



About the Coalition for the Homeless

Homelessness in New York City has soared to its highest level since the Great Depression. Tonight, more than 56,000 people – including 24,000 kids – will sleep in emergency shelters. Thousands more bed down on our streets and in public spaces. The Coalition for the Homeless is often their last and only hope.

We turn no one away. Our doors are open, with no appointment necessary, to any person in need – no matter how difficult or complex their issues. Every person deserves respect, and having a safe, affordable home is the bedrock all humans need to thrive. Our mission is to ensure that sanctuary for all New Yorkers.

Direct Services

Every day the Coalition for the Homeless helps more than 3,500 people who are suffering in extreme poverty. We address immediate needs and also work to help them overcome long-term barriers to employment and permanent housing.

- **Grand Central Food Program** delivers over 1,000 hot, nutritious meals to homeless and hungry New Yorkers on the streets of the city every night of the year.
- **Crisis Intervention** provides immediate assistance to 50 individuals and families each day. We give emergency grants for food, baby formula, work uniforms, school supplies, medication, and transportation. We also connect them to shelter, housing, public benefits, substance abuse treatment, mental health programs, domestic violence counseling and job training.
- **Eviction Prevention Program** rescues more than 600 families per year from the brink of homelessness with one-time emergency grants to pay rental arrears and keep them in their homes.
- **Client Advocacy Project** engages long-term shelter residents with severe mental and physical disabilities and helps them access vital government benefits. CAP's work is essential – allowing these often shunned and forgotten men and women to finally transition into permanent housing.
- **Rental Assistance Program** is a life-line for homeless men and women who work but still cannot afford permanent housing. Our modest monthly stipend bridges the gap between low wages and the high cost of NYC housing for up to two years, while our case managers help them achieve complete self-sufficiency.
- **Scattered Site Housing Program** allows homeless individuals and families living with HIV/AIDS to thrive in homes of their own with access to continuous support and medical care.
- **Coalition Houses** offers private apartment living for 38 formerly homeless individuals in three contiguous five-story brownstones on the Upper West Side.
- **Bridge Building** provides safe and affordable one- and two-bedroom apartments that allow formerly homeless mothers to create a safe, nurturing environment for their kids while fostering a strong sense of community
- **First Step Job Training Program** gives homeless and low-income women computer training, literacy and life skills, practical experience and support services needed to secure living-wage employment.
- **Camp Homeward Bound** gives 300 homeless girls and boys each summer the chance to play, learn, grow and thrive at our beautiful, lakefront sleep-away camp in upstate New York.
- **Bound for Success** after-school and summer day-camp programs restore hope to homeless kids by providing tutoring with homework, literacy and math skills, as well as active recreational fun.

Advocacy and Public Policy

From our first legal victory, *Callahan v. Carey*, which guarantees the right to decent shelter, the Coalition has worked at the city and state levels to protect homeless adults and children and create long-term solutions to modern mass homelessness. We advocate strategically -- forging viable and lasting solutions targeted to reduce the unprecedented number of homeless New Yorkers and prevent many more from joining their ranks.

The Coalition's renowned impact litigation, grassroots organizing, research and policy analysis and public education campaigns have made us the most trusted source of information about the causes of – and solutions to – New York's shameful crisis of homelessness.