont, on Thursday, Dec. 18, to reflect on the personal struggles and dreams of the thousands of Vermonters who were homeless this year. From 5:30 - 6:30pm outside the Church Street entrance to Burlington City Hall, volunteers will recite the names and a brief description of some of those who have been homeless and light a candle for each.

Guest readers will include Burlington Mayor Bob Kiss, University of Vermont President Daniel Fogel, Vermont Sen. Diane Snelling, and award-winning author Chris Bohjalian. Music will be provided by the Mater Christi School Elementary Chorus (grades K–3) and the Edmunds School Chamber Chorus (grades 6–8). There will be refreshments inside City Hall.

For more information, please contact:

Deb Bouton

(802) 864-7402 x104

VIRGINIA

RICHMOND

The Thomas Jefferson Area Coalition for the Homeless hosted a memorial service at the Salvation Army chapel at 7pm Thursday, December 18th. The memorial was held in remembrance of the homeless who have passed away on the streets. Organizers also hope it will encourage people to be proactive in putting an end to homelessness.

The homeless memorial service was held at the Salvation Army chapel on Ridge Street in Charlottesville.

The hour-long ceremony included remarks from community activists and stories told by survivors – one's who have seen first hand what can happen on the streets.

WASHINGTON

BREMERTON

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY

Sunday, December 21, 2008

The First Day of Winter ~ The Longest Night of the Year

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

First Christian Church of Bremerton ~ Disciples of Christ (811 Veneta Ave.)

4:00 to 5:00pm

Outside, in The Memorial Garden

This will be a time set aside to remember our neighbors and friends who have died without homes. It will be a time to remember why they have died. Homelessness affects and hurts everyone. The face of homelessness could be our own. Please take time to raise consciousness on the tragedy of homelessness.

Service participants include: Rev. Debbie Little, Major Jim Baker, Rev. Dr. Sandra Bochonok

And the service will include: A candle vigil ~ Music ~ A Moment of Blessing

We ask that you please bring with you a recycle bag filled with the items the homeless need most:

Small pop-lid containers of stew, soup, pasta, fruit, plastic spoons and forks, granola, energy and cereal bars, packets (not boxes) of crackers (cheese & peanut butter) drink boxes, travel-sized hygiene items and toilet paper.

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Debbie Deborah.little@comcast.net or Sally Santana sally.santana@wavecable.com

OLYMPIA

The Washington State Coalition for the Homeless will observe Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on December 19, at 4:30 pm, on the Capitol steps, in Olympia. The memorial and candlelight vigil is held in memory of those who have died while, or as a result of, being homeless in Washington State during the past year.

Conducted in Olympia, this service honors those homeless persons who passed away during the year; it is also a tribute to those who are surviving each day against great odds. Each year, throughout Washington and the United States, vigils are held in an effort to bring attention to the tragedy of homelessness and to remember our homeless friends who have paid the ultimate price for our nation's failure to end homelessness.

Life on the streets can quickly lead to death on the streets; shelter can literally mean the difference between life and death. The average age of death for homeless persons is about 50, non-homeless Americans can expect to live to age 78. People experiencing homelessness are three to four times more likely to die prematurely than their housed counterparts, according the National Health Care for the Homeless Council.

Please join with us as we unite on this day as a reminder of how precious life is and as a remembrance to those who have died while, or as a result of, being homeless during 2008.

For more information, please contact:

Christine Johansen

(253) 761-7446

Christine@endhomelessnesswa.org

or go to www.EndHomelessnessWA.org

YAKIMA

Fourth Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Candlelight Vigil

5:00pm - December 21, 2008 *the longest night of the year*

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

At Millennium Plaza

We have proclamations from the City of Yakima and the Board of Yakima County Commissioners. In addition, we have a display ad running Dec. 20 and 21 on the obituary page in the Yakima Herald-Republic. Our musicians for the event, Mark Holt and Kim Holt Tully, will do a live remote from Starbucks very early on the morning of Dec. 19.

For more information, please contact:

Pat Brown
psbbrown@aol.com

WEST VIRGINIA

WISCONSIN

KENOSHA

Walkin' in My Shoes: 2nd Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

Sunday December 21, 2008 3:30 – 4:30pm

Bain Park (63rd & Sheridan Rd)

Free Event. All are welcome.

Litany reading for those who died homeless in 2008.

Reception will follow after the ceremony at:

First Step Services Transitional Day Shelter (1017 63rd St)

Hot beverages, soup and sandwiches will be served.

For more information, please call:

(262) 914-6403

RACINE

A Memorial Service will be held on Sunday, December 21, 2008 at 5:00pm at Monument Square in downtown Racine. There will be a roll call of those who have died, a candle lighting ceremony and prayer service.

Coffee, cocoa and cookies will be available after the service at Cup of Hope Coffee Shop on 6th Street one block from the Square.

For more information, please contact:

Cheryl Buckley
(262) 633-3235 x143

WYOMING

CASPER

There were nine known people who died homeless in Casper in 2008. The 12th Street Clinic and others will honor their memory during a candlelight vigil Sunday. Their first names will be read.

It is the first time the Casper community is recognizing National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, according to Margaret Ricke, a volunteer at the clinic from AmeriCorps.

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.

NATIONAL HOMELESS PERSONS' MEMORIAL DAY 2008

What: A candlelight vigil to recognize National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, a time to remember those in the community who have died homeless and raise awareness of homelessness in Casper.

When: 5 to 6 p.m., Sunday.

Where: Tate Foundation picnic site at the end of West B Street, near the river.

For more information, please contact:

Margaret Ricke
12th Street Clinic
(307) 235-6116

*If people have old coats, hats, gloves and other winter apparel,
please bring them to the event because the clinic always needs them.*

CHEYENNE

The Wyoming Coalition for the Homeless (WCH) event will take place on December 22, 2008, at 12:00pm (noon) in front of the State Capitol Building.

Speakers include: Pastor Bill Jividen, Beacon Hill Baptist Church; Cheyenne Mayor Jack Spiker; Rev. Rick Veit, St. Marks Episcopal Church; Pastor Jay Meyer, Cheyenne Vineyard Church; Teresa Garrido, Director, COMEA House; Earl Janack, formerly homeless street musician.

Music provided by: Michael Riversong and Earl Robert Janack.

For more information, please contact:

WCH at (307) 634-8499

Or, visit: <http://www.wch.vcn.com/wchevents.htm#hmd2008>

THE FIRST DAY OF WINTER. THE LONGEST NIGHT OF THE YEAR.