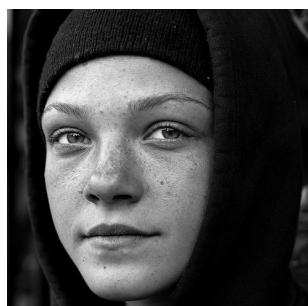


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NATIONAL LAW CENTER
ON HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

ANNUAL
REPORT



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A MESSAGE FROM OUR FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Dear Friends of the Law Center:

At times, the scope and depth of the homelessness crisis is overwhelming. It can be difficult to acknowledge that, in the wealthiest country in the world, so many people are denied what we all so desperately need: a place to call home.

For the last 25 years, their cause has been my life's work. And since the Law Center's founding, we (and you!) have changed countless lives and created a more just world. With the support of foundations, corporations, law firms, and engaged individuals, we have fought for a day when a mentally ill veteran will sleep on a mattress, not a grate; a battered woman and her family will receive benefits, not an eviction notice; and a child's mind will be nourished, not paralyzed by hunger.

Over time, laws change, economies fluctuate, and politicians come and go. What has never changed is our resolve: homelessness can, must, and will be ended in America.

In 2009, we took some major steps toward that future.

At the Law Center's urging, and on the heels of our report detailing the immense impact of the foreclosure crisis on homelessness, Congress passed major legislation guaranteeing the rights of tenants of foreclosed properties. Additionally, Law Center advocacy helped win new resources to prevent homelessness and to house those already homeless. And in an unprecedented move, due in part to a campaign led by the Law Center, Congress passed legislation requiring that the federal government develop a ten-year plan to end homelessness.

Other accomplishments include:

- Co-coordinating the nationwide fact-finding mission of the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing, who met with homeless and poor people and government officials to assess and report on the state of the human right to housing in the U.S.
- Protecting homeless persons' civil rights in communities across the U.S., including Puyallup, WA, where the Law Center successfully advocated against anti-camping ordinances.
- Successfully enrolling homeless children whose education rights were being violated in Pittsburgh and New York – and in states and cities across the country.
- Successfully advocating to add homeless people as a protected class to hate crime statutes in Maryland and DC.

We are incredibly grateful for the continued generosity of our donors, whose contributions sustain this vital work. Every victory won for homeless and poor persons belongs to you as well.

The road traveled is difficult, but the movement is gathering momentum, and each success brings us closer to our goal. Please join us, and help end homelessness in America.

Sincerely,

Maria Foscarinis

Founder and Executive Director

OUR HISTORY

Law Center Founder and Executive Director Maria Foscarinis began her legal career as a litigation associate at the Wall Street firm Sullivan & Cromwell. During her time there, she represented homeless families pro bono, and as she witnessed first-hand the severe shortage of safe and affordable housing in America, she began to realize the crucial role of legal advocacy in addressing this national crisis. In 1985, Maria left Sullivan & Cromwell to fully devote herself to the fight to end homelessness.

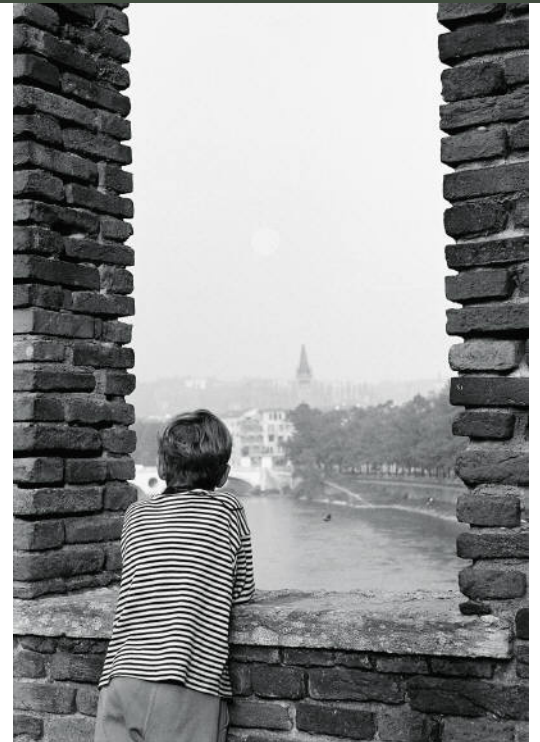
In 1987, Ms. Foscarinis led the campaign to pass the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act, the first major federal legislation to address the problem.

In 1989, she founded the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. Since then, the Law Center has worked to sustain and expand federal aid to homeless persons and pushed the U.S. government to commit to a comprehensive plan to end and prevent homelessness. In 2009, it took an important step toward achieving that goal, as Congress passed legislation requiring the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness to develop that plan.

OUR MISSION

Since 1989, the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty has served as the legal arm of the national movement to end and prevent homelessness. Through policy advocacy, public education, and impact litigation, the Law Center seeks systematic reform and works to meet both the immediate and long-term needs of homeless and poor people. Through training and technical assistance, it supports effective advocacy by local groups across the country.

The Law Center 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. In all of its work, the Law Center leverages the pro bono assistance of major national law firms through its Lawyers' Executive Advisory Partners (LEAP) program.



HOUSING

Over 5 million low-income households have serious housing problems due to high housing costs, substandard housing conditions, or both.

The economic recession raised awareness of homelessness and poverty in the American consciousness. Before the crisis, approximately 3 million people experienced homelessness yearly. If current trends continue, another 2 million will become homeless in the next two years.

Shaping National Policy

In 2009, the Law Center was instrumental in passing:

- The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act, which increased federal resources to prevent homelessness and to house those already homeless, and required the federal government to develop a plan to end and prevent homelessness.
- The Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act, which provides tenants of foreclosure properties with unprecedented federal protections, including the right to 90-days notice prior to eviction or, in some cases, the right to stay in their home until the end of their lease.
- The Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), as a part of the stimulus package, which provided \$1.5 billion in federal funding to states and local communities to prevent homelessness and provide rapid re-housing to homeless individuals and families.

The Law Center has helped ensure the implementation of each of these laws through continued advocacy, training, and technical assistance.



Using Vacant Properties to House People

Title V of the McKinney-Vento Act and the Base Closure Act make surplus federal properties and closed military bases available at no cost for use to assist homeless persons. In 2009, the Law Center trained dozens of advocates and service providers to obtain such properties and provided technical assistance to organizations involved in this process across the country.



HOUSING IS A HUMAN RIGHT

The Law Center believes that every human being has a right to adequate housing. Accordingly, it draws on international human rights standards in its homeless advocacy and serves as a leader in the U.S. human rights community. As Chair of the U.S. Human Rights Network's Housing Caucus, the Law Center works to hold the U.S. government accountable to its human rights obligations.



National and International Support for a Right to Housing

In 2009, the Law Center co-coordinated a nationwide fact-finding mission for United Nations Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing Raquel Rolnik. Her visit included stops in New York, Chicago, New Orleans, South Dakota, Los Angeles, and Washington, D.C. Ms. Rolnik met with a range of high-ranking government officials, including Congresspersons and members of the State Department, to assess federal policy.

Additionally, homeless and poor persons had the opportunity to share their struggles to obtain adequate housing at the Law Center's National Forum on the Human Right to Housing, at which Ms. Rolnik shared her preliminary findings. The Forum drew experts and advocates from across the country to share strategies for incorporating human rights standards into housing advocacy. Ms. Rolnik's report was presented to the UN in March 2010, reflecting many of the concerns raised by the Law Center and those at Forum.

Protecting Katrina Victims from Forced Eviction

The Law Center was invited to participate as an expert member of the Advisory Group on Forced Evictions mission to New Orleans in July 2009. The Group, which reports to the UN on the threat of forced evictions, visited New Orleans and DC, meeting with local residents and federal and local officials. The visit received extensive press coverage.

The Group issued its report in March 2010, finding numerous violations of housing rights and setting forth new standards that should be applied in addressing post-Katrina housing issues.

In 2009, the Law Center provided human rights training and technical assistance to more than 2300 advocates nationwide.

INCOME & FOOD

In 2009, a worker would need to earn **\$14.97/hour** to afford a one-bedroom apartment and **\$17.84/hour** to afford a two-bedroom apartment.

The federal minimum wage is \$7.25/hour.

For some, even those with a full-time job, public benefits are all that stand between adequate housing and shelter or street life. In addition, homeless persons are 10 times more likely to go without food for a day than housed people, and their diets typically lack essential nutrients. The Law Center works to sustain and expand access to public benefits and improve the health of homeless persons.



Access to Disability Benefits

While nearly 40% of homeless people meet the criteria to receive Social Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI), only 11% actually do. To curb this trend, the Law Center met with officials from the Social Security Administration (SSA) suggesting the agency flag and expedite homeless applications. As a result, in September 2009, officials disseminated an instruction letter to that effect to SSA field offices.

Another way homeless persons' SSI/SSDI applications can be expedited is by applying through the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services' SOAR program. The Law Center successfully advocated for an additional \$5 million in federal funding for SOAR, which will sustain the program for the next five years.

It's important, also, that state governments and service providers help homeless persons complete and monitor the status of their applications. 2009's stimulus bill included the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP), for which the Law Center advocated. Under HPRP, states and local communities can use federal funds to provide case management services to homeless persons seeking public benefits. The Law Center has helped to implement the program by providing ongoing training and technical assistance to governments and service providers.

Improving Access to Healthy Food

Despite the availability of the Child and Adult Food Care Program (CACFP), many shelters lack the knowledge and tools to use this federal program to provide nutritious meals to homeless children and families. In response, the Law Center conducted two webinars on utilizing CACFP for more than 350 service providers across the country. It also published a CACFP section on its Wiki page to make the information as widely available as possible.

CHILDREN & YOUTH

One out of 50, about **1.5 million**, American children are **homeless** each year



For homeless children, school is a stabilizing force in otherwise chaotic lives. But often, homeless families are unaware of a child's legal right to remain in their current school, regardless of fluctuations in housing. A child is also entitled to special accommodations, such as transportation and free meal programs. The Law Center's advocacy and litigation are critical to ensuring these rights are upheld.

A Stable Education

In a Pittsburgh suburb, a homeless family with four children stayed at a day shelter a few blocks away from the local elementary school, but spent nights at several area churches. The school informed them that because several of the churches were outside the district, the children were not residents, and therefore refused to enroll them. The Law Center filed a lawsuit, immediately gaining access for the children to school. The case's settlement in March 2010 resulted in new state level guidance that will ensure that more than 43,000 Pennsylvania homeless students have stable access to school.



Safe and Reliable Housing

In 2009, after a series of Congressional field hearings on the affordable housing crisis, Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA) introduced into Congress a resolution supporting a right to housing for all children and their families, H. Res. 582. Largely written by the Law Center, this resolution is a meaningful first step toward acknowledging adequate housing as a basic human right. As President Obama remarked last March: "It is not acceptable for children and families to be without a roof over their heads in a country as wealthy as ours."

And beyond the moral issue, the right to housing is economically practical. It costs six times as much to intervene once a family has become homeless as it does to house them before they become homeless.

Supporting Advocates and Families

Over the course of 2009, the Law Center provided technical assistance to 141 families, advocates, and schools across the country to protect the education rights of homeless children. And it provided training to hundreds of school personnel, service providers, and state administrators on that subject. As a result, homeless children were able to remain or enroll in school, with access to extracurricular activities.



Domestic violence is a **leading cause** of homelessness among women & children.

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE



Survivors of domestic violence often not only suffer the pain of abuse, but – through no fault of their own – face the hardship and indignity of eviction. In 2006, the Law Center led the successful campaign to include housing provisions in the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA). It now fights to uphold and expand the law's protections for survivors.

Improving Access to Benefits

For domestic violence survivors and their families, self-sufficiency is paramount to securing safe housing. Many survivors seek assistance through the Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF) program. But certain TANF requirements are untenable with bringing their abuser to justice and protecting the emotional well-being of their children. In December 2009, the Law Center released *Shortchanging Survivors*, a report detailing the flawed implementation of the Family Violence Option, a provision excepting domestic violence survivors from requirements which could endanger their physical or mental health.

Local Advocacy

In 2009, the Law Center worked to clarify how a 2006 law it helped pass with the DC Housing Authority prohibiting housing discrimination against domestic violence survivors should be implemented.

Shining a Light

To expose gaps in VAWA protections, as well as inconsistencies and outright violations in their implementation, the Law Center released its April report, “Insult to Injury,” detailing widespread failure amongst Public Housing Authorities to meet the needs of domestic violence survivors.

And in a nationwide survey, 36% of service providers (e.g. legal and social services agencies, emergency shelters, resource centers) reported that survivors were denied housing for reasons directly or indirectly related to domestic violence. Moreover, 29% of respondents reported that victims were evicted or threatened with eviction for reasons directly related to domestic violence.

CIVIL RIGHTS

44% of people experiencing homelessness in America are unsheltered.

Despite a severe shortage of shelter space and affordable housing, homeless persons across the country are punished or harassed for life-sustaining activities like eating and sleeping in public. The Law Center's civil rights program opposes hostile policies and encourages constructive alternatives to ensure homeless persons are treated with dignity and respect.

Holding Government Accountable

In June, the Law Center released *Homes Not Handcuffs*, a thorough accounting of criminalization policies in more than 273 cities nationwide. The report also identifies successful models which have addressed homelessness more constructively. Covered by more than 40 media outlets, including CNN, NPR, and the *New York Times*, it serves as a powerful tool for local advocates to pressure their cities to improve homeless policy.

Protecting the Right to Share

In Dallas, TX, charitable organizations have been told they cannot share food with homeless persons in public spaces. With support from the Law Center, local homeless service organizations are challenging this outrageous law. In the fall, the Law Center achieved a significant victory when the court denied the city's motion to dismiss the case, holding that the plaintiffs had presented valid legal claims. Additionally, the city has agreed to stop enforcing the law, pending the outcome of the case.

Stopping the Violence

Due in large part to the tireless advocacy of the Law Center, both Washington D.C. and the state of Maryland have added homeless people as protected class to their hate crime statutes.



Of the cities surveyed in the *Homes Not Handcuffs* report:

- **33%** prohibit “camping” in particular public places in the city and 17% have citywide prohibitions on “camping.”
- **30%** prohibit sitting/lying in certain public places.
- **47%** prohibit loitering in particular public areas and 19% prohibit loitering citywide.
- **47%** prohibit begging in particular public places; 49% prohibit aggressive panhandling and 23% have citywide prohibitions on begging.

And the trend of criminalizing homelessness continues to grow.

Making a Difference

Despite the absence of adequate shelter space in Puyallup, WA, homeless persons were harassed and arrested for sleeping in public. Police slashed their tents and threw their belongings in the river. After training 450 people on civil and human rights issues in Washington, the Law Center was asked to provide legal guidance to Puyallup homeless advocates, and successfully supported their opposition to these practices. As a result, the city council declared a Homeless Awareness Day, and is considering allowing tent cities on church properties while it examines more permanent solutions.

LEVERAGING PRO BONO POWER TO FIGHT HOMELESSNESS



Many of the Law Center's most important legal victories would not have been possible without extensive pro bono assistance from the private bar – from litigation and legislation to research and technical assistance.

In 2009, many firms undertook significant projects aimed at protecting the rights of homeless persons. A small sampling of 2009 projects is listed below.

Criminalization

- **Covington & Burling LLP**, in response to a request from the Big Bend Homeless Coalition in Tallahassee, Florida, produced a legal memo detailing a shelter's rights when police seek information about their guests or to search the shelter itself.
- **Latham & Watkins LLP** is serving as co-counsel in litigation challenging an anti-camping law and other criminalization measures in Boise, Idaho.

Domestic Violence

- **O'Melveny & Myers LLP** is creating an online interactive database of all state laws, including proposed and unsuccessful legislation, addressing housing protections for survivors of domestic violence. This web-based tool will serve as a valuable resource for local advocates.
- **Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP** updated data on Public Housing Authorities' annual and five year plans and their compliance with VAWA. Their research was included in the Law Center's April report, "Insult to Injury."

Education

- **Fried, Frank, Harris, Shriver & Jacobson LLP** is preparing informational materials on homeless education for distribution to schools both in DC and nationwide.

Food Sharing

- **Goodwin Procter LLP** supported the Law Center in filing of an amicus brief to help plaintiffs fighting an Orlando law barring groups from sharing food with homeless people.

Foreclosure Crisis

- **Morgan Lewis** researched and reported on state legal programs which assist renters and homeowners threatened with homelessness.

LEAP

LAWYERS' EXECUTIVE ADVISORY PARTNERS
TO PREVENT AND END HOMELESSNESS & POVERTY

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

Our 2010 LEAP Members

John Grisham (Honorary Chair)

Akin Gump Strauss Hauer & Feld LLP
Blank Rome LLP
Bruce Rosenblum
Covington & Burling LLP
Dechert LLP
DLA Piper
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 LLP
O'Melveny & Myers LLP
Schulte Roth & Zabel LLP
Sidley Austin LLP
Simpson Thacher & Bartlett LLP
Sullivan & Cromwell LLP
WilmerHale



WilmerHale:

Protecting the Rights of Tenants at Foreclosure

WilmerHale was honored with the Law Center's 2009 Pro Bono Counsel Award for the work described below.

WilmerHale has a long history of pro bono work, believing its attorneys "have a responsibility to help strengthen [their] communities." In 2009, it researched and assisted in writing *Without Just Cause*, the Law Center's state-by-state report on the rights of renters in foreclosed properties, which was featured by numerous national media outlets, including the *Wall Street Journal*. That report helped win a major legislative victory, the Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act, which afforded unprecedented protections to renters nationwide, helping prevent countless families from sliding into homelessness through no fault of their own.

IN THE MEDIA

MSNBC.com (Jan. 30, 2009)

“More people are seeking emergency shelter and more are being turned away. ‘Homelessness tends to lag the economy. So we’re probably seeing the tip of the iceberg here,’ says Laurel Weir, policy director at the Law Center.”

The Denver Post (February 16, 2009)

“Many cities throughout the nation are experiencing city cleanups where personal property, prescription drugs, sleeping bags and even tents are being taken away from a number of homeless people.

‘Similar cleanups around the country have led to court rulings saying the sweeps violate the constitutional ban on unwarranted search and seizure,’ said Tulin Ozdeger, civil rights director for the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty.”

Wall Street Journal (Feb 25, 2009)

“Renters aren’t immune to the heartache of foreclosure. When their landlords default on the mortgage, tenants could be squeezed out of a place to live. But often renters aren’t aware of their rights in these situations.

‘It is extremely confusing,’ said Maria Foscarinis, executive director of the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. ‘In fact, the tenant might be going along and paying rent, and may be even paying the rent after the foreclosure is finalized...not having been notified that [the landlord] is no longer the owner of the property.’”



USA Today (April 9, 2009)

“Many people are being forced to live out on the streets,’ said Tulin Ozdeger, civil rights director for the National Law Center on Homelessness & Poverty. Penalizing them, she said, violates the U.S. Constitution and is inhumane.”

New York Times (August 9, 2009)

“In defiance of all reason and compassion, the criminalization of poverty has actually been intensifying as the recession generates ever more poverty. So concludes a new study from the National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, which found that the number of ordinances against the publicly poor has been rising since 2006, along with ticketing and arrests for more ‘neutral’ infractions like jaywalking, littering or carrying an open container of alcohol.”

2009 MCKINNEY-VENTO AWARDS HONOREES

On September 24, 2009, more than 200 supporters gathered at the L'Enfant Plaza Hotel for the Law Center's 11th Annual McKinney-Vento Awards Ceremony. While celebrating the achievements of individuals and organizations who have advanced the movement to end and prevent homelessness, the event raised \$156,000 to support the Law Center's work. It also marked the 20th Anniversary of the Law Center's founding.

Executive Director Maria Foscarinis expressed the bittersweet nature of that milestone. "Twenty years is a long time," she said, "to advocate for an end to a crisis. Ten years is too long. One year is too long. One day is too long for anyone to be homeless in America." But it is necessary to "also recognize and celebrate the successes that we have all won, together, over these many years. Because of our work, lives have been saved and there is hope for a better future."



Maria Foscarinis, Rep. Maxine Waters, and G.W. Rolle



Bruce F. Vento Awards

U.S. Representative **Maxine Waters** has fought throughout her political career to end homelessness, and to temper its effects while striving toward that goal. Congresswoman Waters was a strong supporter of the 2009 Helping Families Save Their Homes Act, which subsidizes families' mortgage payments to avoid foreclosure. It also includes a provision she introduced to prevent the worst subprime lenders from participating in Federal Housing Administration loan programs. Additionally, Congresswoman Waters introduced the Children's Right to Housing Resolution, which seeks to affirm that all children and their families have a right to adequate housing. The Law Center was pleased to acknowledge her passion for social equity and her attentiveness to the needs of homeless and at-risk persons.

U.S. Representative **Keith Ellison** has worked tirelessly to protect our society's most vulnerable members. Congressman Ellison co-sponsored legislation allowing low-income students to pursue higher education while remaining in low-income housing. Previous law forced such students to attend school part-time, or lose their low-income housing. And the Sargent Shriver National Center on Poverty Law gave Congressman Ellison an A+ rating for his work on behalf of homeless and poor persons. He supported every piece of major legislation addressing homelessness and poverty in 2008, including the HEARTH Act, Homes for Heroes Act, and the Housing and Economic Recovery Act. The Law Center was proud to honor his ongoing efforts to ensure that the voices of those in need are clearly heard in the halls of power.

Stewart B. McKinney Award

The Law Center was proud to honor the **producers and directors of *Kicking It***, a startling and inspiring documentary chronicling the lives of seven players in the 2006 Homeless World Cup. The film portrays men from around the world, including the United States, who have suffered the indignity of poverty and addiction, but who emerge from strife with optimism and ambition. For these men, soccer is more than escapism; it offers genuine hope for better lives.

Following the 2006 World Cup, 93 players successfully addressed a drug or alcohol dependence. 73% of players reported changing their lives for the better, 44% improved their housing situation, and 35% secured regular employment.



G.W. Rolle, Ted Leonsis, and fellow *Kicking It* producers

Director Susan Koch, Producer Ted Leonsis, and Executive Producers Rick Allen, Kat Byles, Keith Clinkscales, Jack Davies, Raul Fernandez, and Sheila C. Johnson have, through their provocative film, made an important contribution to the American dialogue on homelessness. Alternately saddening and inspiring, *Kicking It* gives human form and depth to an issue regarded from afar by many, and exists as a testament to the indomitability of the human spirit.



Rep. Keith Ellison



Ted Leonsis

Personal Achievement Award

G.W. Rolle became homeless at age 14, a situation he subsequently endured throughout much of his adulthood. But Mr. Rolle broke that cycle. Now, he enjoys a roof over his head and is an outspoken homeless advocate, currently working as an AmeriCorps VISTA member for the National Coalition for the Homeless' Faces of Homelessness Speaker's Bureau in St. Petersburg, FL. Concerned with the lack of dignity afforded homeless persons in the city, he is working on a project aimed at addressing local criminalization policies.

Of his struggle, Mr. Rolle said: "If left to define myself, I am a soldier and a philosopher. I am a soldier because after close to five years homeless on the streets of St Petersburg, I am in a war to defeat homelessness and snatch back the right to define myself from the powers that be. Time and solitude create a philosopher. I lost my clothes, my money, my job... I lost everything that connected me to life in a house. I was left with plenty of time and solitude. I am a philosopher."

SELECTED 2009 PUBLICATIONS

Reports

Shortchanging Survivors: The Family Violence Option for TANF Benefits

Homes Not Handcuffs
The Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities

2009 Foreclosure Survey
Foreclosure Adding to Homelessness Crisis

Insult to Injury
Violations of the Violence Against Women Act

An Ounce of Prevention
Programs to Prevent Homelessness in 25 States

Without Just Cause
A 50-State Review of the (Lack of) Rights of Tenants in Foreclosure

Housing Rights for All: Promoting and Defending Housing Rights in the U.S.
A Resource Manual on International Law and the Human Right to Adequate Housing (4th ed.)

Fact Sheets

Using the CACFP Program for Children in Domestic Violence Shelters
Accessing Nutritious Meals

Domestic Violence Shelters and Civil Rights Statutes
Questions and Answers

Housing as a Human Right

Enforcing Homeless Children's Right to Education
NLCHP at work

Tent City Fact Sheet 2009
Model Constructive Approaches Taken by Selected Cities

Indicators of Increasing Homelessness
Due to Foreclosure and Economic Crisis

Legislative Documents

Children's Right to Housing Endorsement

Resolution on Children's Rights to Housing
H. Res. 582

Resolution H.R. 416 Promotes U.S. Human Rights Leadership

Comments on Income Determination Requirements

VAWA Housing Provisions
Interim Regulations

Summary of Fiscal Year 2009 Appropriations
Funding for Homelessness Prevention

Legal Documents

Model General Police Order
Handling Interactions with Homeless Persons

Amicus Brief: City of Orlando vs. First Vagabonds Church
Foodsharing in Orlando

Testimony

Compilation of Written Testimony to supplement Oral Presentations Before the UN Special Rapporteur on Adequate Housing

Journal Articles and Book Chapters

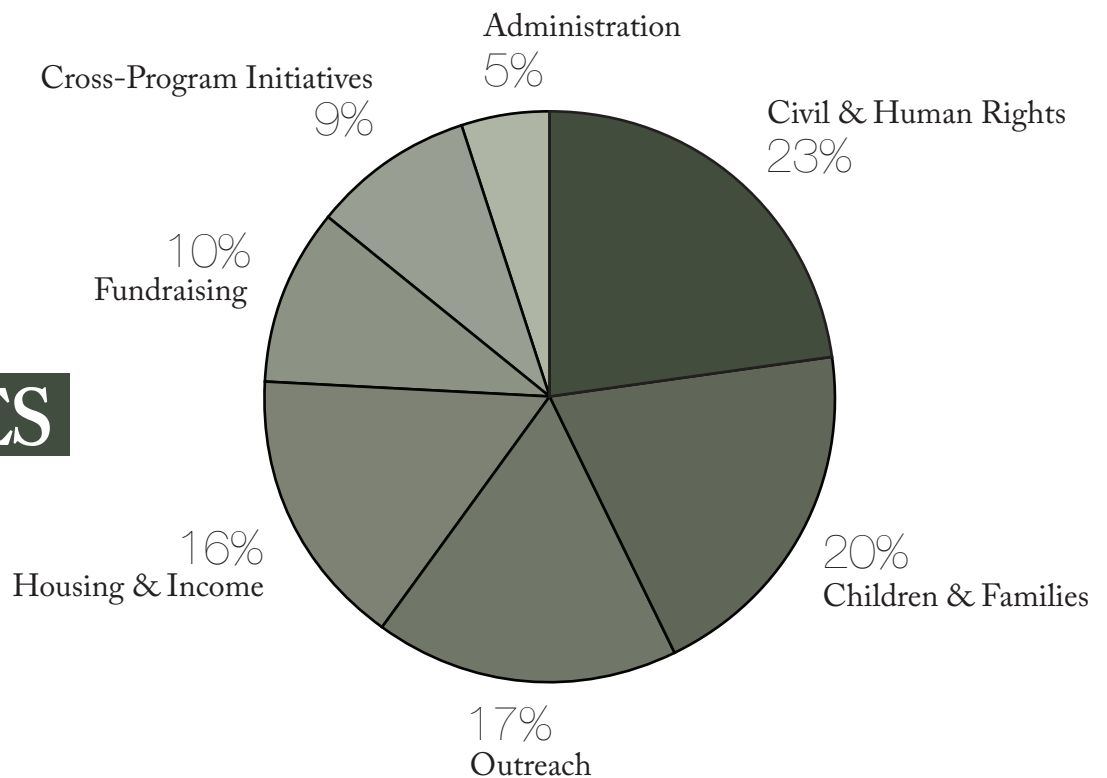
Great Scot! The Scottish Plan to End Homelessness and Lessons for the Housing Rights Movement in the U.S. From the Georgetown Journal on Poverty Law & Policy.

Homelessness: Action to End and Prevent the Crisis. From Mandate for Change, a publication edited by Chester Hartman and released by Lexington Books.

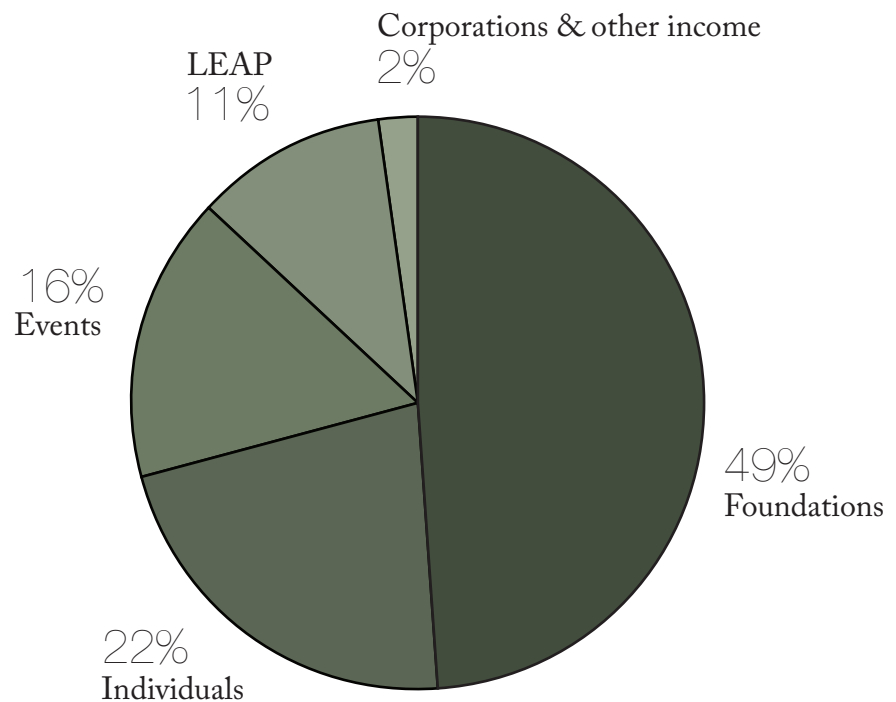
Human Rights Shadow Reporting: A Strategic Tool for Domestic Justice. From the January-February 2009 Clearinghouse Review.

2009 FINANCIALS*

EXPENSES



REVENUE



*Unaudited financials

THANK YOU

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2010 PRIORITIES

The Law Center will work to shape policy across all programs areas in 2010. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Supporting the Zero Tolerance for Veterans' Homelessness and Homes for Heroes Acts.
- Supporting H.Res. 582, recognizing a right to housing for children and their families.
- Increasing funding for foreclosure prevention.
- Opposing congressional efforts to weaken Title V of the McKinney-Vento Act, which makes federal surplus property available free of charge to homeless service providers.
- Increasing funding for HPRP, and extending it beyond its current 2012 sunset.
- Reauthorizing McKinney-Vento education provisions.
- Advocating at the federal and local levels to end the criminalization of homelessness.
- Ensuring homeless persons' access to voting.

It will also:

- Increase understanding of the Protecting Tenants at Foreclosure Act (PTFA), to prevent the unlawful eviction of renters.
- Increase advocates' ability to use human rights arguments in their housing advocacy.
- Hold the U.S. government accountable to international human rights standards through the United Nations' upcoming reviews of U.S. housing policy.
- Increase understanding of and compliance with VAWA's housing provisions by Public Housing Authorities and landlords, thereby preventing domestic violence survivors from being wrongly evicted.
- Work to end laws criminalizing homelessness in several cities, through advocacy, litigation, and technical assistance to local partners.
- Protect homeless students' rights by educating advocates, families, and school districts, and engaging in select litigation to enforce the laws.

CONNECT TO THE LAW CENTER

[Blog] <http://www.homelessnesslaw.org>

The Law Center is happy to announce its newly launched blog! This will give supporters and fellow advocates a chance to get to know Law Center staff, keep up on the latest news in the movement to end homelessness, and offer feedback.

[Wiki] <http://wiki.nlchp.org>

Connect with fellow advocates, attorneys, and policymakers on the Law Center's Homelessness Wiki. This central, online tool promotes information-sharing among leading national and local advocacy groups. It's an easy way to learn and to disseminate valuable information about the evolving fight to end and prevent American homelessness.

[E-Newsletter]

In Just Times, the Law Center's monthly publication, provides brief updates on current issues.

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