



**Advocacy Organizations for Homelessness:
A list of notable organizations and their
products and services**

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designresourcesforhomelessness.org

Building Dignity (The Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence [WSCADV])

Scope: Regional; web information and design metrics available beyond region of focus

URL: <http://buildingdignity.wscadv.org/>

Building Dignity is a web-resource that assists in evaluation and development of transitional shelters for domestic violence victims. The site provides case studies, program implementations of design ideas, and information for building a space considerate of the needs of battered victims. Additionally, the site provides basic information on how to carefully select architecture firms to assist in the development and further construct the shelter.

Specificity to Design Programming: 3

Building Dignity seeks to better educate architects on the needs of women and children who have suffered domestic violence and how those needs translate into spaces. Some of these spaces may be carefully designed multi-family kitchens or communal living rooms. The goal is to provide spaces that foster healing while maintaining a secure environment separate from the outside community.

Statistics: Yes; significant and relevant data are present on the site that are insightful to the experiences of people living in domestic violence shelters. The site presents diverse data with some qualitative and quantitative research highlighting information from anecdotal and interview focused studies.

Focus Information on Issues: Creating harmonious spaces that are psychologically and architecturally considerate for people who have been traumatized.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on victims of domestic violence, particularly women and children.

Training: No; strictly a web resource

Workshops: No; strictly a web resource

Newsletters: No; website actively updated with case studies and remodeling/rebuilding resources for architect developing domestic violence shelters.

Bibliography: Yes; all data published is cited with academic sourcing. Resources and referenced articles are also available via hyperlink.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: No.

Scattergood Foundation

Scope: Specific to Philadelphia

URL: www.scattergoodfoundation.org/

Overview: The Scattergood Foundation is a grant committee that advocates for advancements in behavioral healthcare within the Philadelphia region. The Scattergood Foundation awards targeted grants to community organizations specific to Philadelphia.

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The Scattergood Foundation annually sponsors crowdsourcing and crowd funding events that award grant money to organizations that develop behavioral health facilities. The purpose of these “design challenges”¹ is to rebuild spaces or systems that have become ineffective. The winning projects range from shelters for women and children to educational websites for university students who suffer from mental illness but do not have access to rehabilitative resources.

Statistics: Yes; Statistics on mental healthcare and patients’ experiences in facilities and systems that treat mental illness are provided throughout the site. All data is cited and some data are sourced with hyperlinks.

Focus Information on Issues: Developing comprehensive facilities and systems that foster safety, healing and compassion for the mentally ill.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Present; focuses on marginalized populations (people who are mentally ill); not exclusive to homeless persons.

Training: No.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; Website/ blog and social media outlets update regularly, e-mail subscription available as well.

Bibliography: Yes; sources extensive academic/psychiatric research throughout site.

Grant Provider: Yes; The Scattergood Foundation is a grant providing organization.

Of Special Note: Website provides links to a mental health literacy database so that grant applicants may familiarize themselves with the behavioral health community:

“Mental health literacy consists of the ability to recognize specific mental disorders and their causes, knowledge of how to access mental health services, possessing attitudes conducive to seeking help, and increasing community acceptance and understanding of individuals with mental health conditions.

National Coalition For The Homeless

Scope: National; Headquarters located in Washington, D.C.; Agencies throughout the U.S.

URL: <http://nationalhomeless.org/>

Overview:

The National Coalition for the Homeless is an organization dedicated to ending homelessness while providing persons who are experiencing homelessness resources to alleviate their situation. The National Coalition for the Homeless membership is comprised of individuals who have been homeless or who are homeless, activists, advocates and other service providers.

Specificity to Design Programming: 2

The National Coalition for the Homeless is a nexus for campaigns pertaining to homeless persons and issues surrounding homelessness. These campaigns often involve the construction of shelters that fit the needs of niche and marginalized populations, e.g., LGBTQ+ adolescents who are homeless.

Statistics: Yes; General statistics are available on the web-site for activism, campaign and advocacy purposes.

Focus Information on Issues: Ending homelessness and issues surrounding the legal advocacy for homeless persons. The National Coalition for the Homeless advocates for the right to shelter and for the right to affordable housing.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Yes; Focuses on all demographics experiencing homelessness and their needs.

Training: Yes; Volunteer opportunities available regionally within agencies, membership and youth advocacy are also essential components of the coalition.

Workshops: Yes; Speakers can be requested for organizations, businesses or schools within and outside of the D.C. metro area. Workshops occur sporadically and are interrelated with current projects/campaigns.

Newsletters: Yes; The website is updated regularly; there is an e-mail subscription available for members.

Bibliography: Yes; Resources are available regarding the information they promote and publish and for further use by other advocates, activists and campaigns.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: No.

Public Interest Design; Public Interest Design Institutes

Scope: National (domestic to the United States); regional (State-Sponsored)

URL: <http://www.publicinterestdesign.com/>

Overview: Public Interest Design institutes (PID), is a collaborative series of two-day workshops that focus on educating architects and other building professionals on how to better meet the critical needs of their communities in regards to design. PID educates via case study and touches upon the social, economic and environmental needs of communities. The workshop/training operates as a rotary, traveling to different metropolitan areas and universities throughout the united states annually.

Specificity to Design Programming: 3

PID is predominantly an educational resource for professionals and students in the architecture/design world.

Statistics: No.

Focus Information on Issues: Social, economic, environmental effects of design; how to better design with community member input.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: No; Focuses on design solutions rather than populations or individuals.

Training: Yes; All training is conducted in person by academics and design professionals that are leaders in the field.

Workshops: Yes; The workshops are two-days in length and consist of lectures and case-study presentations.

Newsletters: Yes; Archive of past Institutes (workshops) that is actively updated. Future Institutes listed as well.

Bibliography: Yes; Links to the SEED webpage. Required and recommended texts listed.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: Applies SEED metric to teaching methodology:

“SEED Principle 1: Advocate with those who have a limited voice in public life.

SEED Principle 2: Build structures for inclusion that engage stakeholders and allow communities to make decisions.

SEED Principle 3: Promote social equality through discourse that reflects a range of values and social identities.

SEED Principle 4: Generate ideas that grow from place and build local capacity.

SEED Principle 5: Design to help conserve resources and minimize waste.”²

AIA (The American Institute of Architects)

Scope: National; Headquarters in Washington, D.C.

URL: <http://www.aia.org/>

Overview: AIA is an organization dedicated to the educational experiences of design professionals, their licensure and advocacy of the design profession. AIA has 300 state and local chapters that foster spaces for the professional design community and award them for their excellence in the field. AIA is a space for professionals to network and develop themselves. Further AIA focuses in diversifying the architecture world while creating a sustainable community.

“For more than 150 years, the members of the American Institute of Architects have worked to advance our quality of life through design. From designing the next generation of energy-saving buildings to making our communities healthier and more vibrant, from helping neighborhoods rebuild after disasters to exporting American design know-how to the rest of the world, architects turn dreams and aspirations into reality.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 3

Features: AIA knowledge communities include those on Academy of Architecture for Health, Housing Knowledge Community, Public Architects Committee Learn more at <http://www.aia.org/practicing/groups/#aiakcs>

Statistics: No.

Focus Information on Issues: Advocacy and community for architects.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: No; Does not focus specifically on homeless persons; however, knowledge communities may address aspects of the issue.

Training: Yes; The AIA provides the opportunity for membership to professionals or emerging professionals in design. There are a number of leadership and member positions available in local AIA chapters. Volunteer work and internships are also integral aspects of the AIA community.

Workshops: Yes; there are workshops and meetings specific to local chapters in addition to annually held national conferences.

Newsletters: Yes; “The AIA’s publications and blogs are a benefit of membership in the AIA. If there is an AIA publication you would like to receive, you can subscribe online. Simply enter your e-mail address and select which publications you want to receive. You can subscribe to the newsletters and journals of the AIA Knowledge Communities by joining a Knowledge Community from your AIA profile. You can even keep abreast of all the latest news by subscribing to an RSS feed (what’s an RSS feed?) and getting updates to your selected publications and blogs automatically.”

Bibliography: Yes; some resources and publications available on main webpage to public, other information only available to members of the AIA.

Grant Provider: Yes; Grants, scholarships and fellowships available to members, students and teachers in the design community.

Of Special Note: N/A

Public Architecture

Scope: Regional; Specific to California-San Francisco Area

URL: <http://www.publicarchitecture.org/>

Overview:

Public Architecture is a non-profit organization that focuses on integrating social justice and progressive values into architecture. Public Architecture seeks to create environments that foster greater fluidity and harmony in human interactions.

Specificity to Design Programming: 3

Public Architecture conducts design initiatives and consultancy that range from day labor facilities to community learning spaces and Planned Parenthood sustainable design planning.

Statistics: No.

Focus Information on Issues: Incorporates social justice, progressive values into architecture. Encourages other design firms to do the same.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Does not focus solely on homeless persons, but focuses on disadvantaged and marginalized members of the public.

Training: No; Volunteer/Internship opportunities are available.

Workshops: Yes; Founder, Board Members and Executive Director give lectures on socially-conscious design at schools, architecture firms, universities and other gathering sites for professionals. Design Access Summits and similar workshops are also sponsored and directed by Public Architecture.

Newsletters: Yes; website actively updated; e-mail subscribers can receive newsletters and similar information.

Bibliography: Yes; Sources provided on webpage, in addition to recommended resources.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: 1% Pro-Bono Program, asks individuals within the architecture world to pledge 1% of their 40-hour work weeks to helping non-profit organizations in need of design assistance.

HUD (U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND UBRAN DEVELOPMENT)

Scope: National; Assistance available in all fifty states.

URL: <http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/topics>

Overview:

The HUD is a Federal Agency that provides financial assistance for housing through government programs:

“HUD’s mission is to create strong, sustainable, inclusive communities and quality affordable homes for all. HUD is working to strengthen the housing market to bolster the economy and protect consumers; meet the need for quality affordable rental homes; utilize housing as a platform for improving quality of life; build inclusive and sustainable communities free from discrimination, and transform the way HUD does business.”

The HUD web-resource provides extensive information on housing for people who experience some level of housing insecurity. Additionally, HUD seeks to end discriminatory housing practices while creating more environmentally sustainable and economically accessible housing. The web-resource features a number of topic areas that seek to educate and provide government assistance. The topic areas include:

Avoiding Foreclosure

Fair Lending

Freedom of Information Act (FOIA)

Homelessness

Housing Choice Voucher Program (Section 8)

Housing Discrimination

Housing Research and Data Sets

HUD Homes

Information for Disabled Persons

Information for Senior Citizens

Limited Denials of Participation

Rental Assistance

Veteran Information

Specificity to Design Programming: 2

HUD offers information regarding the architectural improvements of homes and energy efficiency. Homes can be bought through HUD that will be intended for use in subsidized or emergency housing.

Statistics: Yes; provides extensive statistics and comprehensive research studies on housing discrimination, income instability and neighborhood demographics.

Focus Information on Issues: Focuses on all areas of housing insecurity and housing for low-income people.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons:

“HUD serves over 1 million people through emergency, transitional, and permanent housing programs each year. The total number of peoples who

experience homelessness could be twice as high. There are four federally defined categories under which individuals and families might qualify as homeless:

- 1) Literally homeless;**
- 2) Imminent risk of homelessness;**
- 3) Homeless under other Federal statutes; and**
- 4) Fleeing/attempting to flee domestic violence.**

HUD's Office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) supports the nationwide commitment to ending homelessness by providing funding opportunities to nonprofit organizations and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families. Through these opportunities, SNAPS advocates self-sufficiency and promotes the effective utilization of mainstream resources available to individuals and families experiencing homelessness."

Training: Yes; HUD is staffed by federal employees, see website for information regarding employment.

Workshops: Yes; A variety of workshops are listed specific to housing security. Workshops cover the following, but are not limited to, home buying, improvement, foreclosure, and rentals.

Newsletters: Yes; newsletter and e-mail lists available.

Bibliography: Yes; extensive listing of resources.

Grant Provider: Yes; actively distributes grant monies to organizations that work with people who experience housing insecurity and other economically disadvantaged people.

Of Special Note: No.

National Alliance to End Homelessness

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.endhomelessness.org/>

Overview:

“The Alliance works toward ending homelessness by improving homelessness policy, building on-the-ground capacity, and educating opinion leaders.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

Focuses on housing and monetary assistance; is not design programming focused.

Statistics: Yes; provides extensive information on the issue of homelessness and the psychological, social and economic repercussions of homelessness.

Focus Information on Issues: Focuses on ending homelessness through long-term housing and temporary financial assistance solutions.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons:

Chronic Homelessness

Families

Veterans

Youth

Rural Homelessness

Domestic Violence

Health Care

Re-Entry

Economic Security

Training: Yes; “The Center for Capacity Building at the National Alliance to End Homelessness offers both online and on-site training to help communities implement effective strategies to end homelessness.” The National Alliance to End Homelessness also offers volunteer and activism opportunities.

Workshops: Yes; workshops and clinics are available that covers “rapid re-housing” and other strategies on how to more effectively combat homelessness.

“The National Alliance to End Homelessness’ System Design Clinic is designed to help your community move from a collection of individual programs that address homelessness to a crisis response system that makes strategic, data driven decisions. Communities work with instructors to develop concrete governance strategies and action plans for becoming a high-functioning crisis response system.”

Newsletters: Yes; actively publishes a newsletter, weekly blog updates and an annual report

Bibliography: Yes; resources are listed under Library tab.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: No.

Enterprise Community

Scope: National; sectors in metropolitan/urban areas in major cities

URL: <http://www.enterprisecommunity.com/>

Overview: Enterprise Community is an organization that brings private capital to low-income underdeveloped neighborhoods. They invest in projects that provide disadvantaged people housing that has access to public transit, healthcare facilities in low-income neighborhoods and other services. Further, Enterprise seeks to influence public policy to aid people who experience housing insecurity. “Enterprise’s mission is to create opportunity for low- and moderate-income people through affordable housing in diverse, thriving communities” Within Enterprise are entities that lend funds, finance development and manage and build affordable housing.

Specificity to Design Programming: 3

Focuses on building affordable housing in areas that are in need of assistance. Architects weigh in heavily on development and design decisions. These homes are constructed to be compact yet comfortable spaces that are also environmentally sustainable.

Features: Knowledge Central and Enterprise Resource Center provide newsbriefs, expertise, research reports and best practices information.

Statistics: Yes; statistics are integrated into web resource.

Focus Information on Issues:

Affordable Housing

Community Development & Finance Regulation

Disaster Policy

Fair Housing

Federal Budget & Appropriations

Foreclosure & Neighborhood Revitalization

Green & Sustainable Housing & Communities

Holistic Community Development & Place-Based Initiatives

Policy Development and Research

Policy Priorities

Tax Incentives

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Does not focus specifically on homelessness but rather housing insecurity which is connected to homelessness. There are sections on assisting vulnerable groups, specifically native Americans and seniors.

Training: Yes; employment opportunities available through Enterprise.

Workshops: Yes; The web-resource actively seeks to educate on the issue of housing insecurity. Workshops and webinars are regularly held to

Newsletters: Yes; regional newsletters published every month and are available via e-mail.

Bibliography: Yes; some information on sources available.

Grant Provider: Yes; “Although Enterprise is not an endowed foundation, we make every effort to raise funds to support the work of our partners across the country. As resources allow, we offer grants to help strengthen community-based organizations.” Grants are available for non-profit organizations, architecture firms, and other community organizations.

Of Special Note: No.

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration: Homeless Resource Center

Scope: National

URL: <http://homeless.samhsa.gov/Default.aspx>

Overview:

“The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration's (SAMHSA) Homelessness Resource Center (HRC) is an interactive learning community dedicated to disseminating knowledge and best practices to prevent and end homelessness. It includes providers, consumers, policymakers, researchers, and public agencies at Federal, State, and local levels.

The HRC is part of SAMHSA's Recovery Support Strategic Initiative. SAMHSA's homeless and housing programs are united by a vision of ending homelessness by supporting individuals through a process of change as they improve their health and wellness, live a self-directed life, and strive to reach their full potential.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The HRC does not focus on design programming; however the HRC deals with issues that relate to the interaction between transitional housing facilities and mental health.

Statistics: Yes; an extensive library and facts list are accessible via the web resource.

Focus Information on Issues: The HRC focuses on educating service providers and other organizations that work with homelessness and homeless persons. The HRC focuses on issues regarding substance abuse, trauma, wellness and shelters.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on all homeless persons, does provide specific information on LGBTQ+ homeless persons' needs and provides training that specifies in helping LGBTQ+ homeless youth.

Training: Yes; The HRC offers training and resources for provider agencies to better address homelessness and to assist homeless persons. “SAMHSA's HRC is committed to offering the best resources and available information to help provider agencies build their internal capacity to provide quality, proven services to marginalized populations. We accomplish this through linking providers with informative resources, providing national trainings, webcasts and on-line self-paced courses.”

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; Frequent blog and web page updates in addition to newsletters.

Bibliography: Yes; All sources are listed on the website. Extensive information on trauma and mental health.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

Homelessness Analytics

Scope: National, State, Local

URL: <http://homelessnessanalytics.org/>

Overview: “The Homelessness Analytics Initiative (HAI)—a collaboration between the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)—is intended to provide users with access to national, state, and local information about homelessness among the general population, homelessness among Veterans, risk and protective factors for homelessness, services and resources.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

Homelessness Analytics is not design specific, but does provide insightful data on homelessness.

Statistics: Yes; extensive quantitative data that is easily accessible through the website.

Focus Information on Issues: HAI provides research and data on the status of homeless veterans and homelessness. The web resource for HAI is an interactive site that allows users to examine different data pertaining to homeless veterans. Further, the website provides forecasts on homelessness, the geography of homelessness and the social repercussions experienced over time as a result of homelessness.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: HAI focuses on ending homelessness but produces data that specifically acknowledges homeless veterans.

Training: No.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: No.

Bibliography: Yes; All the data is sourced.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty
Scope: National
URL: <http://www.nlchp.org/>

Overview:

The NLCHP is a legal group comprised of attorneys that assist homeless persons and persons at-risk of becoming homeless.

“The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty, a 501(c)3 based in Washington, D.C., is the only national legal group dedicated to ending and preventing homelessness. We operate programs across the United States that serve America’s more than 3.5 million homeless families, children and individuals.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The NLCHP is not design specific.

Statistics: Yes; Reports and resources can be found on the site. Most of the information is law related and discusses the circumstances of homeless persons and what many of them experience.

Focus Information on Issues: The NLCHP is a legal organization that focuses on the protection of civil rights of homeless persons while also actively trying to prevent and end homelessness using the legal system.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on the legal rights of all homeless persons and people at-risk of becoming homeless.

Training: Yes; advocacy training and volunteer opportunities available.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; there is a newsletter and a regularly updated blog.

Bibliography: Yes; all sources are cited.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

URL for blog: <http://homelessnesslaw.org/>

National Coalition for Homeless Veterans

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.nchv.org/>

Overview:

“The National Coalition for Homeless Veterans (NCHV) – a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization governed by a 23-member board of directors – is the resource and technical assistance center for a national network of community-based service providers and local, state and federal agencies that provide emergency and supportive housing, food, health services, job training and placement assistance, legal aid and case management support for hundreds of thousands of homeless veterans each year.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The NCHV is not a design specific organization but does deal with supportive and transitional housing which are directly related to design issues.

Statistics: Yes; Statistics are present on the web resource. Much of the data are quantitative, but the website provides in-depth discussion on the experience of homeless veterans and the factors that cause veterans to become homeless.

Focus Information on Issues: The organization focuses on ending veteran homelessness while also providing resources for veterans and organizations that assist them.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on homeless veterans.

Training: No; teleconferences are held regarding the issues of homeless veterans, but no training outside of this.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; The Website is updated regularly and also provides access to a news and engagement tab.

Bibliography: Yes; the website is well sourced.

Grant Provider: Yes; the NCHV does not provide grant monies, however, information regarding grants given through other organizations that align with NCHV’s mission are present on the website.

Of Special Note:

NPACH: The National Policy and Advocacy Council on Homelessness

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.npach.org/>

Overview:

“The National Policy and Advocacy Council on Homelessness (NPACH) is a national grassroots organization whose primary concern is to ensure that national homelessness policy accurately reflects the needs of local communities. NPACH is unique in its grassroots approach and global view, connecting community-based organizations, schools, and the public to national policy through our advocacy and education initiatives.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The NPACH is not specific to design programming.

Statistics: Yes; Fact sheet on homelessness and policy that address homelessness listed on website.

Focus Information on Issues: The NPACH addresses the issue of homelessness through grassroots work, research, education and policy making.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on all groups of homeless persons.

Training: No.

Workshops: No

Newsletters: Yes; blog and newsletter

Bibliography: Yes; Site archive and source citing are present.

Grant Provider:

Of Special Note:

National Housing Institute
Scope: National
URL: <http://www.nhi.org/>

Overview:

“The National Housing Institute (NHI), founded in 1975, is an independent nonprofit organization dedicated to fostering decent, affordable housing and a vibrant community for everyone.

Through its magazine, Shelterforce, its blog Rooflines, its research and reports, and its advocacy, NHI focuses attention and encourages action on progressive, high-impact housing and community-development policies and practices through the lens of such subjects as social and economic equity, racism, poverty, health, the environment, education, and sustainability.

NHI has conducted original research on such topics as shared-equity homeownership, managing neighborhood change, saving subsidized housing, homelessness prevention, and creating jobs as a component of affordable-housing construction.

Operating at the intersection of theory, practice, and policy, NHI examines how these and other factors affect people as they try to build safe, viable neighborhoods.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 2

Through the magazine, Shelterforce, the NHI provides insightful articles and research on housing insecurity, discrimination and sustainable homes. Design programming is not the main focus of the NHI but is heavily integrated in their published work.

Statistics: Yes; data that address the varying experiences of homeless persons are available. The NHI actively conducts research and publishes findings.

Focus Information on Issues: The NHI addresses community and neighborhood sustainably and the interaction between housing insecurity, homelessness and other social issues.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on the issue of housing and housing security, focuses on homelessness prevention and job sustainability.

Training: No.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; The NHI publishes an informative magazine, Shelterforce, and maintains a blog, Rooflines.

Bibliography: Yes; the website is referenced.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

National Low Income Housing Coalition
Scope: National and Regional
URL: <http://nlihc.org/>

Overview:

“Founded in 1974 by Cushing N. Dolbeare, NLIHC educates, organizes and advocates to ensure decent, affordable housing for everyone.

Our goals are to preserve existing federally assisted homes and housing resources, expand the supply of low income housing, and establish housing stability as the primary purpose of federal low income housing policy.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 2

The NLIHC is low-income housing specific; design programming is an element of their research and policy making.

Statistics: Yes; the NLIHC actively conducts research and publishes findings in addition to providing other sources of information on low-income housing.

Focus Information on Issues: Expanding housing resources for people who have low-incomes and creating housing stability for these people through public policy.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on people experiencing housing insecurity, low-income housing and homelessness

Training: Yes; Forums and webinars are regularly held, available to members and non-members.

Workshops: Yes; regional conferences and lectures are held.

Newsletters: Yes; newsletter available via e-mail for members only.

Bibliography: Yes; Up-to-date academic and law related resource library on website.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

ShelterForce Magazine

URL: <http://www.shelterforce.org/>

“Shelterforce is the nation’s oldest continually published community development magazine. Since 1975, _Shelterforce_ has been a primary forum for organizers, activists, advocates, and policymakers in the affordable-housing, equitable economic development, neighborhood revitalization, and community organizing movements.

Shelterforce is published by the National Housing Institute, an independent nonprofit organization that examines the issues causing the crisis in housing and community in America. These issues include poverty and racism, disinvestment and lack of employment, safety, and high-quality education. NHI examines how these and other factors affect people as they try to build safe, viable neighborhoods.”

Shelter Listings.org

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.shelterlistings.org/>

Overview:

“Shelter Listings is dedicated to serving the homeless and low-income. Our shelter list consists of over 3,000 listings and includes emergency shelters, homeless shelters, day shelters, transitional housing, residential drug/alcohol rehabilitation programs, supportive housing and permanent affordable housing.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

Is not design programming specific.

Statistics: No; statistics are not present.

Focus Information on Issues: ShelterListings.org provides access to information on shelters across the U.S. ShelterListings.org is not discriminatory in shelter category it includes listings for transitional shelters, emergency shelters, shared housing, supportive housing, halfway housing, drug and alcohol rehabilitation and day shelters.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on all people who are experiencing homelessness.

Training: No.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: No.

Bibliography: No.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

True Colors Fund

Scope: National; strong state and local partnerships

URL: <https://truecolorsfund.org/>

Overview:

The True Colors Fund is a non-profit organization.

“Through a broad continuum of community organizing, public engagement, public policy, research, and youth collaboration programs, the True Colors Fund is working to end homelessness among lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth by creating systemic change.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

Is not design programming specific.

Statistics: Yes; Extensive information on LGBT homeless youths available.

Focus Information on Issues: Ending homelessness among LBGT youth while providing services, resources and research to policymakers, organizers, activists and community leaders.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on young LGBT homeless individuals.

Training: Yes; Internships, job opportunities and project opportunities available. Provides campaign building platforms.

Workshops: Yes; Annual summits held to educate communities on homelessness among LGBT youths. A recent summit series, Rural Summit Series, travels to rural communities to discuss LGBT issues and homelessness.

“Each stop of the series offers a unique opportunity for USDA and other federal agencies to share information relating to policies, programs, and services that exist to protect, promote, and strengthen LGBT rural communities.”

Newsletters: Yes; an individual can subscribe to the e-mail list and newsletter. Active Twitter feed also available.

Bibliography: Yes; referenced sources are cited.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEH CY)

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.naehcy.org/>

Overview:

“The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEH CY) is a national membership association dedicated to educational excellence for children and youth experiencing homelessness. Through state and federal policy and technical assistance to our members, students, and the public, we change systems so all children and youth can learn, succeed academically, and achieve their dreams”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The organization is education specific, does not focus on design programming.

Statistics: Yes; adequate information on research is available.

Focus Information on Issues: Educational opportunities for homeless youth.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Homeless youth

Training: No.

Workshops: Yes; annual conference held.

Newsletters: Yes; legislative updates e-mail list and youth housing listserv.

Bibliography: Yes; Sources are cited.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

Homeless Shelter Directory

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/>

Overview: Homeless Shelter Directory is an easy-to-use state-by-state shelter directory system. It is a non-profit organization and can only be accessed via the internet.

“The directory was created for people who want to find and donate food and/or supplies to their local shelter.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The site is not design programming specific but does provide information to link people to homeless shelters and services.

Statistics: Yes; some statistical information on the site’s information can be accessed through the Homeless News section.

Focus Information on Issues: The directory provides information on shelter locations in every state. There directory is diverse and offers information on housing, rent assistance and other services. The shelter categories in the directory are listed below:

Homeless Shelters

Homeless Service Organizations

Monetary Assistance

Transitional Housing

Free Clinics (Dental and Medical)

Low Cost and Free Treatment Centers

Outreach Centers

Day Shelters

Relief Organizations that can help the needy

Women's Shelters and Battered Women's Services

Food Pantries, Soup Kitchens, Food Banks

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Most demographics of homeless persons are considered in the directory’s list of facilities.

Training: No.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; there is an active news widget on the web resource.

Bibliography: No.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: Homeless Shelter Search widget available for free use on personal and business webpages.

URL: <http://www.homelessshelterdirectory.org/widgets.html>

Rebuilding Together

Scope: National; Local Rebuilding Together affiliates are present in most states

URL: <http://rebuildingtogether.org/>

Overview:

“Rebuilding Together strengthens the lives of people in our most vulnerable communities by providing low-income homeowners with critical home repairs, accessibility modifications and energy-efficient upgrades. Rebuilding Together’s local affiliates and nearly 100,000 volunteers complete about 10,000 rebuild projects each year. As we rebuild homes, community spaces and nonprofit facilities, our lasting impact helps to stabilize and revitalize neighborhoods across the country. We believe that everyone deserves to live in a safe and healthy home.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 3

Rebuilding Together focuses on modifying and reconstructing homes in low-income areas so that they are more sustainable and accessible structures.

Statistics: Yes; some statistics are available under the Resources tab.

Focus Information on Issues: Rebuilding Together has a focus on the physical reconstruction of houses and community spaces in low-income areas. They also assist communities that have been damaged by natural disasters. Rebuilding Together also dedicates some time to housing advocacy.

“Rebuilding Together works actively to meet with Members of Congress to address housing issues relevant to our work, inform Members of upcoming projects and ensure every person has a safe and healthy place to call home.”

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Does not focus on homelessness but rather people who live in disadvantaged communities who may be at-risk of becoming homeless or people who experience housing insecurity.

Training: No.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: No; no newsletters are published by Rebuilding Together. There is an actively updated news tab on the web resource.

Bibliography: Yes; all resources are listed on the website.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

Coalition for the Homeless
Scope: Local; New York City
URL: <http://www.coalitionforthehomeless.org/>

Overview:

The Coalition for the Homeless is the oldest advocacy group and direct service organization that works with homeless persons. Though based and serving in New York City, New York, the organization is prominent statewide.

“For more than three decades, the Coalition for the Homeless has developed and implemented humane, cost-effective strategies to end mass homelessness in New York City. Our model programs represent solutions that can dramatically reduce the homeless population and prevent homelessness among those most at risk.

Every day, our 11 frontline programs help more than 3,500 men, women and children survive immediate crises and help them on the path to long-term stability. We witness firsthand the challenges they face and shape our services to best meet their needs, providing emergency food and clothing, eviction prevention, crisis services, permanent housing, job training and special programs for homeless youth.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The Coalition for the Homeless does not focus on design programming.

Features: Large library of videos.

Statistics: Yes; the website provides extensive information on homelessness and homeless person populations through interactive widgets and traditional presentations of research and data.

Focus Information on Issues: The Coalition for the Homeless is an advocacy network and a service group that provides homeless individuals with crises services, transitional housing, emergency food, clothes, job training and other social assistances.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: All people experiencing homelessness.

Training: Yes; any individual can apply to join the coalition or become a volunteer.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; The newsletter, the blog and the website are regularly updated.

Bibliography: Yes; A web-library and a solutions page are available on the website and extensively list sources.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

“The Coalition is a vocal and invaluable city and statewide resource for homeless people, at-risk populations, other advocates and service providers, policymakers and the public at large. We have earned the reputation as the most credible source of information on homelessness, its causes, and solutions.”

Heartland Alliance: The National Center on Employment & Homelessness (NCEH)
Scope: National
URL: <http://www.heartlandalliance.org/nationalinitiatives/>

Overview:

“The National Center on Employment & Homelessness (NCEH) is dedicated to ensuring that employment is a key element in the fight to prevent and end homelessness. Through NCEH we promote employment in quality jobs that pay a living wage as a fundamental solution to homelessness; identify and advance evidence-based employment interventions; advance systems change; and connect workforce and homeless service systems. The Connections Project is funding five sites to plan, implement, and strengthen innovative systems collaboration ideas aimed at increasing employment and economic opportunity for homeless jobseekers.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The NCEH is not design programming specific.

Statistics: Yes; some statistics are present.

Focus Information on Issues: The NCEH connects homeless individuals to employment opportunities.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Focuses on all people experiencing homelessness.

Training: Yes; NCEH offers training programs on how to better address the issue of homelessness and unemployment.

Workshops: Yes; Webinars and forums are regularly held.

Newsletters: Yes; E-mail newsletter updates and blog updates are present.

Bibliography: No.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness
Scope: National
URL: <http://usich.gov/>

Overview:

USICH is a federal agency that funds programs that combat chronic homelessness and is “expressly targeted to help prevent and end homelessness or that help people experiencing homelessness along with other Americans.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

USICH is not engaged in design programming.

Statistics: Yes; extensive information on chronic homelessness in addition to research and published works that actively address the experiences of homeless persons.

Focus Information on Issues: USICH is a government organization that offers detailed strategies on ending homelessness. This information is geared at community leaders and local policy makers.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Offers services and resources for homeless persons and people who have lower incomes.

Training: Yes; Webinars are available.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; Newsletter and blog are present and active.

Bibliography: Yes; all sources are cited and many are hyperlinked.

Grant Provider: Yes; does provide access to grant-funding and other organizations that offer grant-funding.

Of Special Note:

Corporation for Supportive Housing
Scope: National
URL: <http://www.csh.org/>

Overview:

CSH is a corporation in the supportive housing movement. They focus on educating communities and organizations, funding programs and influencing public policy that is related to supportive housing.

Specificity to Design Programming: 2

Some of the work that CSH funds are design programming specific.

Features: Extensive videos of persons assisted by supportive housing.

Statistics: Yes; extensive research and figures on supportive housing are present on the web-source.

Focus Information on Issues:

“Training and Education:

CSH enriches the industry with research-backed tools, trainings and knowledge sharing.

Lending:

CSH galvanizes supportive housing solutions with powerful capital funds, specialty loan products and development expertise.

Consulting and Assistance:

CSH collaborates on custom community planning and cutting-edge innovations.

Policy Reform:

CSH engages government leaders and public agencies through systems reform, policy collaboration and advocacy.”

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: CSH focuses on persons who experience housing insecurity or who have been homeless consistently throughout their life.

Training: Yes; extensive virtual and in-person training opportunities available through CSH.

URL: <http://www.csh.org/training>

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; CSH has releases a bi-monthly newsletter.

Bibliography: Yes; all sources present are cited on the web-resource.

Grant Provider: Yes; regularly funds supportive housing projects and programs with grant monies.

Of Special Note:

The National Center on Family Homelessness

Scope: National

URL: <http://www.familyhomelessness.org/>

Overview:

The National Center on Family Homelessness is a practice area for the American Institutes for Research Health and Social Development program.

“The National Center on Family Homelessness is the nation’s foremost authority on family homelessness. We conduct state-of-the-art research and develop innovative solutions to end family homelessness in America and give every child a chance.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The National Center on Family Homelessness is not design programming specific, they do engage in collaborative efforts that address design programming.

Statistics: Yes; extensive information on family homelessness and homelessness in general. Research and academic publications are present on the web-site.

Focus Information on Issues: The National Center on Family Homeless has a history of working with family homelessness, trauma-informed care, housing, and veterans. They often collaborate with other programs and organizations that address homelessness and “provide innovative online resources, training, technical assistance, project management and research”.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: Though the National Center on Family Homelessness addresses housing instability and homelessness as a whole, they have a focus on working with families, veterans and children and the trauma and struggles these populations may have experienced.

Training: Yes; The National Center on Family Homelessness does host training webinars.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: No.

Bibliography: Yes; some sources are cited.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

National Low Income Housing Coalition

Scope:

URL: <http://nlihc.org/>

Overview:

“Our goals are to preserve existing federally assisted homes and housing resources, expand the supply of low income housing, and establish housing stability as the primary purpose of federal low income housing policy.

NLIHC’s staff teams work together to achieve our advocacy goals. Our Research Team studies trends and analyzes data to create a picture of the need for low income housing across the country. Our Policy Team educates lawmakers about housing need and analyzes and shapes public policy. Our Field Team mobilizes members and supporters across the country to advocate for good housing policy. Our Communications Team shapes public opinion of low income housing issues. And our Administration Team works to ensure NLIHC remains a sustainable, high-capacity organization.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The NLIHC is not design programming specific.

Statistics: Yes; statistics are listed extensively throughout the website.

Focus Information on Issues: The NLIHC focuses on housing stability and assistance through policy making.

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons: The NLIHC does not focus on homeless persons specifically; they focus on low income housing and people who experience housing instability.

Training: Yes; virtual webinars, forums, leadership receptions and state and local events are held regularly.

Workshops: No.

Newsletters: Yes; A blog and e-mail lists are regularly updated.

Bibliography: Yes; resources and publications are present on the website.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note:

National Coalition for the Homeless
Scope: National
URL: <http://nationalhomeless.org/>

Overview:

“The National Coalition for the Homeless is a national network of people who are currently experiencing or who have experienced homelessness, activists and advocates, community-based and faith-based service providers, and others committed to a single mission: To prevent and end homelessness while ensuring the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness are met and their civil rights protected.

We envision a world where everyone has a safe, decent, affordable and accessible home. We are committed to creating the systemic and attitudinal changes necessary to prevent and end homelessness. We take as our first principle of practice that people who are currently experiencing homelessness or have formerly experienced homelessness must be actively involved in all of our work. Our programs are centered around public education, policy advocacy, and grassroots organizing, and are focused on the issues of housing justice, economic justice, health care justice, and civil rights.”

Specificity to Design Programming: 1

The NCH is not directly engaged in design programming.

Statistics: Yes; extensive information on chronic homelessness in addition to research and published works that actively address the experiences of homeless persons.

Focus Information on Issues: The National Coalition for the homeless is a campaign and advocacy network for homeless individuals, formerly homeless individuals, policy makers, volunteers, activists and other community leaders.

The NCH addresses these areas:

Housing

Employment & Income

Health

Family Homelessness

Elder Homelessness

Youth Homelessness

Veteran Homelessness

Criminalization Of Homelessness

LGBT Homelessness

Trauma Informed Care

Focus Information on Types of Homeless Persons:

Training: Yes; Speakers can be requested.

Workshops: Yes; teaching resources are available.

Newsletters: Yes; regularly updated blog, e-mail newsletter and organizational membership available.

Bibliography: Yes; extensive archive, directory and references to publications listed.

Grant Provider: No.

Of Special Note: No.

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