



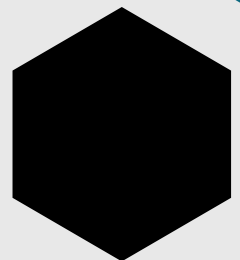
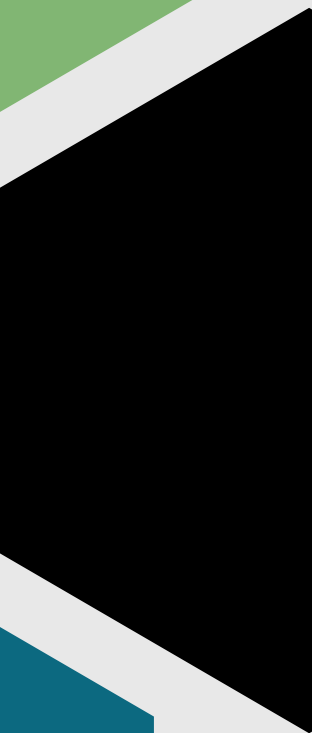
LEARNING ABOUT HOMELESSNESS

Everyone Deserves a Home

BY



coalition
for the
homeless





WHO ARE THE HOMELESS?

Many people in NYC have lost their homes so they either stay in homeless shelters or sleep on the streets.

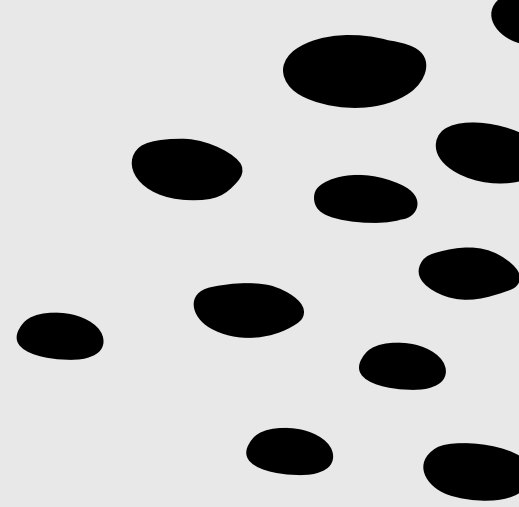
The people you see sleeping on subway benches or other public places are the unsheltered homeless, and are mostly adults – many of whom have mental or physical health problems.

But most homeless people in NYC sleep in shelters, and so you don't see them or know that they're homeless.

Most of those in homeless shelters are families – parents and kids.

Tonight, more than 23,000 children will sleep in homeless shelters in NYC.

HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS?



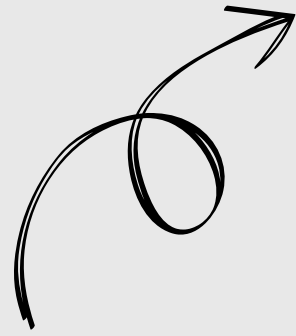
The number of people in NYC shelters tonight is about 74,000.

If all of those homeless people went to Yankee Stadium, they would fill every single seat – and over 1,000 more would have to stand.

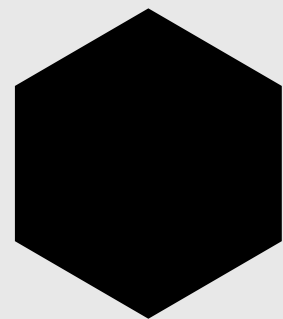
That doesn't even include the thousands more homeless people who sleep on the streets and other public places.



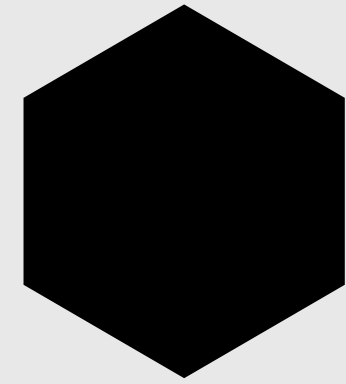
HOW LONG ARE PEOPLE HOMELESS?



- People can be homeless anywhere from one night to many years.
- Families who have lost their homes stay in homeless shelters for over a year on average.
- Some people, especially those who live on the streets, can be homeless for many years before they get the help they need.



WHY ARE PEOPLE HOMELESS?

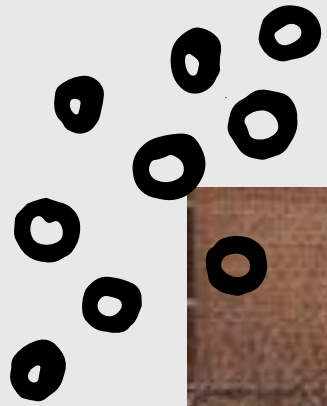


PEOPLE BECOME HOMELESS FOR MANY DIFFERENT REASONS:

- Sometimes their rent gets too high and they can't afford to stay in their homes.
- Sometimes, people lose their jobs or get paid less money and so can't afford to pay rent anymore.
- Some people have difficult mental or physical health problems, or have just had a lot of bad luck.
- Some people have already become homeless during the pandemic, and many more people are at risk of losing their homes now.



WHAT IS A HOMELESS SHELTER?



- NYC is required to provide a bed in a shelter for anyone who doesn't have a place to stay.
- There are many kinds of shelters – some look like apartment buildings, some look like hospitals or dormitories.
- During the pandemic, NYC sheltered some people in hotels where they could be safer from the virus.



WHAT IS A HOMELESS SHELTER?



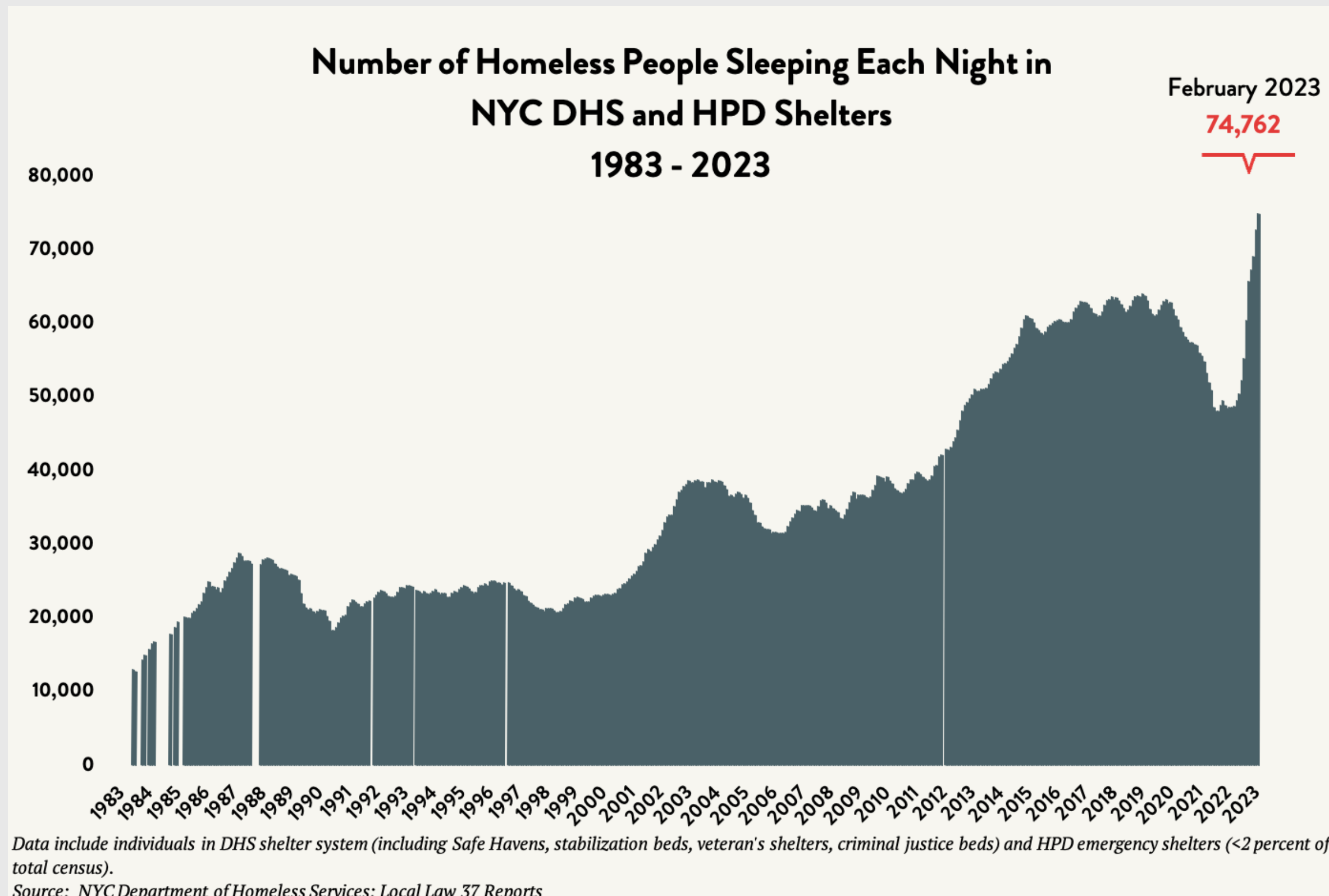
- Shelters provide a bed, a place to shower and food – but they can be loud, dirty, and crowded.
- There isn't much privacy, and people often have to share bathrooms with dozens of strangers.

WHAT IS A HOMELESS SHELTER?



- Families have to cram all of their things into one small room, and they often must leave toys, furniture, and other belongings behind.
- Most shelters don't allow any pets, which also means they have to say goodbye to their cats and dogs.
- Many shelters also didn't have reliable internet access or quiet places for remote learning during the start of the pandemic.

WHEN DID IT GET TO BE SO BAD?



**It wasn't always
this way:**

There are more
homeless people
in New York City
in recent years
than at any time
since the Great
Depression in the
1930s.

HOW CAN WE HELP?

- Always respect other people
- Remember that NO ONE wants to be homeless, and homeless people need our help and compassion.
- Go to the Coalition's "What should I do if...?" webpage for a list of how to help those you see on the streets.

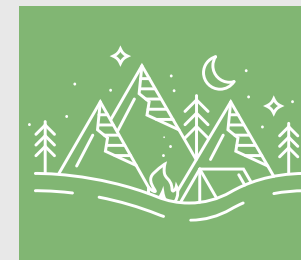
← HOW CAN WE END HOMELESSNESS? →

- The Coalition calls for housing as a solution to homelessness.
- Some people need housing with some extra help, or "supportive housing," to make sure they can get and stay healthy.



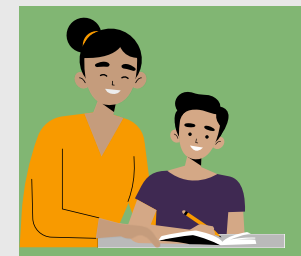
HOW CAN WE HELP?

SUPPORT THE COALITION'S YOUTH PROGRAMS



CAMP HOMEWARD BOUND

Sleepaway camp in Harriman State Park, serving 360 kids each summer.



BOUND FOR SUCCESS

After-school program and summer day camp based in two shelters in NYC

HOW CAN WE HELP?



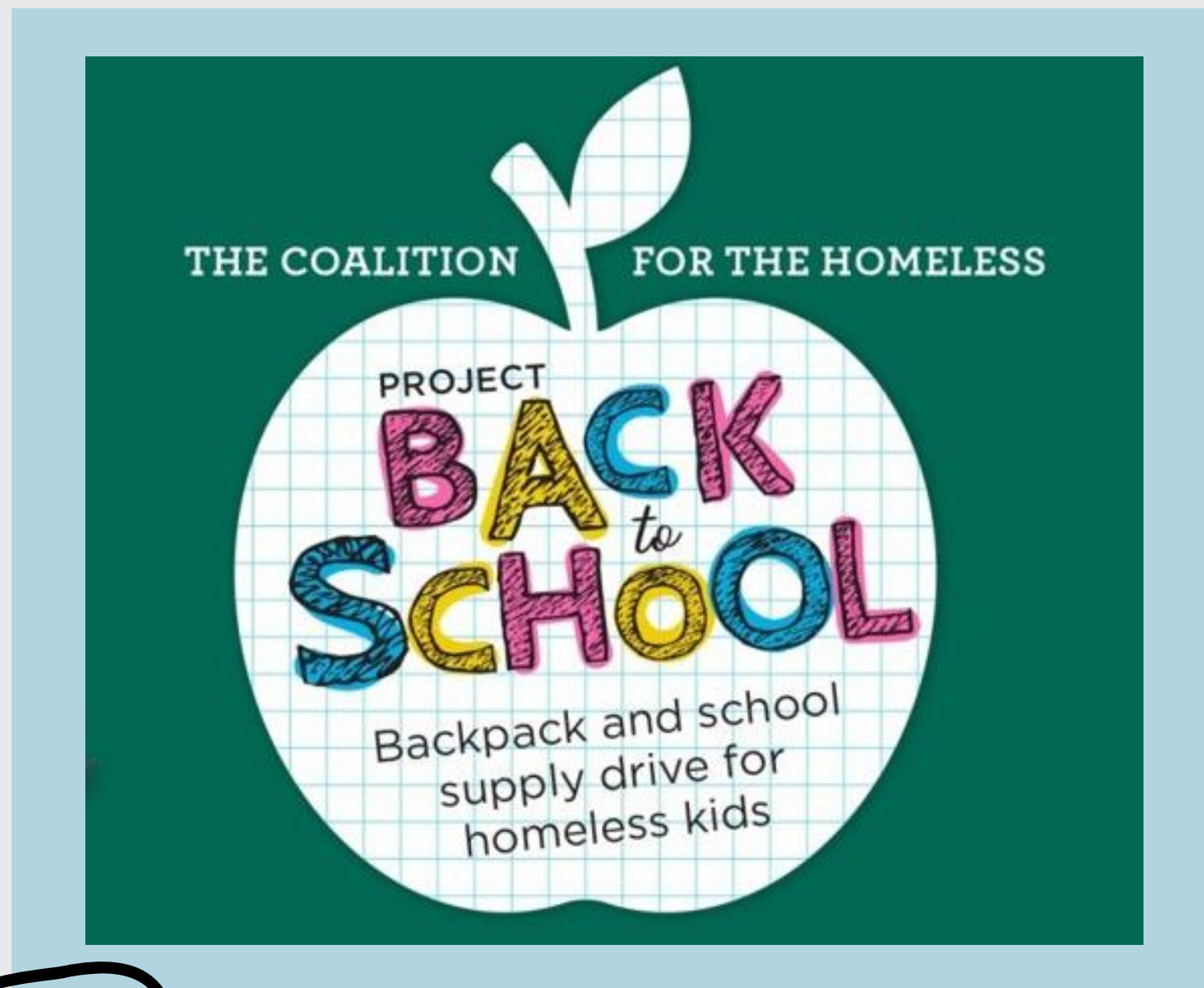
- You can make care packages with toiletry items for people in need.
- Contact the Coalition for the Homeless for a list of needed items.
- We can help distribute the care packages to the people we serve.



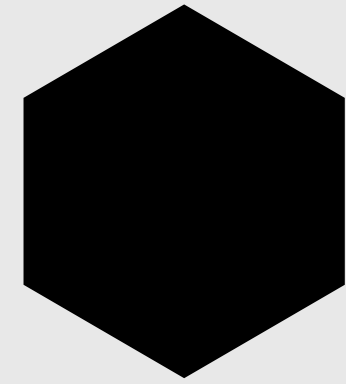
HOW CAN WE HELP?

PARTICIPATE IN PROJECT: BACK TO SCHOOL

- Every year, the Coalition gives thousands of homeless kids backpacks stuffed with all the things they need in school – like notebooks, pencils, pens, and more!
- We need your help to collect the supplies and make sure no one has to go to school unprepared.



HOW CAN WE HELP?

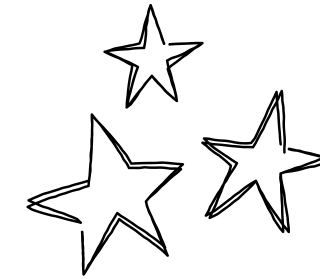


coalition
for the
homeless

Talk to your friends and family

- Even adults don't always understand homelessness.
- Your parents can get more information at coalitionforthehomeless.org





DISCUSSION

www.coalitionforthehomeless.org