

Charlie Needs a Home...



...so do over 1.5 million children in America.

All across America, over 1.5 million children go to sleep without a home. Some are with parents, some on their own.

(LOOK UP YOUR STATE), despite best efforts, ranks ___ out of 50 states for greatest risk of child homelessness (look up your state here: [National Center on Family Homelessness, America's Youngest Outcasts, 2009](#)).

What can be done? Ask your federal legislators to protect the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program. This will stop harmful cuts to the housing program that keeps some families from becoming homeless.

More needs to be done. Get involved locally. Join HEAR US and the National Center on Family Homelessness' *Campaign to End Child Homelessness*.

More info on *The Campaign to End Child Homelessness* - www.hearus.us or www.homelesschildrenamerica.org.

Contact Your Federal Legislators (get their info with your zip code on www.OpenCongress.org):

Senator	Senator	Representative

Suggested points:

- Nationally, 53% of those receiving housing vouchers are families with children.
- When housing costs are too high, it frequently forces families to move into overcrowded apartments or to double up with family/friends. Research shows families in overcrowded conditions, often the "hidden homeless," have greater food insecurity; and children suffer more health problems, have greater risk of developmental delays, and experience educational instability, among other problems.
- Housing subsidies protect children's health, promote educational stability, and allow parents to pursue employment.
- Housing agencies need an additional \$130 million in voucher funding in 2009 to avoid cuts in assistance.
- Without adequate funding, families will find themselves homeless, and children will add to the more than 1.5 million children in America already experiencing homelessness.



HEAR US Inc. ...giving voice and visibility to homeless children and youth...

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