

NATIONAL LAW CENTER ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

2008 ANNUAL REPORT

CHANGING LAWS, CHANGING LIVES



LAWYERS WORKING TO END HOMELESSNESS

Dear Friends of NLCHP,

As the economy worsened throughout 2008, homelessness hit more families and individuals, and service providers across the country reported record increases in demand for their services. In some communities, tent cities went up as shelters overflowed.

In response NLCHP worked hard for more attention and resources to address the need. Despite the severe impact on homelessness that resulted from the foreclosure crisis - as well as challenges to its own funding - the Law Center achieved big successes in 2008, and the generous support of foundation, corporate, law firm and individual donors was essential to this work.

During last year's election, the Law Center helped ensure that the voices of homeless and low-income people were heard, and then led a successful initiative to bring together national advocates to press the newly-elected Administration and Congress for policies and funds to end and prevent homelessness, winning major increases in funds for shelter and housing in the Stimulus package. NLCHP also launched a new initiative to stem the increases in homelessness, focusing on the plight of renters caught in foreclosed properties through no fault of their own—an overlooked group at high risk of homelessness. Each of these major national initiatives aimed at the emerging crisis achieved high impact results in early 2009, leading to media coverage and new legal protections.

NLCHP also supported local level groups in communities across the country, achieving significant results, including:

- Helping groups across the country obtain surplus federal property for conversion to affordable and supportive housing, potentially benefiting thousands of families;
- Assisting in a lawsuit that resulted in education rights protections benefiting over 1,500 homeless children in Hawaii;
- Together with charitable and faith-based groups, overturning a law in Orlando, FL that prohibited sharing food with homeless persons;
- Launching a nationwide voter registration drive of homeless and low-income people, registering over 350 people in the District of Columbia alone;
- Creating a new online Wiki Homeless Law and Advocacy Project Website, together with 19 local and national partners to benefit advocates and homeless people across the country.

Many thanks to all of our donors who have continued to give so generously during this difficult time. Your support has been instrumental in allowing us to continue working for those who are most in need right now.

Please join our advocacy to help us build a powerful movement to ensure that the needs and voices of those Americans who are now suffering the most are heard.

Sincerely,

Maria Foscarinis

Founder & Executive Director

The National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty (NLCHP) was founded in 1989 as the legal arm of the national movement to end and prevent homelessness. Through policy advocacy, public education, and impact litigation, NLCHP focuses on systemic reform to address the root causes of homelessness, to meet both the immediate and long-term needs of homeless and poor people. By providing training and technical support, NLCHP also enhances the ability of local groups throughout the United States to become more effective in their advocacy work.

NLCHP's core expertise is its ability to use the law creatively and efficiently to bring improved results for individuals and families who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. NLCHP works with community-based and national allies to enforce and implement existing legal rights and advocate for new policies and resources to end and prevent homelessness. NLCHP's work includes programs that:

- Ensure that homeless and at risk children and youth receive a stable public education as mandated by federal law;
- Convert surplus federal properties and closed military bases into housing and service sites for homeless and poor persons;
- Enforce and improve policies that prevent domestic violence survivors and their children from being evicted;
- Protect the civil and human rights of homeless people; and
- Promote the human right to housing.



In all of its work, NLCHP leverages the pro bono assistance of major national law firms to work on behalf of homeless people through its Lawyers' Executive Advisory Partners (LEAP) program.



In 2007 alone (the most recent year for which data is compiled), NLCHP leveraged almost \$1.9 million in donated legal services to support its work on behalf of the nation's homeless and poor.

Maria Foscarinis founded NLCHP in 1989. For more than two decades, Maria has been a leader in the movement to end homelessness by combining legal expertise with a passion to address America's housing crisis.

Maria began her legal career as a litigation associate at the Wall Street law firm of Sullivan & Cromwell. While there, she represented homeless families *pro bono* and witnessed the growing shortage of safe and affordable housing in America. She represented people living in cars, in single rooms, in homes without proper doors, and doubled-up in precarious conditions with family or friends. After seeing the positive impact that legal advocacy could have on the lives of homeless individuals and families, Maria left the law firm and dedicated herself full-time to working on behalf of homeless people.



Maria moved to Washington, D.C. to press for a federal response to the nation's escalating homelessness crisis. Her advocacy helped spur the 1987 passage of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the first-and still only-major federal legislation addressing homelessness.

In 1989, Maria founded NLCHP to build on that success, developing a skilled and dedicated staff that has made a difference in the lives of millions of men, women and children by expanding the rights and resources available to them.

Since our founding, NLCHP has made a significant impact on the lives of homeless persons in America:

- We have won laws and provided assistance to service providers seeking unused federal property, which in turn now serves hundreds of thousands of families each year.
- We remove barriers preventing homeless persons from obtaining disability benefits.
- We protect the civil and human rights of homeless people.
- We fight in court rooms for homeless children's rights to a stable school environment, working to break the cycle of poverty.
- We have ensured that women escaping domestic violence do not also fall into homelessness.

We have pushed at the local, state, and federal levels for increased funding, affordable housing, and effective, long-term solutions to this national crisis.

Before the current crisis, studies showed that in one year, as many as 3.5 million people, including 1.5 million children, will experience homelessness.

Growing Numbers

- On average, cities reported a **12% increase** in homelessness from 2007 to 2008.
- In Portland, OR, **requests for emergency shelter doubled** from 2007 to 2008.
- In Washington, DC, school officials registered **twice as many homeless students** in 2008 as the same time in the previous year.
- Clark County, NV, with one of the highest foreclosure rates in the country, registered almost **four times as many homeless students** in 2008 as in 2007.
- In 2008, **59%** of requests for food assistance came from families -- many for the first time.
- **40%** of those evicted as a result of foreclosure are renters.



A Diverse Population

- **42%** of the homeless population is African American; **39%** is white; **13%** is Hispanic; **4%** is Native American; and **2%** is Asian.
- **24.5%** of black people and **21.5%** of Hispanic people live in poverty, compared to just **8.2%** of white people.
- **37%** of households headed by women with children lived in poverty in 2007.
- **28%** of U.S. cities reported that domestic violence was a primary cause of homelessness in 2008.
- **40%** of homeless men have served in the military, as compared to 34% of the general adult male population.
- **1/3 to 1/2** of the homeless population has a chronic illness, and the average life expectancy for a homeless adult is **42-52** years, compared to 73-76 years for the general population.

Extreme Poverty

- A family of four generally needs to earn **twice the income** of the poverty threshold to provide children with basic necessities.
- Each month, **44%** of homeless adults work, yet still cannot afford housing.
- Only about **25%** of Americans who qualify, actually receive federal housing assistance.

Starting in 2008, and into 2009, communities across the country reported increased instances of homelessness and poverty as the foreclosure crisis forced people out of their homes and the economic downturn squeezed resources. Children of families that have been foreclosed on face terrible trauma and school instability. Renters of foreclosed properties were evicted - even those who paid rent on time - and many have received little, if any, notice.



While policymakers were busy propping up the banking industry, NLCHP launched a major new initiative to make sure renters of foreclosed properties are aware of their rights in all 50 states. With pro bono support, NLCHP began researching state laws in all 50 states on renters' rights, as well as model programs around the country that could help prevent homelessness in light of the foreclosure crisis. This project has already shown results in the first part of 2009.

NLCHP capitalized on opportunities for advocacy with a new Administration and Congress by joining together with other national advocates to propose policy changes that meet the needs and aspirations of all people – especially poor and homeless Americans. In July, NLCHP and national partners launched a campaign and developed a toolkit to help state and local advocates and service providers educate candidates for all levels of public office about the types of policies needed to address homelessness and to seek endorsement of the Five Fundamentals to Prevent and End Homelessness. NLCHP helped lead national advocates to advocate with President-Elect Obama to take six key steps toward immediately addressing the urgent crisis of homelessness and guaranteeing the human right to housing for all.

6 Steps to Take Right Now to Help Prevent and End Homelessness

1. Convene a White House Conference on Homelessness, and present a federal plan to end homelessness, with concrete goals and timelines.
2. Fund at least 150,000 new housing vouchers each year to help address the critical shortage of housing affordable, and provide \$575 million in emergency funding to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to assist tenants displaced by foreclosure. Create 130,000 additional units of permanent supportive housing, including for veterans.
3. Ensure that every American has an annual income—whether through wages, public income assistance, tax credits, or a combination thereof—sufficient to maintain permanent housing that costs no more than 30 percent of the household's income.
4. Guarantee access and eliminate financial barriers to comprehensive health care services – including mental health care – for all Americans, and allow reimbursement for effective Medicaid services that reduce the use of more costly emergency and hospital care.
5. Reauthorize and fully fund the education title of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and expand access to Head Start in order to strengthen educational access and stability for homeless children, including preschoolers and unaccompanied youth.
6. Support and advance homeless persons' civil rights to vote, to frequent public places, to utilize public facilities, and to enjoy equal protection of the law.

A New Wiki Resource

In October 2008, NLCHP launched its Homelessness Wiki website (<http://wiki.nlchp.org>) – the only central, online tool for advocates, attorneys, and policymakers to find information and resources on the rights of homeless individuals and collaborate to develop improved policies at federal, state, and local levels.



Unlike an ordinary website, the Wiki's content is owned collectively and can be developed interactively by a community of advocates and experts on homelessness. It allows NLCHP to expand the network of local advocates and service providers across the nation with which it collaborates to prevent and end homelessness, and helps NLCHP coordinate responses to federal and state legislative outcomes with other national and local advocacy organizations in order to unify the movements for housing and human rights.

The Homelessness Wiki has enabled NLCHP to disseminate its informational materials, audio trainings, reports, and model policies and programs to a broader audience. The Homelessness Wiki's advocacy manual consists of fact sheets, Q&A, statutory materials, litigation documents, model programs, policies and legislation, and in-depth articles.

There is also a central location for advocates and organizations to post training sessions and events, stay informed about the latest news from partner organizations and ways to get involved in efforts to end homelessness, conduct surveys to collect data, and host interactive forums to strategize and share information on particular topics.

NLCHP has added content to the Homelessness Wiki in the areas in which it has expertise, and has partnered with 19 local and national advocacy groups who are enthusiastic about participating in this project.

Currently the site's content areas include:

- American Recovery and Reinvestment Act
- Child and Adult Care Food Program
- Criminalization
- Domestic Violence
- Education of Homeless Children
- Foreclosure
- Hate Crimes
- Identification
- Right to Housing
- Surplus Property
- Voting Rights



When someone is working full-time and still short on money, public benefits can be the difference between another month in the shelter and an apartment to call home. In addition, homeless people are 10 times more likely to go without food for a day than housed people, and their diets typically lack essential nutrients. NLCHP ensures greater access to public benefits and improve health for homeless persons.

Access to Disability Benefits

While only 11% of homeless people currently receive disability benefits, studies show that 40% are eligible, many of whom are not able receiving them. NLCHP advocates for increased access to SSI/SSDI disability benefits for homeless persons. Together with national and local groups, we submitted testimony to House and Senate Congressional Committees regarding steps to improve the process. NLCHP facilitated successful joint advocacy efforts for greater funding for pilot programs, including the SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) program, which have proven effective at increasing SSI access for eligible homeless persons.

Improving Access to Healthy Food

NLCHP conducted a national survey on barriers to participation in the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CAFPC), showing a low level of participation. After this, NLCHP conducted audio training for over 90 participants on accessing this program, which gives shelter providers the knowledge and tools to use this federal program to provide more nutritious meals for homeless children and families.



Adequate Income

Given the SOAR program's success with increased approval for SSI/SSDI benefits, NLCHP has successfully advocated for increased funding for SOAR programs so homeless people like "Jane" obtain a place to live and maintain stability.

The SOAR Project team first met "Jane" under a bridge in downtown Atlanta. Her psychiatric medication had been stolen the night before, and she carried all of her belongings in a ragged bag. Jane had been diagnosed with Bipolar Disorder and often experienced symptoms of posttraumatic stress disorder. Jane struggled significantly with concentration, and was easily distracted. She lost focus and did not seem to remember answers to questions. When she was making notes of her treatment history, she wrote all over the sheet of paper in no particular order and without apparent spatial reasoning.

Jane lost several jobs because of her depression. She would isolate herself from people and not go in to work. Jane was unable to maintain housing due to her bipolar disorder, which was exasperated by substance use, in efforts to relieve her psychiatric symptoms.

Jane had applied for SSI in the past but was denied, at one point for failure to communicate. The SOAR program helped Jane file a Request for Reconsideration, helped her complete all of the necessary Social Security forms, requested all of her medical records needed to document her disability, and accompanied Jane to her medical evaluation. Because of this assistance, Jane's application was approved, and she received federal disability benefits that allowed her to move into her own apartment and receive outpatient mental health treatment.

NLCHP strives to effectuate long-term solutions to homelessness in America by increasing funding for temporary and permanent housing programs and expanding access to mainstream income and housing programs.



Converting Vacant Federal Property

Title V of the McKinney-Vento Act and the Base Closure Act already make surplus federal property and closed military bases available at no cost for use to assist homeless persons. NLCHP provides technical assistance to nonprofit organizations seeking unused property in cities across the country, working throughout 2008 with groups in Los Angeles, CA, Portland, OR, and Hampton, VA. NLCHP secured pro bono assistance for the groups in Los Angeles and Hampton, with the potential to benefit thousands of homeless individuals and families.

Protecting the Law

NLCHP successfully advocated to stop a Congressional bill that would have had a negative impact on Title V of the McKinney-Vento Act, avoiding increased difficulties for groups attempting to turn unused federal property into housing for homeless and low-income individuals and families.

New Housing in Communities

When a U.S. Army Reserve Center in Southwest Portland, Oregon was closing, Community Partners for Affordable Housing (CPAH), saw an opportunity to address the shortage of housing available to low-income people in the area.

They called upon NLCHP for its expertise in surplus federal property conversion. NLCHP offered technical assistance on the Base Realignment and Closure Act. In addition, NLCHP secured a pro bono partner to work with CPAH throughout the process of obtaining the property.

Thanks to these efforts, the Portland City Council unanimously voted to recommend redeveloping the Jerome F. Sears U.S. Army Reserve Center in SW Portland as affordable housing, and selected CPAH as the preferred developer.

This property will become a 110-unit mix of rental apartments, homes for sale and green community space on the 4-acre site.

Neighbors preferred that the site be used for an emergency response and maintenance center, and the city council committed to finding a nearby location to house such a center.

Some residents have also expressed concern about traffic, safety and parking issues related to the housing development, and CPAH has promised to work closely with a neighborhood committee throughout the design process to address those concerns.

NLCHP offers technical assistance to groups like this one around the country to convert unused federal property into housing and services for homeless people.

School serves as the only source of stability in the lives of many homeless children. Often homeless families do not know that their children have a legal right to remain in their current school, even though the family may no longer have a permanent address in that school district. NLCHP's advocacy is critical to ensuring that right.

National Advocacy

NLCHP successfully advocated for improved homeless-student access to special education services through the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA). NLCHP and its allies also succeeded with changes to the federal Head Start program to give enrollment priority to homeless pre-schoolers. In collaboration with the U.S. Department of Education, NLCHP began developing outreach materials on the education rights of children in families experiencing foreclosure.

Education Across the Country

Throughout 2008, NLCHP provided technical assistance to families, schools, and advocates across the country on the education rights of homeless children. Here is a sample:

In Pittsburgh, NLCHP helped advocates and attorneys challenge the state's refusal to acknowledge that children awaiting foster care placement should be considered eligible for McKinney-Vento Act protections.

A Hawaii Court settled a case in which NLCHP provided technical assistance in favor of homeless students in that state, giving them increased access to education.

On Maryland's Eastern Shore, NLCHP trained migrant advocates on children's education rights.



School as Stability

Just before Christmas 2008, NLCHP and pro bono partner Goodwin Procter LLP filed a federal suit, NLCHP v. New York State, on behalf of "Joey," who moved into his grandmother's basement in a neighboring school district after his mother lost her housing due to high medical bills from breast cancer. For a year, the school district provided transportation back to the school of origin, as required under the federal McKinney-Vento Act. During this period, Joey, a special needs student, had been having remarkable success.

In November 2008, the district informed them that they would no longer provide transportation and Joey would have to enroll in the neighboring district, threatening his newfound stability. After NLCHP filed the lawsuit, the District subsequently settled the case by allowing Joey to finish the school year.

NLCHP seeks to work with school districts and states to ensure compliance with the McKinney-Vento Act, but where the district and state are in clear violation of the law, we stand ready to protect children's rights in court.

Studies have repeatedly shown that domestic violence is a leading cause of homelessness among women. Many survivors are victimized twice: their homelessness results from eviction based on the actions of their abusers. In 2006, NLCHP won federal housing protections for survivors of domestic violence as part of the Violence Against Women Act.

Protecting Survivors from Eviction

In 2008 alone, NLCHP trained over 630 service providers, housing authority personnel, and domestic violence survivors on utilizing the housing protections of the Violence Against Women Act.

Together with other national organizations, NLCHP successfully advocated to secure increased funding for emergency shelters and transitional housing for survivors of domestic violence, so women will not be forced to choose between life with an abuser and life on the streets.

Working in Communities

NLCHP played a key role in the passage of a 2006 Washington, DC law prohibiting discrimination against domestic violence survivors in both public and private housing. In 2008, NLCHP trained over 140 service providers, housing authority personnel, and domestic violence survivors on that law so they will have the tools to exercise their rights.

NLCHP also worked with partners to advocate with the newly convened Violence Against Women in Indian Country Task Force to address the housing needs of domestic violence survivors on tribal land.

Victimized Twice

“Sandra” lived in Section 8 housing in an urban area. Her boyfriend often became violent toward her, damaging her apartment and her belongings.

After her abuser caused severe property damage, including breaking a door in the apartment, Sandra’s landlord began the process of evicting her. Sandra sought help.

Student attorneys, who had received training and assistance from NLCHP on protections in the Violence Against Women Act and the local law, worked with Sandra to settle her case.

Because of their success, Sandra was able to remain in her apartment and avoid becoming homeless.



Many U.S. cities are punishing homeless people simply for carrying out life-sustaining activities like eating or sleeping in public spaces. People are subject to hate crimes because of their homelessness, and are denied basic civil rights. NLCHP's civil rights program ensures that homeless people are treated with dignity and respect and promotes constructive alternatives to criminalizing homelessness.

Ending Criminalization

In 2008, NLCHP was part of an effort to overturn an Orlando food-sharing law prohibiting groups from providing food to homeless persons in public.

In New Orleans, NLCHP advocacy helped successfully overturn a proposed anti-camping ordinance, ending the arrest of homeless persons who sleep on the street because they have nowhere else to go.

And, for the first time, NLCHP language discouraging criminalization measures was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives.

Voting Rights for All Americans

In collaboration with pro bono partner Hogan and Hartson LLP, NLCHP prepared a state-by-state report on voting registration laws, with a focus on address and ID requirements which challenge homeless persons from exercising this fundamental right. Using this information, NLCHP successfully collaborated with over 50 advocacy groups in 20 states to launch Homeless and Low-Income Voter Registration Week, registering over 350 homeless persons in the District of Columbia alone. These efforts were featured on CNN.



No Place to Go

“Tony” is 23 years old and has been homeless on and off since he aged out of foster care. When he is unable to find a place to sleep, he sleeps on public streets and sidewalks in a Florida city.

Local police officers have told him that he is not allowed to walk on the sidewalks outside of the park, use the public restrooms, or to be in any of the bus shelters outside of the parks, even if he is waiting for a bus.

He has been arrested ten times for being present in a park at times when the park was open to the general public.

Numerous other homeless residents of the city have had similar encounters with local police officers, being illegally searched when no illegal activity was occurring.

Since hearing similar stories in 2008, NLCHP, Southern Legal Counsel, and Florida Institutional Legal Services have filed suit against the city. NLCHP encourages cities to seek long-term solutions rather than criminalizing homelessness.

NLCHP serves as a leader in the U.S. human rights community by advancing the internationally recognized human right to housing here in the U.S. By integrating human rights strategies into all program areas, NLCHP fights for dignity and opportunity for all.

Fighting for Housing in New Orleans

Following our 2007 National Forum on Housing & Human Rights, several groups formed a coalition focused on fighting the destruction of public housing in New Orleans. This effort led to key concessions from local and federal government to maintain affordable housing stock in New Orleans, including a commitment to replace the demolished housing.

This effort increased solidarity between groups in different cities fighting the affordable housing crisis. NLCHP, together with national and local partners across the country, is working with Congressional offices to hold regional hearings on this crisis, leading to national hearings in Congress.

Testimony in Geneva

NLCHP testified at hearings of the U.N. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (CERD) in Geneva, obtaining Concluding Observations on affordable housing, housing issues related to Hurricane Katrina, and the problem of obtaining housing for domestic violence survivors. NLCHP web videos from Geneva received over 5,000 views and were cited as a national model for e-advocacy.



Racial Disparities

In 2008, NLCHP's Human Rights Attorney testified before the Special Rapporteur on Racism and told the story of Otis Howard, a homeless African-American man living in Los Angeles' Skid Row.

Police watched Otis for 15 minutes one day as he sat smoking a cigarette. When he tipped ashes onto the sidewalk, officers rushed over, handcuffed him, and gave him a ticket for littering, an all-too-common occurrence in L.A., where almost 1,000 citations a month have been issued, mostly to African-Americans, for jaywalking or littering.



The Lawyers Executive Advisory Partners (LEAP) program is a national philanthropic effort of the legal community to help homeless and poor Americans achieve self-sufficiency. LEAP members work to prevent and end homelessness by providing NLCHP with financial support as well as pro bono legal services. The members form a network of key influential leaders that realize significant positive social change.

Thanks to our 2008 LEAP members!

Sidley Austin LLP; Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Feld LLP; Blank Rome, LLP; Bruce Rosenblum; Covington & Burling LLP; Dechert LLP; Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP; Goodwin Procter LLP; Greenberg Traurig LLP; Hogan & Hartson LLP; Jenner & Block LLP; Jones Day; Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP; Latham & Watkins LLP; Morrison & Foerster Foundation; O'Melveny & Myers LLP; Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP; Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP; Sullivan & Cromwell LLP; and WilmerHale.

Hogan & Hartson LLP: Voting Rights for Homeless Americans

Hogan & Hartson, the winner of NLCHP's 2008 Pro Bono Counsel Award, has been a supporter of NLCHP since our founding in 1989, when the firm assisted with our incorporation and application for tax-exempt status. Over the years, the firm has been an essential partner on numerous projects. In 2008, with the nation's attention captured by the elections, Hogan & Hartson partnered with NLCHP to ensure that persons experiencing homelessness were not left out of the election process. The very people who have so much at stake in these elections often experience barriers to voting, such as a lack of mailing addresses, discriminatory ID requirements, and other barriers to registration and voting.

The firm took a major step in helping us make homeless people and direct service providers more aware of their rights by preparing a comprehensive report on state voter registration laws. Using this information, NLCHP and other advocate groups led a nation-wide initiative to register homeless and low-income people to vote.

Judy Faubert, second from left, accepting the 2008 Pro Bono Counsel Award on behalf of Hogan & Hartson LLP.



Many of NLCHP's most important legal victories would not have been possible without extensive pro bono assistance from the private bar. A small sample of 2008 projects is listed below.

Criminalization

Dechert LLP is researching the legal rights of homeless persons on private property who have been subjected to sweeps and destruction of property.

Latham & Watkins LLP is challenging Boise's anti-camping law and any other measures that have been used to target homeless individuals.

Foreclosure Crisis

Morgan Lewis researched state law programs to assist renters and homeowners threatened with homelessness and prepared a report about these programs, which was released early in 2009.

WilmerHale partnered with NLCHP and the National Low Income Housing Coalition (NLIHC) to create a report to assist renters facing eviction as a result of foreclosures, which was released in early 2009 and received widespread attention.

Domestic Violence

Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP is representing an NLCHP partner group in its conversion of a building to a shelter for survivors of domestic violence.

Education

Jones Day successfully advocated on behalf of a homeless child in Pennsylvania who was being denied access to public school on the basis of her homelessness.

Homeless Veterans

Sidley Austin LLP is assisting NLCHP to secure an increase in the Federal Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program (HVRP) Appropriations.

On November 6, 2008, over 100 NLCHP supporters gathered at the offices of the Jones Day law firm, overlooking the U.S. Capitol in Washington, DC for the **10th annual McKinney-Vento Awards Ceremony**.

The event, which raised over \$132,000, celebrated the work and achievements of organizations, leaders, and individuals who have made a significant impact in the lives of millions of homeless Americans. Held just days after the presidential elections – and while our country was in the midst of an economic downturn and foreclosure crisis that has plunged more families into homelessness – the 2008 Awards recognized and looked forward to the new opportunities and challenges presented by the new Administration.



The 2008 Children's Artwork Contest

In 2008, NLCHP continued its tradition with the Children's Artwork Wall.

Sponsored by law firm **Sidley Austin LLP**, the Wall featured drawings and paintings by homeless and low-income children from around the country. Colton, a young teenager from Decatur, Illinois, was chosen as the winner for his moving and timely piece depicting a house up for sale. The winning artwork, shown above, was used on the awards, and the winning artist and two runners-up each received a gift certificate to Target and an art kit.

*A new administration is about to take office, and we hope all our new leaders, at all levels of government, will take it upon themselves to bring about the change that this country needs at this time. Now that the election has passed, we must embark on a **NEW CAMPAIGN TO END HOMELESSNESS IN AMERICA**.*

- Bill Breakey, NLCHP Board Chair

Stewart B. McKinney Award

Richard E. Schaden, founder of Quiznos Subs and America's Road Home, received the 2008 Stewart B. McKinney Award for his work to develop an innovative organization with a mission and sustainable giving strategy that focuses on domestic family homelessness: America's Road Home.

Mr. Schaden, his wife Cheryl, and his father, Richard F. Schaden initially funded America's Road Home, a public charity which intends to fund the eradication of family homelessness on a national level.

Accepting the award on behalf of Mr. Schaden, who was called to a meeting out of the country, was Tom Ryan, Executive Director of America's Road Home. *Mr. Ryan is pictured below accepting the award from NLCHP Board Chair, Bill Breakey.*



Bruce F. Vento Award

U.S. Representative Judy Biggert from Illinois received the 2008 Bruce F. Vento Award for her work as a major proponent of recent legislative successes to renew and improve the McKinney-Vento homeless education provisions included in the No Child Left Behind Act that she wrote, ensuring that homeless children are no longer denied access to education.

Mrs. Biggert has also been a lead negotiator on legislation to stem foreclosures and keep people in their homes, and has been leading the fight to expand HUD's definition of homelessness to include doubled up youth and families and to provide greater flexibility to rural communities, securing a victory after 15 years of work on this issue.



Rep. Biggert is pictured above receiving her award from NLCHP Board member, Howard Godnick, and Executive Director, Maria Foscarnis.

Pro Bono Counsel Award

The 2008 Pro Bono Counsel Award went to **Hogan & Hartson LLP** for the firm's significant pro bono work in the past year, especially for preparing the 2008 Voting Rights Report. Hogan & Hartson has demonstrated its commitment to ending homelessness in America since 1989, when the firm assisted NLCHP with its incorporation and application for tax-exempt status.

Personal Achievement Award

After her family lost their home and moved to a shelter in Baltimore County, **Tonya Bullock** faced significant difficulties in attempting to keep her son in his school. She has since found stable housing for her family, has started work for the State of Maryland and has enrolled in Community College -- all while making sure that her son has been able to continue his education.

Tonya Bullock, pictured below, accepted the award from Executive Director, Maria Foscarnis.



Selected 2008 Publications

Reports & Manuals

- Hate, Violence, And Death on Main Street USA.
- Voter Registration and Voting: *Ensuring the Voting Rights of Homeless Persons*.
- Advocating for the Special Education Needs of Homeless and Mobile Students: *A Guide to Rights and Resources*.
- Five Fundamentals Toolkit: *A Challenge to Candidates for Public Office*.

Fact Sheets & Brochures

- Frequently Asked Questions about VAWA Housing Provisions.
- 2008 Domestic Violence Fact Sheet: *Connections Between Domestic Violence and Homelessness*.
- Model Approaches to Cleaning Public Spaces.
- School Rights Brochure: *Access to Education for Homeless Children* (in English and Spanish).
- Head Start for Children in Transitional Living Situations: *A Guide to the 2007 Revisions for Parents & Practitioners*.
- A Voice and a Vote: *Protecting the Constitutional Right to Vote for Homeless Persons*.
- Real ID Act & Regulations.

Testimony, Legislative, and Legal Documents

- Testimony for the Special Rapporteur on Racism on the Right to Housing.
- Testimony to the House Ways and Means Committee: *Reducing Barriers to SSI*.
- Statement to the Violence Against Women in Indian Country Task Force.
- State Housing Law and Legislation to Ensure Housing Rights for Survivors of Violence Against Women.
- Implementation of the Violence Against Women Act Housing Provisions.
- Response to 2008 IDEA and McKinney-Vento Q&A Document.
- Litigation Related to the McKinney-Vento Act.
- Letter to New Orleans Housing and Human Needs Committee: *Opposing a Proposed Anti-Camping Ordinance*.



Journal Articles and Book Chapters

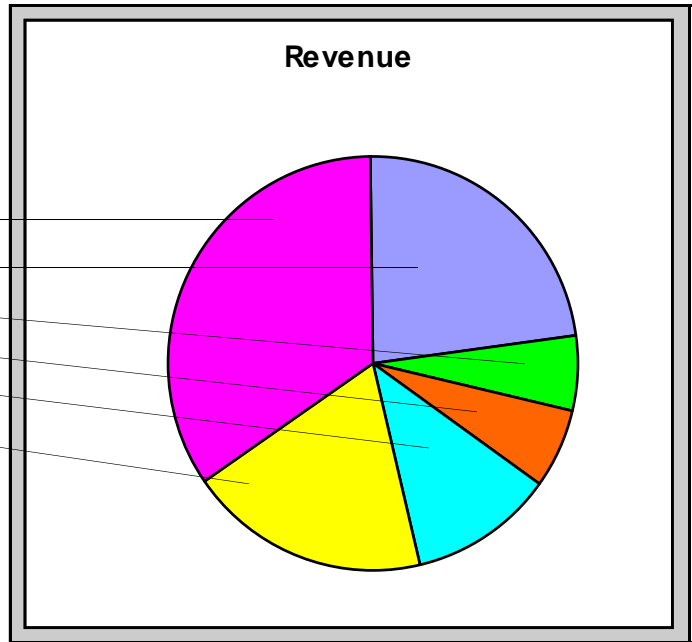
- The Evolution of Homelessness: Trends and Future Directions, in Homelessness in America, ed. Robert Hartmann McNamara (2008).
- Finding Home, Odyssey: The World of Greece 88 (2008).
- Housing Rights and Wrongs: The U.S. and the Right to Housing (with Eric Tars), in Human Rights at Home, ed. Cathy Albisa, Larry Cox, Martha Davis and Cindy Soohoo (2008).

Below are the unaudited financials for 2008.

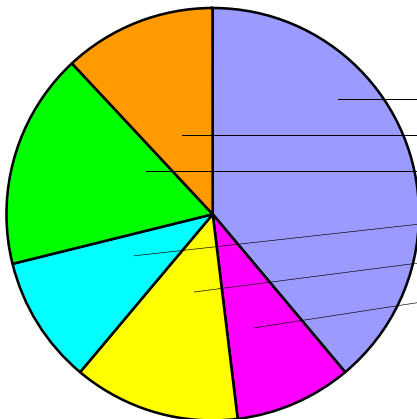
This is not a full presentation of our audited financial statements. A full document can be obtained at our offices at 1411 K St. NW, Washington, DC 20005

2008 Revenue

Foundations	35%
Individuals	23%
Corporate	6%
Other	6%
LEAP	11%
Events	19%



Program Expenses



2008 Expenses

Housing & Income	39%
Fundraising & Administration	12%
Outreach & Pro Bono Support	17%
Cross Program Initiatives	10%
Civil Rights	13%
Children & Youth	9%

\$75,000 & above

Anonymous Donors
Waitt Family Foundation

\$50,000 to \$74,999

Freddie Mac Foundation
Public Welfare Foundation
Sidley Austin Foundation
The Trellis Fund
US Human Rights Fund

\$25,000 to \$49,999

Bruce & Lori Rosenblum
Herb Block Foundation
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

\$10,000 to \$24,999

Breakey Family Fund
Dr. William & Angela Breakey
Butler Family Fund
Community Foundation for the
National Capital Region
Covington & Burling LLP
Hogan & Hartson LLP
Human & Civil Rights
Organizations of America
Latham & Watkins LLP
Lisa Pevaroff-Cohn & Gary
Cohn
Sidley Austin LLP
Jeffrey & Kendra Simes
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP

\$5,000 to \$9,999

Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer
& Feld LLP
Blank Rome LLP
Anita Broccolino*
Capital One
Consumer Capital Partners
Edward & Andrea McNicholas
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver &
Jacobson LLP
Goodwin Procter LLP
Greenberg Traurig LLP
John & Miriam Courembis
Jones Day
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP
Margaret Pfeiffer



Microsoft Corporation
National Association of Realtors
O'Melveny & Myers LLP
Eddie Rifkind*
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
United Way of Miami-Dade
WilmerHale

\$1000 to \$4999

Anonymous Donor
Barry & Joyce Cohen
Constantine & Lynne Kalaris*
David & Mary Solomon
Erica Flapan & Francis Bonahon
Guilford Publications, Inc.
Howard & Lisanne Godnick

James & Theodore Pedas
Family Foundation
James & Wanda Pedas
James Murphy
Jeffrey Pash
Kim & Pamela Baptiste
Maria Foscarinis & Nathan
Stoltzfus
Mark & Lisa Neporent
NeighborWorks America

The Feinberg Group LLP
The PMI Group, Inc.
Theodore & Evangeline Pedas
Ernst & Young Foundation
ExxonMobil Foundation
Fannie Mae Foundation Help
the Homeless Walkathon
Kirsten Johnson-Obey
Laura & Lloyd Blankfein
Linda & Arthur Carter
Paige Family Foundation
Roderick & Ann Marie
DeArment
William Dallas & Janet
Neustaetter



Robert Ward
Robinson Lacy & Karen
Doebelin
Stacey & Curtis Lane
Steptoe & Johnson LLP
Steven Holley
Susan Kurz Snyder &
Orin Snyder
Tashena Middleton Moore

*In-kind donation

\$500 to \$999

Robert & Carol Abrahams	Freddie Mac Foundation	Network for Good
Michael Allen	Alyssa & Clifford Greenberg	Policy Research Associates, Inc
Elena Alvarez	Daniel Greenberg	Abe & Irene Pollin
John & Mary Altmiller	Dean Claudio Grossman	Carrie Ross
Jeanette Austin & Richard Lazarus	Human Rights Campaign	Edward & Barbara Tilley
Phillip Azzolini	Pam & Allan Malester	Vasiliki Tsaganos
Bruce Casino	Evan Mason & Garrard Beeney	United Way of the National Capital Area
Carroll Kent Casteel, Jr.	Kelli Moll	
	Terri Montague	
	Thomas Mullins III	

\$100 to \$499

Ike Adams	Peter Edelman & Marian Wright-Edelman	Jordan Lamb	Ruth & Ira Salzman
Walter E. Adams, II	Mark Engel	Lawrence J. Romans & Associates	Mary Terese Schelble
Georgia Albert	The Honorable Anthony Epstein	Philip Lee	Alexander Sedlis MD & Emilia Sedlis MD
Matthew Archer-Beck	Hartley Etheridge	Marcella Levine	Virginia Seitz
AT&T Foundation	Judy & Ryan Faubert	Antonios Liakopoulos	Diane M. Sharon
Baltimore Community Foundation	Marvin Feuerberg & Sylvia Rosenfield	Randall Luce	Rita Singh
Edward Bassett	Alfred Feliu	Peter & Frances Marcuse	Peter Smith & Louisa Reynolds
Joni & Patrick Bennett	Michael Flanagan	Judith Margolin & David Kahne	Mr. Victor Sobotka
Matthew Berger	Martin Gellert	Jill & Tom Marino	Jerome Sorkin and Lisa Sorkin
Catherine Bendor & Shelley Klein	Jerome Geraghty	Kathy Martin	Leslie Sowers
George & Mary Bittner	Lawrence Gleason	MBM Family Foundation, Inc.	George & Georgia Stamas
Kathleen & Thomas Black	Lawrence Goldberg & Eve Birnbaum	John Meyerhoff & Lenel Srochi-Meyerhoff	Peter Steenland
Philip D. Bogdonoff	Peter Gottesman	Michael Mezzacappa	Craig & Jayne Stein
Elise Bloustein & Samuel Greenhoe	Diane Graham	Joseph Mullaney	Kosta Stojilkovic
Anita Broccolino	Sean Griffin	Lissa Muscatine & Brag Graham	William Sudow
Mark Buchbinder & Marjorie Buchbinder	The Honorable Allan Gropper	Robert Nash & Joann Frechette	Edward & Rebecca Tilley
Laura Butterbaugh & Steve Lindeman	Susan Haag	National Alliance to End Homelessness	Kostas Triantis & Maria Karvouni
Jill Caiazzo	Amy Hanke	Brian Nelson	Rebecca Troth & Mr. Christopher Wright
Jennifer Carroll	Wendy Held	Joseph Neuhaus & Cynthia Loomis	Kurt Van Engen
Cheng Cohen LLC	Paul Hemmersbaugh	Seiji Niwa	Thomas & Karen Vartanian
Martin D. Chrisney	Melissa Henke	Greg O'Neill & Anita Hattiangadi	Jason Vendel
H. Rodgin & Barbara Cohen	David Hillman	Richard S. Order	Susan Vento
Mary Sue Coscia	Elizabeth Howe	Lowell Paul	Pankaj Venugopal
Alexander Courembis	Michael Hutner	Nancy Polikoff	William Von Oehsen
David Crowley	Dimitrios Ioannou	Maria Ragucci	Lewis Yelin
John & Mary Curtin	David Isbell & Florence Isbell	Lauren Randall	
Alice & Lincoln Day	Nicola Jefferson	Lora & Charles Rinker	
Thomas J. Delaney	Jewish Communal Fund	Nicholas Roberge	
Emilios Dimitriadis Ph.D.	Donald Kaplan	Colleen Rutledge	
Dennis Dorgan	Julia Keydel	Jeffrey & Evelyn Sabin	
Patrick Dunlevy	Teresa Kimker	Bahman & Kathy Salamat	
Jonathan Ebinger & Leslie Kahn	Elizabeth King		
	Tron Kohlhagen		
	Dan Kusnetz		

\$50 to \$99

Anthony & Ipatia Apostolides
 James Biesinger & Lisa
 Montenegro
 Virginia Bridges
 Sheila Brown
 Linda Broyles
 Roger Clay
 Julia Clones
 Gail E. Cowan
 Bob Erlenbusch
 Mr. & Mrs. John Ford
 Diane Garfield
 Joseph & Shelly Guggenheim
 Lynne E. Heiser
 Lisa Hudson
 Stephen Johnston & Paige
 Winslet
 Todd & Jean Carroll Kemp
 Kimberly Kochem
 Trish Lehman

Michael Lennon
 Marion Manheimer
 Norman & Barbara Margolis
 Peter Marudas
 Karen E. Maude
 Gabriel Miller
 Mary E. Moore
 Charles Morrow-Jones & Hazel
 Morrow-Jones
 Syeda Naqvi
 Tulin Ozdeger
 Maria Papatthanassiou
 Carla Post & Peter Walby
 Leni Preston & Ned Preston
 Michael & Aimee Rivera
 Jordana Rubel
 Lila Shapero and Wayne
 Senville
 Karol Schulkin & Marya Barr
 Jane Hunter Shaeffer
 David Stamps

Naomi Stern
 Teresa Torres
 United Way of Massachusetts
 Bay and Merrimack Valley
 Amy Warnick
 Susan Watson
 Carolina Watts
 Kathleen Maas Weigert
 Craig Dylan Wyatt
 Joseph Zeisel

**\$1 to \$49**

Jennifer Ahde
 Ibrahim Al-Khaalis
 Rahim Aziz
 Sabra Bhat
 Vibha Bhatia
 Katherine Bittner
 Rachel Bittner
 Barbara & William Close
 Carmen Copper
 Regina Dillard
 Charles Donegan
 Charles J. Ellis, Jr.
 Elizabeth Frank
 Connie Gehrman
 Nancy Snow and Dan Glazier
 Jill Hamberg
 Irene Harrison
 Nancy Houston
 iGive.com Holdings, LLC
 Wilhelm H. Joseph
 Matthew Korn
 Danni Leifer
 John Thomas & Julie Beth Levinson

Laura Lewis
 Michael Martinez
 Matthew McGuire
 Stephanie Nagel
 Carolyn Perry
 Luis Rodriguez
 Arthur Rosenberg
 Steven Schinderle
 Julie Segel
 Stacey Smith
 Caitlin Stapleton
 Eric Tars
 Allan Taylor
 Lana Tilley
 Laurel Weir



Selected Media Coverage



- *Advocates for homeless not buying anti-soliciting laws.* Los Angeles Times. January 20, 2008.
- *Cities crack down on panhandling.* USA Today. January 23, 2008.
- *Why Isn't Poverty a Story?* Huffington Post. February 7, 2008.
- *Attacks on the Homeless Rise, With Youths Mostly to Blame.* New York Times. February 15, 2008.
- *Finding Home.* Odyssey Magazine. March 1, 2008.
- *Tougher laws considered against attacks on homeless.* USA Today. April 29, 2008.
- *Study Shows Housing Discrimination Linked to Homelessness.* Washington Post. June 10, 2008.
- *Suit puts 88 more homeless students in school.* Honolulu Star Bulletin. October 19, 2008.
- *Violence Against the Homeless: Is it a Hate Crime?* Time Magazine Online. October 23, 2008.
- *Meanstreets.* Washington Lawyer. November 1, 2008.
- *Homeless People in D.C. Register to Vote.* WAMU 88.5 FM. November 7, 2008.
- *Our Illegal Homeless.* Colorado Springs Gazette. November 14, 2008.
- *You're Paying. Is the Landlord?* Sarasota Herald Tribune. December 1, 2008.

William Breakey, M.D., Chair
Johns Hopkins University

Vasiliki Tasaganos, Vice Chair
Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP

Jeannette Austin, Treasurer
Community Volunteer

Michael Allen, Assistant Treasurer
Microsoft Corporation

Edward McNicholas
Sidley Austin LLP

Bruce Casino
Katten Muchin Rosenman LLP

Roderick DeArment
Covington & Burling LLP

Howard Godnick
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP

Kirsten Johnson-Obey
Porterfield, Lowenthal and Fettig LLC

Father Alexander Karloutsos
Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Pamela Lynn Malester
Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Health
and Human Services (retired)

Cary Martin
Sidley Austin LLP

Tashena Middleton Moore
Community Volunteer

Margaret Pfeiffer
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP

Jeffrey Simes
Goodwin Procter LLP

Angela Ward
Community Volunteer

**Affiliations for identification purposes only*

Maria Foscarinis
Executive Director



Tashena Moore, on left, viewing the 2008 children's art display.

Rod DeArment, on right, greeting Representative Judy Biggert at the 2008 McKinney-Vento event.



Maria Foscarinis
 Founder & Executive Director

Laurel Weir
 Policy Director

Robert Nasdor
 Legal Director

Vibha Bhatia
 Director of Operations

Catherine Bendor
 Deputy Legal Director

Tulin Ozdeger
 Civil Rights Program Director

Eric Tars
 Human Rights Staff Attorney
 Children & Youth Staff Attorney

Katherine Zeisel
 Domestic Violence Staff Attorney

Cecelia Friedman Levin
 Domestic Violence Staff Attorney

Jordan Lamb Railsback
 Development/
 Communications Manager

Lucy Martin
 Development/
 Communications Coordinator

Katherine Bittner
 Development Assistant

Eliot Katz
 Grantwriter

Lana Tilley
 Program Assistant / Executive
 Assistant

Marion Manheimer
 Volunteer

Danielle Pool
 Volunteer

Rachel Hertz
 Intern

Emilie Culbertson
 Intern

Emily Anderson
 Intern

Susan Varghese
 Intern

Luis Rodriguez
 Legal Intern

Matthew Korn
 Legal Intern

Adam Sparks
 Legal Intern

Ethan Corson
 Legal Intern

Stacey Nathan
 Legal Intern

Isha Plynton
 Hunger Fellow

Caitlin Egleson
 Northeastern University Law
 School Human Rights/Global
 Economy Fellow

Allison Garren
 Northeastern University Law
 School Human Rights/Global
 Economy Fellow

Taran Nadler
 Northeastern University Law
 School Human Rights/Global
 Economy Fellow



**NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY**

**1411 K STREET NW
SUITE 1400
WASHINGTON, DC 20005**

PHONE: (202) 638-2535

FAX: (202) 628-2737

WWW.NLCHP.ORG

NLCHP@NLCHP.ORG