



Voting Rights Under Attack

Dear {FIRST_NAME|Friend},

Earlier this summer, we [reported on the blog](#) about a number of states that have been enacting increasingly restrictive voter requirements. These new laws have the potential to affect voters who are homeless and have difficulty in proving a permanent address or in obtaining proper identification. NCH Executive Director, Neil Donovan, has [expressed concern](#) for this trend in a letter to the U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder. [Read the full letter.](#)

You can [TAKE ACTION](#) today by sending a letter to the U.S. Attorney General expressing YOUR concern that many recent voting reform legislation has the potential of disenfranchising thousands of people experiencing homelessness. [Download the letter](#), sign and send to:

The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr.
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Learn more about the ID and other registrations restrictions being passed in NCH's article, [Federal, State and Local Election Information for Voter Registration and Identification](#). Or see our full [2011 Voter Rights and Registration Manual](#).

Soup Kitchen Limits End in Gainesville

In March 2009, a city developer informed the Gainesville, Florida city Plan Board about an 18 year old ordinance that was regularly violated. The ordinance, located [here](#) in city code, limited soup kitchens to serving up to 130 meals within a 24 hour period. The Plan Board listened to the developer and [voted](#) for stricter

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You can also [text NCH to 85944](#) and reply **YES** to make a \$10 donation.

Up Coming Events

August 21-28: [Homeless World Cup, Paris 2011](#) has started at the Champs de Mars, Paris France. Follow the action live!

October 13-16: [National American Street Newspaper Association](#) is holding their 2011 Conference-Back to Our Roots in Nashville, TN.

NCH in the News

ABC Correspondents Report (July 31) - [Down and out in Washington](#)

The Statesman (Aug. 6) - [No respite from heat for Austin's homeless](#)

Deseret News (Aug. 13) - [Criminalizing poverty: During economic crisis laws crack down on America's poor, homeless](#)

enforcement of the limit. The meal limit was featured in the National Coalition for the Homeless' (NCH) 2010 [report on food sharing prohibitions](#) and also helped garner Gainesville the [fifth spot](#) on NCH's 2009 Ten Meanest Cities.

People began protesting the meal limit by picketing city hall and demanding that it be overturned in the [summer of 2009](#). After two years of protests and activism, on August 18, 2011, a repeal of the 130 meal limit [won its first City Commission vote](#), and in its place will likely be the "three hour window" plan that Lowe eventually backed.

[Read More](#)

News from NCH's AmeriCorps*VISTA Program

NCH is proud of all the amazing work that our 40 VISTA volunteers are doing at their local placements across the states of Florida, Georgia, Maryland, Massachusetts and South Carolina. Each month, the VISTA members collect stories from their work. We are happy to highlight an entry from July by Linda Gaines, the Speakers Bureau Coordinator (veteran focused) in Bradenton, Florida.

"The City of Sarasota Mayor Turner and Commissioner Mason toured the One Stop and were amazed at all that we did here. The Open Door Band made up of homeless and formerly homeless band members. Drummer John W 47, on drums, lives in his truck, His equipment is in hock so he is playing on a borrowed drum set. Steve T, 53, lead guitar formerly homeless lives with his Mother. He lost his equipment when he couldn't get it out of hock. Bill G, vet, 61, bass player and singer formerly homeless when younger lived in his van. Errick H, 18, singer, sits in occasionally, homeless. and Linda Gaines, manager, vet, formerly homeless, Speakers Bureau Coordinator. The Open Door Band will be playing their first gig Sept 13th at the One Stop Center. I signed 2 new speakers up: Travis L 18, who spoke in front of 65 people at the Kiwanis club luncheon at the One Stop Center, and David, a Vietnam Vet. I have also collected clothing and shoes. I helped raise \$500 through our clothing salvage. The Speakers Bureau has advocated for the Homeless by speaking to 6 organizations this month."

NCH is offering recommendations to its readers for free and low cost resources for grant writing, technical assistance, capacity building and other useful and cost effective suggestions.

Today's Recommendation...

New Jersey Shelter Support Program

Funds Available: Up to \$350,000

DEADLINE: August 31, 2011

3BL Media (Aug. 23) - [Volcom and National Coalition for the Homeless Strive to Collect 50,000 Jeans and Jackets for the Homeless!](#)

Special thanks to our recent donors and renewed members:

Jon Ballew, Larry Olson, Jennifer Holstien, Kimberly Allard, Stephane Dahan, Baltimore Hebrew Congregation, Pinellas County Coalition for the Homeless, Michael Rossi, Carolyn Sechler, Brian Tiffany, Cheryl Barnes, Ellen Bogolub, Miami Coalition for the Homeless, Home Counselors, Colorado Coalition for the Homeless, PiTe Pan, Wendy McQuiston, Upstate Homeless Coalition of S.C., Broward County Homeless Initiative Partnership, Carol Corey, Rostin Ventures, Peter Orvetti, Cynthia Cohen, The Aberdeen Foundation, Community Coalition on Homelessness, Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition of Jacksonville, World Bank Community Connections Fund, Michael Shildmyer, Jule Monnens, Plasmanet, Phillip Pappas, Justin Low, Gaelan Armstrong, Suresh Paul, Capella University - Inspire Giving Program, Archibald Denny, Volusia/Flagler Coalition for the Homeless, Linda Isbell

If your organization wants provide safe and sanitary shelters and transitional housing for the homeless and to purchase equipment and furnishings that will provide direct benefits to the shelter's residents, this grant is for you! These grants cover major rehabilitation, renovation or conversion of buildings; acquisition and new construction; purchase of equipment, furnishings, new vans, and the provision of short-term homelessness prevention assistance. Call Resource Associates today to write, and WIN, this grant for your organization!

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