



THE NATIONAL CENTER ON
Family Homelessness
for every child, a chance

Campaign to End Child Homelessness

More than 1.5 million American children are homeless each year—one child in every 50. The National Center on Family Homelessness is launching the **Campaign to End Child Homelessness** to galvanize public and political will to end this national crisis, acting on the belief that it is unacceptable for any child in the United States to be homeless for even one day.

Although we understand the root causes of homelessness and have sound strategies to respond, the problem continues to grow worse, especially in the current economic climate. The impact of homelessness is profound and long lasting. Homeless children often experience developmental delays, learning difficulties, and academic problems that seriously jeopardize their educational and economic success.

The Campaign to End Child Homelessness seeks to end child homelessness by achieving the following goals:

- Increasing public awareness of the scope and impact of homelessness on children and their families.
- Informing federal and state policies to better address the needs of homeless children.
- Improving program design and service delivery to effectively meet the unique needs of homeless children and their families.

The Campaign to End Child Homelessness is addressing these goals by supporting an array of coordinated national, state, and community efforts to:

- Educate the public about the needs of homeless children and effective policy, program, and service responses through an on-going targeted communications strategy. These efforts begin with publication of *America's Youngest Outcasts: State Report Card on Child Homelessness*.
- Advocate for improved policies at federal, state, and local levels through national and state policy work. National efforts focus on implementing the comprehensive policy platform outlined in *America's Youngest Outcasts: State Report Card on Child Homelessness*. State efforts are centered on aiding local policymakers and advocates to bring about lasting change in their communities through support for state and local planning and advocacy.
- Strengthen local efforts to end child homelessness by providing direct technical assistance to states and communities, including on-site training, information exchange among states, and on-going consultation.
- Foster best practices by providing tool kits, model program and policy approaches, and research-based resources through www.HomelessChildrenAmerica.org. This web-based clearinghouse on homeless children facilitates information exchange among providers, advocates, and policymakers to share what works and does not work at state and local levels.
- Promote better national and state data collection to accurately document the extent and nature of child homelessness.

For More Information

For more information, contact Christina Jordan, Senior Policy Manager, at 617-969-7146 or Christina.Jordan@familyhomelessness.org. Visit www.HomelessChildrenAmerica.org to download *America's Youngest Outcasts: State Report Card on Child Homelessness*, share your ideas and experiences from your state and community, and get involved in the Campaign to End Child Homelessness. Visit the National Center on Family Homelessness website at www.familyhomelessness.org for more information on family homelessness.

We hope that you will join our efforts to end child homelessness. As a nation, we can no longer ignore the fact that more than 1.5 million American children go without homes, food, access to health care, and educational opportunities. *Now* is a time of great change, and *now* is the time to end child and family homelessness.

About The National Center on Family Homelessness

The National Center on Family Homelessness, founded in 1988, is the nation's foremost authority on family homelessness, and the only national organization dedicated solely to helping homeless families. Through state-of-the-art research, program design, and public education, The National Center is committed to ending family homelessness in America. For more information, please visit www.familyhomelessness.org.

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