Hi there Friend,

As we ramp up planning for voter mobilization during National Homeless & Low-Income Voter Registration Week, we wanted to share a few tips for encouraging people who are often marginalized by homelessness to participate in this November's Presidential election.

3 Top Ways to Encourage Homeless Voter Participation:

1. Hold a voter registration drive at your shelter or homeless service center.
2. Hold a voter education or candidate forum.
3. Pledge to help get voters to polls.

There is lots more information on our website about what voters need in each state to register and what you can do to help!

Want more ideas?

Here are ways our members are taking part:

- The Sacramento Housing Alliance is hosting a Candidate’s Forum tonight. Questions for the candidates for City Council all are concerned with housing and homelessness. See the Sac Housing Alliance website for a list of questions and look out for video of the event!

- Students from Georgetown University will be setting up a table outside of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Library in downtown Washington, DC. Shuttles leave from outside the library to local shelters every evening. Students will be working to register people waiting for the shuttles to vote.

Upcoming Events

- Sept. 30- Oct. 6, 2012 - Start planning now to register your community to vote during National Homeless and Low-Income Voter Registration Week.
- October 6-14, 2012 - Homeless World Cup will be held in Mexico City, Mexico.
- October 9, 2012 - Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day Webinar: How to Plan, Organize, and Remember.
- November 10-18, 2012 - National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week
- December 21, 2012 - National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day

NCH in the News

- Alternet (Sept. 6) - Caring.
The Norwalk NAACP (Norwalk, CT) is sponsoring a Voter Education and Registration Rally at the Open Door Shelter.

Word on the Street, Baltimore’s new street newspaper, will be working in downtown Baltimore to register people who are un-housed and encourage them to vote.

*Got something planned? Let us know so we can highlight your events in our Voter Registration Manual!

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**Chase Community Giving Program**

NCH is currently participating in an online giving contest sponsored by Chase Community Giving. The top 196 vote-getting charities will receive grants of $10,000-$250,000. More than 20,000 people follow NCH on Facebook, Twitter, or through our eNewsletter, and it will only take 10% of you voting to ensure we receive a grant!

There are 2 ways you can vote:

1. Vote on the [Chase Giving App](https://www.chase.com/giving) on Facebook
2. If you are a Chase Customer, login to your Chase account at [www.ChaseGiving.com](https://www.ChaseGiving.com) and vote for the National Coalition for the Homeless (Tax ID #52-1517415)

It only takes a minute to login and vote! You get two votes, remember to support the National Coalition for the Homeless and your favorite local charity, and please share!! Voting ends at midnight ET on September 19th.

**Are you a Federal Employee?**

The [Combined Federal Campaign](https://www.cfc federalsavings.com) (CFC) is just getting underway. The CFC gives all Federal employees an easy way to give to your favorite charities, and to have donations taken out of your paycheck pre-tax!

Remember to designate your gift to the National Coalition for the Homeless, #10844 in your CFC pledge book or on your local campaign’s website!

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**VISTA Project Update**

We are finishing up another round of hiring for our National AmeriCorps VISTA project! After nearly 40 new members start their year of service in November, we will have over **100 Volunteers** on the ground in **10 States** and the District of Columbia!!

Here are a few reflections from August by current service members:

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sharing part of recovery (About NCH VISTA in Florida Keys)

Perkiomen Valley Patch (Sept. 18) - Loitering and the Homeless

Street Sense (Sept. 19 - My Road to Street Sense (by an NCH VISTA Volunteer)

Special Thanks to our recent donors, and new and renewed members!

Jeremiah Kerr, Homeless Coalition of Hillsborough County, Tampa, FL Working with the team at the Coalition to raise money to support the work of the LGBTQI2-S Homeless Youth Coordinator led to two wonderful community events. We not only raised over $2,000, but we also raised more awareness of the issues. It has also been very helpful in soliciting the participation of the LGBT community in recognizing homelessness as an issue that affects them.

Catelin Lindsay, Gateway Center, Atlanta, GA This month I was very excited by how much peer support education we were able to accomplish. It is wonderful to take people who have overcome homelessness to talk to people who are still homeless. We are doing this with the Atlanta Day Center, Church on the Street, and soon Quest 35. I am also excited because we are working on a presentation that will happen with the Georgia Commission Against Domestic Violence. This presentation will happen at one of their largest conferences in September. Good events are brewing!

Cheryl Hedger, Community Coalition on Homelessness, Bradenton, FL Late this month I coordinated with the Harvest United Methodist Church Youth Group to bring 10 children, ages 10-11 years of age to do a tour of CCH and then work for 2 hours in the Donation Center. VISTA Volunteer Linda Gaines and I divided up the group for the tour and what surprised me was how interested the kids seemed to be. They really paid attention to what you were saying. The group brought donations of hygiene items and clothing so they had a vested interest in the donation center and the work they were doing. They got to meet with other volunteers and some clients. I look at them as future volunteers and maybe even AmeriCorps/VISTA Volunteers!

Upcoming Grant Opportunities

California Bar Association
Through its Grants Program, the California Bar Foundation funds projects that champion full and equal access to the justice system, educate Californians about their rights and responsibilities under the law, and promote philanthropy throughout the legal community. The Grants Program is open to nonprofit organizations serving the public of California. Funding is project-based. The 2012 Application Deadline is 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 10, 2012. Click to learn more.

Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People
Grants are made to projects that will be presented, owned and controlled by the group of people who will benefit directly from it. Projects must address the long-term correction of conditions that
3 Ways to Increase Voter Participation

keep people bound by poverty and oppression. Applications are accepted year-round. All application materials and more information can be found [online].

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