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The Advocate

eNews

NCH Newsletter

January 26, 2012



New Report, Action Alert, and Thank You

Dear {FIRST_NAME|Friend},

Each year, NCH releases a Hate Crimes against the Homeless report. NCH invites you to read this year's report, [Violence Hidden in Plain View](#), a factual accounting of bias motivated crimes against un-housed individuals in the order of their occurrence. It is also a report that, in its entirety, illustrates the deadly consequences of decades of failed housing policies and social reforms. 2010 was one of the deadliest years on record.

Here are some more results from the report:

- 72% of perpetrators were under 30 years of age
- 88% of perpetrators were men
- More than 1 in 5 attacks ended in death

Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (TX) has introduced the [Hate Crimes Against the Homeless Statistics Act of 2011](#). This much needed legislation would require the Attorney General to include crimes against the homeless in the crime data collected each year. This would be an easy step towards ensuring that those without a home are not subject to unnecessary violence. Stay tuned for more information about the bill as it moves through the legislative process.

ACTION ALERT: Comment on HMIS Regulations

The National Civil Rights Organizing Project urges you to comment on [pending regulations](#) on the collection of personal information for those using shelters.



You can also text NCH to 85944 and reply YES to make a \$10 donation.

Up Coming Events

Many communities are conducting their Point-In-Time counts in January. Learn more from HUD's [2012 Data Collection Guidance](#) (pdf).

NCH in the News

Connecticut Mirror (Dec. 27) - [Tackling homelessness -- who's right?](#)

Orange County Register (Jan. 10) - ['Crimes of opportunity': 113 homeless attacked in 2010 in U.S.](#)

International Business Times (Jan. 16) - [Cruel Winter: What NYC Homeless Must Do to Survive](#)

What is the Issue?

HUD is seeking comments on the rules for collecting information from homeless individuals at the shelters and aggregating that information to deliver statistics to Congress. Comments due to HUD by **February 7, 2012**

Why Should you Respond?

The final rules will determine the privacy rights for those seeking help. The numbers collected and the outcomes could determine the funding levels for local shelters. The experiences with HMIS at the local level are important.

What are possible outcomes?

HMIS can be costly to implement locally. A goal of HMIS is to balance the needs of the social service community with the rights of those seeking support. Overall, HMIS should provoke greater insight into solving homelessness.

[Click to learn more and Take Action today!](#)

News from the Field

In a collaborative effort to increase public awareness of the many different faces of homelessness in America, a team of [AmeriCorps VISTA](#) volunteers, with support from the [National Coalition for the Homeless](#) and the [Southernmost Homeless Assistance League](#), have launched the [Faces of Homelessness eCourse](#).

This five-module web-based resource, available free of charge at <http://homelessfaces.org>, addresses the social, political, legal and personal issues surrounding homelessness. Designed for use with high school and college-aged audiences, the [Faces of Homelessness eCourse](#) utilizes narrative, interviews and interactive exercises to explore the facts and myths surrounding homelessness.

Learners are offered a first-hand look at what life is like on the streets as they encounter the lives of homeless individuals in the Florida Keys. A highlight of the course is its use of art, poetry and music by individuals who have found themselves homeless.

Thank You to Michael Stars

The Michael Stars line of women's clothing and accessories celebrated its [25th Anniversary](#) in 2011 by partnering with NCH to donate 250,000 brand new tshirts to women's shelters across the country. NCH and its partner organizations send a big thank you to Michael Stars for the brand's generosity!

Special Thanks to our recent donors and renewed members!

Aberdeen Foundation,
America's Blood Centers,
Kimberly Allard, Penny Anderson, Gaelan Armstrong, Jon Ballew, Tom and Scott Baumann Corujo, Gorus Bix, Margaret Whitman and Robert M. Blair, Ron Bozman, Fred Brady, Joshua Brau and Frances Denny, Cindy Brown, Oanh Bui, Lindsey Burke, Kara Burt, Elizabeth Carey, Eddie, Chavis, Mary Hannah Cinson, Jonda Clemings, Community Economics Inc., Sean Cononie, Allen Coulter, Sunil Dabre, Stephane Dahan, Robin Denegal, Michael DiMercurio, Stephen Drew, Jonina Duker, Erin Elman, Rebecca Elman, Ronald Encarnacion, Sarah Fitzenreiter, Anna Forbes, Katherine Fritz, Jean Gan, Elizabeth Getter, Luke Gilroy, Jeremy Haile, Cheryl Hardy, Dick Hegner, Hilton HHonors Members, Sherrill Hogen, Jay Lawrence Holman, Ellen & Keith Hustings, Erin Hustings, Joan Hutchinson, Illini Alternative Spring Break, Jeffrey & Laura Jacobs, Anne Hope Jahren & Clinton Conrad, Byung Joo, Fred Karnas, John Kengla, Darin Kingston & Daniel Kurtz-Phelan, Marcella LaSpina, Maggie Leininger, Samuel Long, Sara Long, Rey Lopez, Justin Low, Simone Manning-Moon, Wendy McQuiston, David Mehl, Kivi Miller, Jule Monnens, Carleton

NCH Executive Director Neil Donovan and Intern Will Hernandez are shown here passing along some of the donated tees to a representative of New Endeavors by Women in Washington, DC.



For more on Michael Stars' campaign, see [this post](#) showing Michael Stars founders Michael Cohen and Suzanne Lerner distributing over 1,000 tees to residents of [Beyond Shelter](#), a family residential and service center in Los Angeles.

Montgomery , Brian Motykowski, Jane Nolan, Robert and Josephine Nugent, Peter Orvetti, John Parvensky, Suresh Paul, Pamela Pawlowski, Leroy Pelton, Jonathan and Sari Peris, Luke Perry, Plasmanet, Rosemarie Poole, Presbyterian Hunger Program, Michael Quirion, Matthew Rice, Julie Ross, Michael Rossi, Beth Rubenstein, Marcy Rubenstein, Matthew Scalzo, Lauren Schmidt, Naomi Schoenbaum, Carolyn Sechler, Johanna Silver, St. Luke's Health Initiatives, Louisa Stark, Brian Tiffany , Denise Turcotte, Ginger Wallace, Alice Weldon, Winky Foundation, World Bank Community Connections Fund donors, Naomi and Michael Zigmund.

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