

NCH . NEWS . . .

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Hello,

This is the March issue of NCH News.

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[Teen "Sport Killings" of Homeless on the Rise](#)

Reprinted from CNN, February 20, 2007

Story Highlights

- Number of attacks on homeless at highest level in almost a decade
- 122 attacks, 20 murders in 2006, according to National Coalition for the Homeless
- For some teens, "this passes as amusement," expert says

By Ashley Fantz
CNN

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin (CNN) -- All Nathan Moore says he wanted to do was smoke pot and get drunk with his friends.

Killing Rex Baum was never part of the plan that day in 2004.

"It all started off as a game," Moore said.

The 15-year-old and his friends were taunting the homeless man -- throwing sticks and leaves -- after having a couple of beers with him.

No big deal, Moore says, but he's sorry for what came next.

It was a mistake, he said, a sudden primal surge that made him and his friends Luis Oyola, 16, and 17-year-old Andrew Ihrcke begin
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punching and kicking Baum.

"Luis says 'I'm gonna go hit him,' We're all laughing, thought he was joking around,'" but he wasn't, Moore concedes. "We just all started hitting him."

They hurled anything they could find -- rocks, bricks, even Baum's barbecue grill -- and pounded the 49-year-old with a pipe and with the [baseball bat](#) he kept at his campsite for protection.

Ihrcke smeared his own feces on Baum's face before cutting him with a knife "to see if he was alive," Moore said.

After destroying Baum's camp, the boys left the homeless man -- head wedged in his own grill -- under a piece of plastic where they hoped the "animals would eat" him.

Then, Moore says, they took off to grab a bite at McDonald's.

Baum's murder was indicative of a disturbing trend.

A National Coalition for the Homeless report says last year, there were 122 attacks and 20 murders against the homeless, the most attacks in nearly a decade. ([Coalition report on 2006 homeless attacks](#))

Police found Baum's body two days after the teens attacked him.

They bragged about it around town. Police picked them up and they described what happened.

Ihrcke told police that killing "the bum" reminded him of playing a violent [video game](#), a police report shows.

All three teens pleaded no contest to first degree reckless homicide charges and went to prison.

Moore recently turned 18 at Columbia Correctional Institution in Portage, Wisconsin, where he is serving a 15 year sentence.

"When [the beating] stops, you say, 'What did we just do?'" he told CNN. "There's no rational explanation." ([Watch teen explain how "game" became tragedy](#))

Teenage 'amusement'

"It's disturbing to know that young people would literally kick someone when they're already down on their luck," said Michael Stoops, the executive director of the Washington-based National Coalition for the Homeless. "We recognize that this isn't every teenager, but for some this passes as amusement."

Criminologists call these wilding sprees "sport killing," -- largely middle-class teens, with no [criminal records](#), assaulting the homeless with bats, [golf clubs](#), [paintball guns](#). ([Watch how nights are cold, fearful for Milwaukee homeless.](#))

Some teens have even taped themselves in the act. Others have said they were inspired by "Bumfights," a video series created in 2002 and sold on the Web that features homeless people pummeling each other for the promise of a few bucks.

A segment called "Bum Hunter," hosted by a Crocodile Hunter-like actor wearing a safari outfit, shows him "tagging" homeless people by pouncing on them and binding their wrists.

The distributors of "Bumfights" have claimed they've sold hundreds of thousands of copies.

But the company has had to deal with a couple of legal issues unrelated to the Baum case.

Last year, three former homeless stars of "Bumfights" won a civil suit against filmmakers. Santa Monica attorney Mark Quigley, who represented Rufus Hannah, known as "Rufus the Stunt Bum" to series' fans, said he is unable to disclose the amount of the settlement.

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Also, in July 2006, a California judge ordered "Bumfights" producers Ryan McPherson and Zachary Bubeck to spend 180 days in jail for failing to perform community service related to guilty pleas they previously entered to charges of staging illegal street fights.

"Bumfights" directors did not answer CNN's request for an interview.

Attacks across the nation

Incidents of teen-on-homeless violence dotted the map last year. Florida racked up at least six such attacks in 2006. ([Homeless attack across U.S.](#))

In Lauderhill, four teens were arrested after they allegedly videotaped themselves beating, dragging, and stealing from a homeless man.

The victim has not been found, but the four face one charge each of strong-armed robbery.

Earlier this month, teens in Corpus Christi, Texas, videotaped themselves attacking a homeless man.

Commander David Torres said police arrested a 15-year-old and are looking for at least one more teenager and a 22-year-old who described on tape what they were about to do before they jumped on the man. ([Read full story](#))

On the other side of the nation, former Oregon State University student Joshua Grimes stands accused of shooting and injuring a homeless man from his perch in a fraternity house window.

He has not yet entered a plea, but, according to a police report, he cried to detectives after the October shooting, telling them, "I didn't mean to shoot him."

At least three homeless people in Kalamazoo, Michigan, reported being attacked by teens on bicycles during a 10-day span in October, according to the homeless coalition.

In Huntsville, Alabama, six teens -- one of them 13 -- beat a homeless man with golf clubs, the coalition reported. But perhaps the most shocking of these examples was 2006's first recorded case of teen-on-homeless violence.

On January 12 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, a surveillance camera captured two teens beating a homeless man with bats.

Prosecutors say 17-year-old skateboarder Tom Daugherty, 18-year-old Brian Hooks, a popular hockey team captain, and a third unseen teen, Billy Ammons, a high school dropout, assaulted two more homeless men that night.

One of them was 45-year-old Norris Gaynor. A witness, Anthony Clarke, told police and CNN last year that he saw the three teens approach Gaynor as he slept on a park bench. Daugherty began whacking Gaynor with a bat, Clarke said. ([Watch two teenagers beat a cowering homeless man with bats.](#))

As Gaynor lay dying, Ammons shot him with yellow paintballs, later remarking that the beating felt like "teeing off," police said.

Gaynor was beaten so badly his own father didn't recognize him. Facing life in prison, the teens face trial for murder later this year. They have each pleaded not guilty to one count of first-degree murder and two counts of attempted murder. ([Read full story](#))

Lingering questions

Stoops and Brian Levin, a California State University hate crimes expert, say common themes run through teen-on-homeless violence. The attackers are almost always boys, peer pressure and mob mentality sweep away caution, and parents don't suspect their children could be capable of such actions.

Laura Simpson didn't. Her son, Justin Brumfield, is serving an 11-year prison stretch in California.

In August 2005, Brumfield and William Orantes, both 19, beat 56-year-old Ernest Adams with bats. Adams emerged from a coma three weeks later with dents in his skull, permanent scars and no vision in one eye, the Los Angeles Times reported. Orantes is ...bethesdahosting.com/.../397_2007...

three weeks later with dents in his skull, permanent scars and no vision in one eye, the Los Angeles Times reported. Orantes is serving a three-year sentence.

Simpson, a sixth-grade teacher, says she is still tormented by her son's actions and wonders if her son's irritability was more than typical teenage moodiness.

She has other questions: Was her son, a natural follower, just succumbing to peer pressure? Was he that into "Bumfights"? Did he see the fear in Adams' eyes when he raised the bat to strike him?

In a sad irony, she had adopted him; his mother was a homeless drug addict, a revelation he had learned not long before the beating and which his attorney used to explain his rage.

Her son has told her he is sorry for what happened, but her questions remain unanswered.

"As a parent, of course you're going to question yourself," she said. "It was just hard to comprehend. The first thing was, 'Not Justin. There has to be a mistake,'" she said. "You think you know everything that's going on and you don't."

When the mob mentality takes over, even the perpetrators may not comprehend what's going on.

Back at the prison in Wisconsin, Nathan Moore seems baffled by his own actions. Killing Rex Baum now registers like a "blur" or "dream," he says.

Moore and his friends knew Baum from around town. Life had been painful for the homeless man from the start; alcohol eased it. As a kid growing up in Milwaukee, when his home life became too rocky, a neighboring family took him in. He drifted through school and a brief stint in the military, his friends say, a wanderer, a loner. ([Audio Slide Show: Remembering Rex Baum](#))

Homeless for years, he defied Wisconsin winters by constantly walking around the city, bundled in a coat patched with duct tape. For a few dollars, he pumped gas, shoveled snow off driveways, and walked neighborhood dogs.

More than 100 people came to Baum's funeral. Someone sent a newspaper clip of the story to Moore in prison.

"Every day I wish I could take it back," he said. "I seen [the] repercussions among everyone. I didn't think about any of this when [the beating] was going on."

Maryland Senate Passes Homeless Hate Crimes Bill

According to a hate crime report released annually by the National Coalition for the Homeless, since 1999 there have been 614 acts of violence against homeless persons, 189 of which resulted in death. Due to the outrageous number of attacks targeted at America's homeless each year, NCH has worked to include homelessness as a protected class under hate crimes statutes.

On March 6th, Maryland's Senate voted 38-9 in favor of adding homeless status as a protected class under their state's hate crimes legislation. If the bill passes the house and is signed into law by Governor Martin O'Malley, Maryland would become the first state to include homelessness in protected classes.

Through the addition of homeless status to hate crimes statutes, attackers would be subject to stricter penalties. The addition would also require police to record incidents which target homeless people. 5 other states currently have legislation pending or planned to be introduced including California, Texas, Florida, Nevada and Massachusetts. Nevada has had their first hearing, although a vote has yet to occur.

In conjunction with the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, NCH has formed model state legislation that works as a frame-work for states who want to adopt legislation. Two states, Maine and California, have adopted portions of the legislation, although neither has successfully included homeless status as a protected class.

There is no doubt that the number of violent attacks on homeless persons is growing each year. In fact, the homeless are targeted just as much, if not more than other targeted groups. According to a study reported by the Center for Hate and Extremism at California State University, San Bernardino, in the 7 year period from 1999 to 2005 there were 82 crimes documented as hate crimes by the FBI. During that same 7 year period, NCH documented 169 homeless-directed attacks.

The need to include homelessness under hate crimes laws not only is important in deterring future attacks, but it also shows that homeless individuals are a valued, while vulnerable, part of our community. The ignorance and hate which breeds acts of violence against gay, disabled and minority groups is also responsible for the disrespect shown towards homeless people. By protecting them under the law, we are showing that we acknowledge this recent trend in violence against them, but also more importantly, assert that it will not be tolerated.

Homeless Assistance Bill Introduced

On February 6, 2007 Julia Carson (D-IN) introduced the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act, HEARTH (H.R. 840). The bill is designed to reauthorize McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Programs administered through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

McKinney-Vento assistance programs were created under the Stewart B. McKinney Homeless Assistance Act, signed into law by President Ronald Reagan in July of 1987. In 2000, the bill was re-named the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act in memory of Representative Bruce Vento, a champion of poverty and homelessness issues and supporter of the bill since its inception.

Several attempts have been made in recent sessions of Congress to reauthorize HUD MV programs, most notably by Senator Jack Reed (D-RI). Sen. Reed plans to introduce his bill again in the 110th Congress.

Rep. Carson's bill works on the following key provisions:

- Consolidates three of the four programs under HUD McKinney-Vento housing programs into one competitive program (Emergency Shelter Grants not included). It also removes restrictions on eligible activities, allowing greater flexibility for service providers. Eligible activities include permanent and transitional housing for all homeless populations (including those doubled up and living in motels), supportive services, as well as homelessness prevention programs (the first time prevention has been included in the HUD grant process)
- Codifies the Continuum of Care process into law. This would help ensure that all service providers and agencies, no matter which segment of the homeless population they serve, are participating in the CoC process. Also allows greater flexibility for CoCs to choose programs which are needed in their communities over programs prioritized by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development.
- Expands the HUD definition of homelessness to include individuals and families living in motels and doubled up situations. This definition is better aligned with those used by other federal agencies like the US Department of Education. The expanded definition allows agencies to provide services to everyone experiencing homelessness in their community, especially children, youth and families
- Removes focus on the "chronically homeless" by elimination of a definition of chronic homelessness. Rather it allows communities the discretion to focus on populations which with the most need in their communities, whether living on the streets or not.

or not.

- Prohibits the release of any client information collected by agencies of clients who are the victims of domestic violence, or which might identify or place them at risk. It also allows agencies to prioritize domestic abuse victims who are in danger from moving quickly into safe shelters or living arrangements.
- Requires a 25% match for housing and supportive services, which can either be cash or in-kind.
- Requires the release of HUD's NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) within 3 months of that year's appropriations bill. The bill also stipulates that HUD grants cannot be awarded later than 5 months after application deadlines. Finally, it instructs HUD to create an official appeal process.

The National Coalition for the Homeless fully supports Representative Carson's attempt to pass legislation to reauthorize HUD MV programs. McKinney programs provide the necessary emergency funding to combat homelessness head-on. However to effectively end homelessness requires the introduction of comprehensive legislation that not only provides emergency assistance, but also implements large-scale preventative measures.

HUD Publishes Fiscal Year 2006 Funding Notice

HUD PUBLISHES FISCAL YEAR 2006 FUNDING NOTICE MAKING \$2.2 BILLION AVAILABLE THROUGH 39 INDIVIDUAL PROGRAMS

Department continues push toward e-government

WASHINGTON – Housing and Urban Development Secretary Alphonso Jackson today unveiled HUD's Fiscal Year 2006 "SuperNOFA," a notice that officially makes available approximately \$2.2 billion in grants through 39 individual programs (see below). In January, HUD published the first part of this year's funding notice to give applicants a jump-start in preparing this year's applications and to promote early electronic registration.

This year's SuperNOFA will continue the Department's shift toward requiring nearly all grant applications to be submitted electronically through www.grants.gov. Like last year, those seeking funding through HUD's *Continuum of Care* homeless assistance programs will not be required to submit their applications electronically.

"HUD's working overtime to make this transition to e-government as smooth as possible," said Jackson. "We've streamlined our applications and are continuing to be responsive to our applicant community so that our partners can better access the funding they need to help people and places in need."

The electronic submission process is part of the President Bush's management agenda and will significantly increase access to funding opportunities for states, local governments and nonprofit grassroots organizations that house and serve lower income families living in their communities. Last year, more than 5,400 applicants successfully submitted their applications electronically and it's expected even more will make the transition this year. Like last year, HUD is encouraging applicants to begin the required registration process early.

Jackson added, "Last year taught us that you can't start the registration process too early. We're asking new applicants to register right away and for those who've already registered to update their registration information. HUD staff are standing by to help you through this process but the worst thing you can do is wait."

HUD is continuing to provide technical assistance and information so that every applicant can successfully meet this year's electronic submission requirements. For example, HUD is providing an easy step-by-step registration guide for new applicants as well as for
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those who have previously registered. To read the Department's step-by-step registration guide, visit [HUD's website](#).

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities; creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans; and supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities and people living with AIDS. The Department also promotes economic and community development as well as enforces the nation's fair housing laws. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov and espanol.hud.gov.

HUD Releases Landmark Study

New data show 754,000 homeless persons on any given night

WASHINGTON - For the first time since 1984, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development is releasing a report on the scope of homelessness in America. HUD's first-ever [Annual Homeless Assessment Report to Congress](#) concludes that an estimated 754,000 persons are homeless on any given night. HUD's assessment also measures homelessness over time, allowing researchers to expand their body of knowledge beyond the more limited "point-in-time" estimates of the past.

"This first-of-its kind study is a huge leap forward in our understanding of not only how many people are homeless, but also what their needs are," said HUD Secretary Alphonso Jackson. "We've got to remember that behind these numbers are people - individuals and families who are struggling to survive. This report is a powerful tool to help all of us at the federal, state and local level design more effective responses to homelessness and better help those who are living in shelters and on our streets."

Since 2001, HUD has awarded more than \$9 billion to support thousands of local housing and service programs throughout the nation and is seeking a record \$1.6 billion through the Department's *Continuum of Care* grant programs for FY 2008.

Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS)

HUD's assessment is based on two sources of data. The first is a national sample of 80 geographically diverse communities, chosen randomly, that have implemented Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS). This modern data collection method can accurately count how many persons use emergency shelters and transitional housing over time. The HMIS data in this report focus on the number of sheltered homeless persons from February to April 2005. HUD intends to produce more extensive HMIS data in future assessments that will provide a longer-range perspective on homeless trends.

Quantifying homelessness in any fashion is a vexing challenge to researchers both in and out of government. Previous surveys attempted to produce unduplicated counts of homeless persons by measuring homelessness over very limited periods of time, usually a single night. While HUD continues to collect this point-in-time data for both sheltered and unsheltered persons, new HMIS data collection techniques now allow researchers to study the sheltered homeless population over time.

Based on a geographically representative sampling of 80 communities, HUD found 704,000 persons used emergency shelters or transitional housing between February and April of 2005. The daily average of sheltered homeless persons during this period is 334,744. HUD's three-month sample of HMIS data found the following characteristics of the sheltered homeless population (see page 31 of report):

- Gender - 65 percent of the adult population are men
- Age - The largest segment, 41 percent, are 31-to-50 years old
- Household Type - 66 percent are individuals - 34 percent are persons in families with children
- Race - 59 percent are minority
- Geographic - 75 percent are in central cities - 25 percent are in suburban and rural areas (see page 44)
- Veteran Status - 19 percent of the adult homeless population are veterans

One-night Counts

As HUD continues to encourage local communities to implement HMIS nationwide, the Department also collects local one-night counts of homeless persons, both at the shelter level and on the streets. HUD's analysis of these snapshot counts from more than ...bethesdahosting.com/.../397_2007...

counts of homeless persons, both at the shelter level and on the streets. HUD's analysis of these snapshot counts from more than 3,800 cities and counties found an estimated 754,000 persons were in shelters and on the streets during one night in January 2005. HUD's point-in-time estimate is very similar to an analysis of the same data conducted by the National Alliance to End Homelessness, a nonpartisan advocacy organization and a leading voice on the issue of homelessness.

Local communities conduct these one-night counts on a biannual basis and report their data to HUD with [grant applications](#) that seek funding for a wide variety of homeless housing and service programs. These snapshot counts offer communities a powerful tool to gauge their homeless challenge and to create innovative housing solutions in response.

What's Next?

HUD's report offers a vital starting point for measuring homelessness in the future. The Department and its local partners are collecting more comprehensive data each year. The Department expects HMIS data in particular to be increasingly more comprehensive, covering longer periods of time, and including persons living on the streets. Over time, HUD's annual assessments will also be able to determine trends in homelessness.

Jackson added, "Understanding homelessness is a necessary step to ending it, especially for those persons living with a chronic condition such as [mental illness](#), an addiction, or a physical disability."

The Counting is Done; Let the Housing Begin

The Counting is Done; Let the Housing Begin

WASHINGTON: On Wednesday, February 28th, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a report to Congress on homelessness in America. The report included both a "point-in-time" count, which measures the number of homeless individuals on a given night, as well as a count collected over a three month period using the Homeless Management Information Systems (HMIS).

HUD reported that on any given night an estimated 754,000 persons will experience homelessness throughout the U.S. Resulting in about 300,000 more people than shelter beds in the U.S.

The staggering numbers issued in HUD's report indicate the previously absent political will to end homelessness. This report confirms the need for both emergency response legislation, such as the Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (H.R. 840), to double federal dollars in homeless assistance programs, as well as the need for a comprehensive response to the affordable housing crisis in our nation. This includes the passage of the Bringing America Home Act (to be reintroduced in the 110th Congress), the establishment of a National Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and significant increases in existing federal housing programs.

While the National Coalition for the Homeless (NCH) supports HUD's efforts, any attempt to estimate the number of people experiencing homelessness is limited by time and practical restraints, whether in one night, three months or over the course of a year. Additionally, homeless counts are based on individuals living on the streets, in shelters or transitional housing facilities. By using HUD's current restrictive definition of homelessness, the counts fail to include many homeless persons, especially those living in suburban and rural areas where doubling up or living in motels is common place. More expansive definitions, like that used by the U.S. Department of Education, would include these individuals, allowing a more accurate estimate of the homeless population.

NCH stresses that ending homelessness requires long term far-reaching action to both house those currently facing homelessness, as well as to prevent those at immediate risk of losing housing and becoming homeless. This cannot be done without the establishment of increased affordable housing, livable incomes, educational and vocational training, universal health care, and the assurance of protecting homeless peoples' civil rights.

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In response to the report, Michael Stoops, acting executive director of NCH, says "It's okay to count homeless people. But we need to make sure that we're working at housing homeless people and not just gathering statistics."

Primary Care of the Underserved Conference Flyer

15th

Annual

Primary Care of the Underserved Conference

April 19 – 21, 2007, Holiday Inn, Mansfield, Ohio

"Riding the Carrousel of Healthcare"

Co-hosted by: MedCentral College of Nursing & Northeastern University

Keynote Speakers

Jan Towers, PhD, NP-C, CRN, FAANP

Director of Health Policy, American Academy of Nurse Practitioners

Dr. David Hilfiker

Author of "Not all of Us Are Saints: A Doctors Journey with the Poor"

Veneta Masson, RN, MA, FNP

Founder of 9th Street Clinic in Washington DC

Schedule at a Glance:

Thursday, April 19, 2007

3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Registration

6:00 pm Opening Reception at

The Richland Carrousel

Friday, April 20, 2007

7:30 am - 8:30 am Continental Breakfast (provided)

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8:30 am - 9:30 am Keynote Speaker: Dr. Jan Towers

Morning Break

9:45 am - 11:15 am Breakout Sessions:

“Poverty and Homelessness”

11:30 am - 12:30 pm Lunch (provided)

12:45 pm - 2:15 pm Breakout sessions:

“Women’s Health Issues”

Afternoon Break

2:45 pm - 3:45 pm Breakout Sessions:

“Innovative Community Programs”

4:00 pm Keynote Speaker: Dr. David Hilfiker

6:00 pm 15th Anniversary Gala Dinner

(included in registration fee)

Saturday, April 21, 2007

7:30 am - 8:30 am Buffet Breakfast (provided)

8:30 am - 9:30 am Keynote Speaker: Veneta Masson

Morning break

9:45 am - 11:00 am Concurrent Breakout Sessions:

“Mental Health Issues”

“Children’s Health Issues”

11:15am Closing Remarks and Evaluation

Conference Fees

\$ 290.00 Participant

\$ 250.00 Presenter

\$ 150.00 Student

How to Register...

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By Fax

Complete Registration Form and fax to 419-520-2619

By e-mail

Send the required information to gsims@medcentral.edu

By Mail

Complete Registration Form and mail to:

` Gloria Sims

MedCentral College of Nursing

335 Glessner Ave

Mansfield, OH 44903

Cancellation Policy

All cancellations must be received in writing. Full refunds will be given for cancellations received by March 15, 2007.

Cancellations received after these dates are subject to a \$100.00 service charge per person. Cancellations made after the final cut-off date will result in full registration fee. Persons who sign up for the conference, but do not attend will be charged the full registration price. Substitutions or name changes can be made at any time.

Hotel Information

The Holiday Inn Hotel & Suites Take advantage of the special Conference rate of \$79.99 per night for single / double suite, plus applicable taxes. Call 419-525-6000 to make your hotel reservation and be sure to ask for the special “*Annual Underserved Conference*” rate. *The cut-off date for Hotel Reservation is March 19, 2007.* Rest assured that your stay at Mansfield’s

only full service hotel will be a trip to remember. The hotel is conveniently located to all of Mansfield’s most popular attractions including Kingwood Center, Antique Dealers, Mid-Ohio Sports Car Course, Amish Country, historic Ohio State Reformatory, Malabar Farms and so much more.

Getting to Mansfield

Mansfield is centrally located (approx. 68 Miles) between the Cleveland and Columbus Airport. For those who choose not to rent a
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vehicle, transportation can be arranged by the college at additional charge. For information, contact

Ms. Gloria Sims at 419-520-2623 or e-mail gsims@medcentral.edu Please have your flight information available when calling.

NCH on the Road

Stay up-to-date on NCH's upcoming speaking events throughout the county

March

Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau:

The Faces of Homelessness Speakers' Bureau is a program of the National Coalition for the Homeless that is comprised of people who are or have been homeless and works to educate the public about homelessness and what can be done to end it.

*Speaking engagements in Bold are out of state

March 3 rd	Journey to Justice at NCH 11:30am	
March 3 rd	Mechanicsburg Presbyterian at Pilgrimage 7pm	
March 3 rd	Central Missouri State University at NCH 8:15pm	
March 4 th	Vanderbilt University at NCH 1pm	
March 5 th 5:45pm	Christopher Dock Mennonite High School at Capitol Hill Presbyterian	Church
March 5 th	St Andrews Presbyterian College and UNC Greensboro at Pilgrimage	7pm
March 5th	Hamilton College in Clinton, NY at 7pm	
March 6th	University Delaware 6pm	
March 7 th	United Methodist Church 10:30am	
March 7 th	Youth Services Opportunities Project (YSOP) 3pm	
March 7 th	National Young Leaders Conference 7:30pm	
March 8 th	Cardozo Senior High School 9am and 10:30am	
March 9 th	Capitol Hill UMC 9:30am	
March 10 th NCH	University of Wyoming/Western Illinois University/Appalachain State	7:30pm
March 11 th	University of Florida 11am NCH	

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March 11th Bowdoin College at NCH 7pm

March 11th PANIM at Washington Marriott 7:30pm

March 11th PANIM at Key Bridge Marriott-Rosslyn 8:30pm

March 12th PANIM (location TBA)

March 13th United Methodist Church 2:30pm

March 13th Penn College at Pilgrimage 6pm

March 14th National Young Leaders Conference 7:30pm

March 14th Etgar 36 at NCH 7:30pm

March 15th UNC Chapel Hill at Pilgrimage 7pm

March 16th Religious Action Center at Sheraton National Premiere Hotel 9pm

March 17th University of Illinois and University of Kansas at NCH 8pm

March 18th PANIM at Washington Marriott Hotel 7:30pm (1st group)

March 18th PANIM at Washington Marriott Hotel 7:30pm (2nd group)

March 18th PANIM at Key Bridge Marriott-Rosslyn 8:15pm

March 19th Lasell College at NCH 2pm

March 19th Dartmouth College at NCH 4pm

March 20th Yale University at Pilgrimage 12:30pm

March 20th Etgar 36 at NCH 7pm

March 21st Montana State University 7pm

March 22nd Eastern Mennonite University

March 23rd James Madison University

March 23rd DePaul University at NCH

March 23rd Peace College at NCH 4pm

March 23rd Religious Action Center at Sheraton National Premiere Hotel 9pm

March 24th COOL Idealist Conference at DePaul University

March 25th Presbyterian Church in Fredericksburg, VA 6pm

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March 25th PANIM at Key Bridge Marriott-Rosslyn 8:15pm

March 25th PANIM at Holiday Inn Rhode Island Avenue 7:30pm

March 26th A Mizade at NCH 3pm

March 27th Manhattan College 7pm

March 30th Walter Johnson High School 10:30am

March 30th George Washington University 9pm

March 31st Westminster Presbyterian Church at Pilgrimage 7pm

March 31st Syracuse University 7pm

In 2005 we spoke to over 280 groups, 43 states and nearly 17,000 people. If you are interested in bringing our Faces of Homelessness Panel to your school, please contact Michael O'Neill, Speakers' Bureau Coordinator, at moneill@nationalhomeless.org.

Other NCH Speaking Events:

March 5 **Carson City, NV**—testifying in behalf of a bill that will add homelessness as a protected category to the existing hate crimes law

March 19 **Ft. Myers, FL**—testifying against a proposed law that will restrict the feeding of homeless people in public parks

March 27 **New York City**—Manhattan College—hate crimes/violence lecture

Mar. 28 **Tallahassee** Lobby Day of Florida Coalition for the Homeless

NCH Announcements

- **David Coffman** has joined the NCH staff. He is a Bill Emerson fellow for the Congressional Hunger Center. David will be working on civil rights issues with the Coalition and will be with us through July.
- Founded in 1982, NCH is a national network of people who are currently experiencing or have experienced homelessness, activists and advocates, community-based and faith-based service providers, and others committed to a single mission. That mission, our common bond, is to end homelessness. NCH is committed to creating the systemic and attitudinal changes necessary to prevent and end homelessness by involving people who have formerly or are currently experiencing homelessness in all of our work. A tax-deductible donation to NCH brings tangible results that help protect homeless people and promote social justice. Our work is innovative, cost-effective, and is creating a documented paradigm shift in how homeless people everywhere are viewed by society. A gift of \$75, \$100, \$150, \$250 or whatever you can afford will enable our critically needed work to go on. Giving to NCH has never been easier. Please log onto our secure website, www.nationalhomeless.org for additional information and to donate online.

- On February 6th, Julia Carson introduced the **Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act (H.R. 840)**. The bill reauthorizes and strengthens HUD McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance programs (see 'Homeless Assistance Bill Introduced'). Please contact your representative and urge them to cosponsor H.R. 840. To find our your U.S. Representative's contact information call the Congressional switchboard at 202-225-3121 or visit www.house.gov
- On February 13th, Representative Jesse Jackson, Jr. (D-IL) introduced H.J. Rs. 32. The resolution would amend the Constitution of the United States to give "all persons...**a right to decent, safe, sanitary, and affordable housing.**" The amendment has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee.

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