

## National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day 2006 Local Events – as of January 4, 2007

The National Health Care for the Homeless Council and the National Coalition for the Homeless have learned of the following local events.

Please send news of additional events or corrections to these announcements to kvalesky AT nhchc.org

### **Alabama**

**Birmingham**— Birmingham Health Care will be participating in the National Homeless Memorial Day this year. We will offer a Memorial Service for all the ones that has lost their lives to this tragedy. Our event will be held at Birmingham Health Care, Metro site, on December 21, 2006 at 2:00 pm. The address is: 712 25th Street North, Birmingham, AL 35205 Local clergy will read the names. We are also offering free health screenings including flu shots. We will have warm clothing items to give to all homeless persons that attend. Hot coffee, water, hot chocolate and healthy snacks will be provided as well.

**Mobile**— At noon on December 21st, at their respective sites, 17 local homeless programs will light a candle, read a list of 25 names, and then observe a moment of silence in respect of those homeless who have died this year. At sunset, 12 churches located in the downtown area, will ring their bells 25 times.

### **Arizona**

**Tucson**— On December 21, 2006 from 3:30 to 5:00 at Evergreen Cemetery and Mortuary, County Plot, Tucson there will be an interfaith remembrance service open to the public. The memorial service will include music, speeches from city, state and county officials and readings from relatives and acquaintances of several of those who have died. For information, contact Sarah Murphy at 520-882-9668 ext. 105, or email [smurphy AT primavera.org](mailto:smurphy AT primavera.org)

### **California**

**Los Angeles** --- The Rosa Parks Institute for Self Development is partnering with local shelters in their observance of Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. December 21 marks the anniversary of the end of the Montgomery Bus Boycott and in conjunction with the National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, the Institute is sponsoring their annual fellowship program where the preparation of soup is shared amongst participants, taken to a neighboring shelter, and the meal is shared over stories of Mrs. Parks' overcoming the challenges she faced. [www.rosaparks.org](http://www.rosaparks.org)

**Los Angeles** – SRO Homeless Memorial. Thursday, Dec. 21, 10 am – noon. Join Downtown Women’s Center (DWC) and downtown service providers as we honor our fellow citizens with this homeless memorial. Stay tuned for more detail or call 213-680-0600 for current information. [www.dwcweb.org](http://www.dwcweb.org)

**Los Angeles** – A group of homeless activist and members of LA CAN (Community Action Network) have organized a homeless memorial for Thursday, December 21st at 5:30pm. We are asking people to gather in front of the offices of LA CAN located on 456 S. Main St.(corner of 5th and Main in downtown l.A). Our event will include a silent candlelight procession around downtown and end where homeless people gather. Once there, we will read the names of those that passed away, there will be an open space for people to share stories about their loved ones, and there will be food provided by Food Not Bombs.

**Modesto**--- December 21, Candlelight Vigil sponsored by Golden Valley Health Clinic, Corner of Hope. For more info please contact Vivian Aguirre at (209) 491-5550.

**San Francisco**— 12/21/06 at 5:30 pm at San Francisco Civic Center across from City Hall (Polk Street), Contact Coalition on Homelessness, Juan Prada (415) 346-3740.

**Santa Barbara** – December 21, 5 pm meal and Vespers service at St. Athanasius Orthodox Church, followed by all-night vigil.

**Santa Cruz** – A memorial service, which will include a reading of the names of those who have died during the year, will take place at the Homeless Services Center Dining Hall at 115 Coral Street in Santa Cruz. The service will begin at 11:00 a.m. on December 21.

**San Diego** – Service in East Village by San Diego Rescue Mission.

**Ventura County** – Ventura County, California is participating for the first time. We have received proclamations from the City Councils of Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Camarillo, Oxnard, Fillmore, Santa Paula, Ventura & Ojai as well as the Board of Supervisors of the County of Ventura. We have sent requests to each faith community in each city requesting their participation by asking their membership to honor those who have died of homeless related conditions by observing 60 seconds of silence at 3:00 pm on Dec 21st. We've also asked those faith communities with bells to toll the bells during that same 60 seconds.

**Colorado**

**Denver** – The Colorado Coalition for the Homeless' Memorial Vigil is scheduled for Thursday, December 21st at 5:30 pm on the steps of the City and County Building in Denver. The Mayor is currently scheduled to attend.

## **Connecticut**

**Bridgeport** – The Southwest Community Health Center McKinney Care for the Homeless program presents a Community Memorial Service at 12:00 noon on Thursday, December 21, 2006, in front of the Prospect House Shelter, 392 Prospect Street.

**Danielson** – Join Generations Family Health Center on December 21 for refreshments at the Killingly Public Library as we gather from 2:30 to 4:30 and reflect on the needs of the homeless and those in our community we have lost in the past year. During this time we will also be collecting winter apparel donations either at the library or anytime at Generations, 54 Reynolds Street, Danielson

**Hartford**— Memorial Day on the 21st. A candle light service will be held in the Memorial Garden at Mercy Shelter including a reading of names, a discussion of causes of death for homeless persons, and other appropriate information. An obituary will be read and possibly published on the obituary page of the Hartford Courant newspaper. We have invited local and state politicians as well as individuals and agencies who service or advocate for the poor and homeless. Susan Campbell, a writer for the Hartford Courant, whose many columns address the same issues who advocate for will be writing her column on the 21st describing the service we will be holding.

**Middletown**— The “Wherever You Are – Healthcare for the Homeless Program” under the Community Health Center umbrella is sponsoring a Memorial Service and Candlelight Vigil at The Church of Holy Trinity (381 Main Street, Middletown) on Thursday, December 21st at 3:00PM to remember homeless men and women who died in Middletown, Meriden and New Britain over the past year. For more information please contact Agi Erickson at 860-224-3642 ext. 5551, or e-mail ericksa AT chcl.com.

**New Haven** – Second Annual Persons’ Memorial Day, Candlelight Vigil, Thursday, December 21, 1:00 to 2:00 pm, City Hall Atrium. Appetizers will be served. Sponsored by Hill Health Center, Department of Homeless Health Care.

**Norwich**— Thursday, December 21, 5:30 to 7:00 pm, at Chelsea Parade. Songs by the Ambassadors; free coffee, hot chocolate and donuts. For more information: Judi Gaudet, Health Care for the Homeless (860) 617-7057.

**Willimantic** – Generations Family Health Center in Willimantic, in collaboration with the No Freeze Hospitality Project is holding a Homeless Persons Memorial Service on December 21 at the No Freeze Project, 8 Mountain Street,

Willimantic. The Interfaith Service will begin at 6:00pm followed by an open house and dinner at 7:00. Music will be provided by students from E.O. Smith High School. The book "Dinner at Six" will be available with a donation to the Hospitality Project. For more information and how you can help call Leigh Duffy at Generations at 450-7456.

## **Delaware**

**Kent and Sussex County** – Casa San Francisco and the Homeless Planning Council invite you to attend Kent and Sussex County Homeless Memorial Day Ceremony, Thursday, December 21, 2006, 5:30 p.m., Casa San Francisco Shelter, 127 Broad Street, Milton, DE. The event will begin at the Milton Memorial Park. The program will include a candle ceremony, verse readings, song and refreshments. For more information, contact Leah Sullivan (302) 684-8694 or Cara Robinson (302) 654-0126

## **District of Columbia**

**Washington** --- The nation's capital will commemorate Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on December 21 at 5pm in McPherson Square Park (15th & K St. NW). Please join the National Coalition for the Homeless in remembrance of our homeless neighbors who have passed away in 2006. A candlelight vigil will include a reading of names, poetry, music, and words from local homeless persons and city council members. Please contact Michael O'Neill, 202-462-4822 x20 (moneill AT nationalhomeless.org), for more information.

## **Florida**

**Charlotte County** – Annual Homeless Persons Memorial on Dec. 21 at 6:30 p.m. at the Genesis Center, headquarters for the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition.

**Daytona Beach** – **Simple outdoor memorial service** to remember those who have died, 11:30 on December 21 at 316 North St., conducted by the Homeless Assistance Corporation.

**Ft. Lauderdale**— National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on Tuesday, December 19, 2006 at 5:00 p.m., First United Methodist Church – Downtown Ft. Lauderdale located 1 block S. of Broward on S.E. 3rd Avenue. Volunteers to assist in preparing and serving the food and receiving wrapped Holiday gifts that would be appropriate for someone living on the street, or in a shelter: some examples would be hygiene kits (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, shampoo, razors, comb, deodorant, aftershave, perfume, makeup for women, first aid items), food such as chocolates, candies, other treats (health bars, fruit cups) not normally available in soup kitchens, Bus Transportation, or other items you can think of that someone with very little storage could use. A nice personal card

with the gift would be good as well. Please mark if the gift is for a man, a woman, or either.

**Fort Meyers**—Tenth Annual Candlelight Vigil For the Homeless, conducted by the Lee County Homeless Coalition, 6:00 pm, Thursday, December 21, 2006, Old Courthouse Steps, 2120 Main Street

**Gainesville** – The Alachua County Coalition for the Homeless and Hungry and the Home Van are co-sponsoring an event to honor those homeless persons who have died in Gainesville in 2006. In Gainesville, this memorial service will be in the fellowship hall of the First United Methodist Church, 419 NE 1st St, at 7 p.m. on December 21. The community is invited to come to this service. Those who wish can bring blankets, sweaters, jackets or Christmas goodies to share.

**Iverness**— Hunger and Homeless Coalition of Citrus County, Inc will be sponsoring an Annual Homeless Person's Memorial Service on December 21st, 2006 at 6pm at the Old County Court House (near the Flag Pole) in downtown Iverness, FL We will be honoring those homeless persons who died in 2006 with a candlelight ceremony and VFW Post 4252 will blow Taps and present a Rifle Volley. For any further information please contact us at 352-628-4357

**Jacksonville** – Service at Hemming Plaza.

**Miami** – At 12:30 p.m. on Friday, December 15, 2006, the Homeless/Formerly Homeless Forum, Inc., the Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust and the Miami Coalition for the Homeless, Inc. and several other local homeless service agencies will be holding a candlelight vigil and memorial service at Stephen P. Clark Government Center Lobby, 111 NW 1st Street, Miami, FL 33128.

**Melbourne** – Observance at Daily Bread.

**Nassau County** Nassau County's first observance of National Homeless Persons Memorial Day will be 6 p.m. Thursday at the Assembly of God Church in Fernandina Beach. There will be a reading of names of indigent persons who died this year and were buried in paupers' graves, and attention will be given to persons who have experienced the difficulties of homelessness. There will be music candle-lighting, and a brief homily. Pastor Edwin Shick will officiate. The event is supported by the Barnabas Center and The Little House Ministries.

**Orlando** – Candlelight service at First Presbyterian church.

**Rockledge** – Observance at Faith Temple Christian Center.

**St. Augustine** – The St. Johns County Emergency Services and Homeless Coalition held a memorial service outside the First United Methodist Church on

King and Riberia streets. After the service, a dinner was served inside the church hall and City Commissioner George Gardner spoke to the group.

**Tallahassee** – Join the Big Bend Homeless Coalition and our caring community as we come together to remember and celebrate the lives of our homeless friends, neighbors, loved ones, clients and others who passed away in 2006. Thursday, December 21 at 5:30p (until approx. 6:30p)Carter-Howell-Strong Park (Corner of Copeland & Georgia Streets (behind the McDonalds on Tennessee and Dewey, across from FSU). A light soup dinner and hot tea donated by Food Not Bombs will be served. Sshepherd AT BigBendHC.org

**Tampa**— Mark your calendar for Homeless Persons' Memorial Day, Thursday, December 21, 2006. The Homeless Coalition will hold an Interfaith Candle Light Memorial Service at 7 p.m. at Joe Chillura Courthouse Square in Downtown Tampa (located across from the County Center, 601 E. Kennedy Blvd.) to remember the men and women who have died homeless in Hillsborough County.

**Titusville** – Observance at Harry T. Moore Social Service Center.

## **Georgia**

**Atlanta** – Candlelight vigil, December 21, 5:30 p.m., 424 Decatur Street with a series of prayers, litany and reflections about a few who died and will conclude with the reading of names by other services providers and the lighting of candles as each name is read. RSVP by December 18, 404-880-3561

## **Illinois**

**Chicago**—The Chicago Coalition for the Homeless is hosting an event on December 21 at 10:00 AM in front of the Mayor's office (5th floor, 121 N. LaSalle) to recognize those who are homeless this winter and release a new estimate on the number of homeless in Chicago in 2005.

**Chicago** – The Interfaith House at 3456 West Franklin Blvd. in Chicago will be holding a Memorial Service on December 21. Please contact Renee Krueger for more information, 773-533-6013.

**Decatur** – An observance of National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day will begin with a march starting at 4:30 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 14, from the Oasis Day Center at 243 W. Cerro Gordo St. to Central Park for a short service. Refreshments will be served at Oasis afterward. For more information, call Homeward Bound at 362-7700.

**Rockford**— The Memorial Service will be at the Carpenter's Place, 1149 Railroad Avenue, Rockford, a faith based drop in center, on December 21 from 10-11 a.m. Two poems will be read and 20 "A Day In A Life" pictures will be

on display.

## **Indiana**

**Evansville**—Aurora, Inc. will host the seventh annual memorial service on Wednesday, December 20 at Trinity United Methodist Church. Please call Aurora at 428-3246 to report any people who have passed that can be remembered at this event.

**Fort Wayne** – The Allen County Housing & Homeless Task Force will sponsor a memorial service in remembrance of those who were homeless and died on the streets and those who are homeless and living in shelters. The service will begin at 6 p.m. Thursday at the Fort Wayne Rescue Mission, 301 W. Superior St., and continue at Headwaters Park. Donations of non-perishable food items or hats, gloves, mittens or scarves will be accepted. Participants should dress for the weather and bring a flashlight for the walk.

**Indianapolis**— Homeless Persons' Memorial Service on 12/21/2006 11:00 a.m at Christ Church Cathedral. You are invited to join the community of Indianapolis as we gather to observe National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. The memorial service will be a time of remembering our homeless neighbors who passed away in the past year as well as an opportunity to draw attention to the issue of the homelessness. The service will consist of music, remembrances, and remarks from Lt. Governor Becky Skillman, Mayor Bar Peterson and formerly homeless persons. For more information concerning the Memorial Service, contact the contact the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP) office at 317-630-0853.

**Monroe** – Memorial service 10:00 am December 22 at Shalom.

**South Bend** – Vigil at the Center for the Homeless.

## **Iowa**

**Davenport** – Candlelight vigil at Marquette Landing.

## **Kansas**

**Dodge City** – Memorial service organized by Advocates for Ending Chronic Homelessness.

**Wichita** – Homeless Memorial Service of Advocates to End Chronic Homelessness On Thursday, December 21 at 5:00 pm at First Presbyterian Church, 525 N. Broadway

## **Kentucky**

**Louisville**— Louisville, Kentucky is having its 8th Annual Homeless Persons Memorial Day on December 21st at noon on the steps at the Kentucky Center for the Arts (6th and Market). A processional will precede the event from Sixth and Market to the Kentucky Center. Music will be provided by the Down By The Wayside Choir. The memorial will be held on the steps of the Kentucky Center for the Arts.

## **Maine**

**Bangor** --- Event on December 21 begins at 5:30 p.m. with Candlelight Walk from Bangor Area Homeless Shelter to the Hammond Street Congregational Church, where service will include, readings of poetry/short essays on homelessness; a brief sermon by the Reverend Mark Doty, pastor of HSCC; a Proclamation by the Mayor and City Council of Bangor; Community Reading of the Names of deceased homeless while music plays; a Moment of Silence with ringing of bell for each individual we've lost; song and fellowship. For more information: 945-5247, ext 405 or mejude AT pchcbangor.org

**Brunswick** – Tedford Housing Homeless Memorial Service, December 21, 5:00 pm, Morrell Meeting Room, Curtis Memorial Library 23 Pleasant Street

**Lewiston/Auburn** –Vigil for Homeless Persons, Thursday, December 21, 2006, 4:30 to 5:30 PM, Veteran's Memorial Park, Main St. next to Longley Bridge in Lewiston. Candlelight vigil, memorial, and songs. Sponsored by the Lewiston/Auburn Services for the Homeless Coalition. Hot soup and candles will be provided. For more information: Bob Rowe, New Beginnings, 207-795-4077 or bobrowe AT gwi.net

**Portland**— Thursday, December 21st, a candlelight procession will begin at 4:30 pm at Preble Street Resource Center and proceed to Monument Square where there will be a ceremony remembering and honoring those homeless individuals who have died.

## **Maryland**

**Baltimore** — Homeless Persons' Memorial Day event on Thursday December 21, 2006, 4:30 PM at War Memorial Plaza, 100 N. Holiday Street, in front of Baltimore City Hall.

Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Policy Forums: in the three weeks leading up to Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on December 21, join advocates and services providers for a series of discussions on issues of poverty and homelessness

Homeless Children & Families

December 6, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
YWCA of the Greater Baltimore Area  
(128 W. Franklin Street)  
Housing First

December 13, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
Beans and Bread Outreach Center  
(402 S. Bond Street)

Homelessness, Health & Mortality  
December 20, 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
University of Maryland School of Social Work  
(525 W. Redwood Street)

Baltimore's commemoration of Homeless Persons' Memorial Day is organized by SHARP – a coalition working to “Stop Homelessness and Reduce Poverty.” For more information or to report the name of someone who dies homeless in 2006, contact Adam Schneider at Health Care for the Homeless: 443/703-1398 or info AT hchmd.org

**Elkton**—The annual observance of Homeless Persons Memorial Day will take place in Cecil County, Maryland on December 21. We will meet at Trinity Episcopal Church, Main and Bridge Streets, Elkton, and march along Main Street to the Courthouse, where we will have a vigil and rally to remember all in our community who have experienced homelessness in the past year, and to pledge to do what we can to end homelessness in the year ahead. The march from the church will begin at 5:00 PM.

## **Massachusetts**

**Boston** – There will be a memorial service at 2 pm at the Swedenborgian Church on the Hill, 140 Bowdoin St, across from the State House, at 2 pm on Thursday, Dec 21. It is being sponsored by Massachusetts Housing and Shelter Alliance, Ecclesia Ministries and the Swedenborgian Church.

**Boston** – At 3 pm, there will be another service at the Barbara McInnis House, a respite care facility run by Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, located at 461 Walnut Ave, Jamaica Plain, MA. There will be the reading of names and the sharing of stories along with music and prayer. Everyone is welcome to attend either service.

**Hyannis**—Homeless or formerly homeless people will speak at a press conference at 3:00 pm Thursday in front of Federated Church of Hyannis, where civic leaders will be sleeping overnight in tents on the lawn to call attention to the need for action. Organizer Alan Burt, coordinator of the Salvation Army's Overnights of Hospitality, said political, social services, and business leaders will

speaking also at 3 p.m. Thursday. During the day, supporters will be handing out information about homelessness and accepting contributions to Operation in from the Streets, a new year-round effort to bring people in from camps in the woods, provide temporary housing, and make connections to needed services.

At 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, a Homeless Persons' Memorial Day service will be held on the village green, followed by a symbolic overnight encampment at Federated Church. Duffy Health Center Consumer Advisory Board will take part in reflections on the persons who died. Through the day and night, a Salvation Army Emergency Service Truck will dispense soup, sandwiches and coffee. Donations for Operation in from the Streets, so marked, may be made to Cape Cod Council of Churches, PO Box 758, Hyannis MA 02601.

**Springfield** – On Wednesday, December 20th Mercy Medical Center's Health Care for the Homeless Program staff will gather, along with the Spiritual Care Department, to honor those individuals who have died in their community. Staff will light candles at the service and offer a reflection or their own personal story along with the names of those who have passed. Readings and memorials will center on the lives of those who have died in the communities of Springfield without a home.

**Worcester**— The city of Worcester will be holding their annual Homeless Person's Memorial Day on December 21st. Many agencies have signed on to be Co-sponsors of the event this year. We will start by gathering at City Hall at 6:30 p.m.; where we will have Amy Grassette; a formerly homeless person, do the welcoming to the audience, followed by the call to action, and the reading of the names. As each person's name is being read, someone will take a candle and form a line to create a lighted path; from which the rest of the audience will go through the path and take a solemn walk to St. John's church. After getting to the church, we will have a brief service, with numerous members of the clergy officiating. We will also have music at the church, followed by light refreshments.

## **Michigan**

**Detroit**— Detroit Health Care for the Homeless, St. Leo's Catholic Church and other community agencies will conduct a Memorial Service on December 21 at 10:00 am at St. Leo's, 4860 15th St. This year's speaker is Robert Wilkerson, who has experienced homelessness first hand. For more information call Detroit Health Care for the Homeless at 313-897-2061.

**Kalamazoo**— The Annual Homeless Memorial Day, 2006 is sponsored by the Family Health Center, Kalamazoo Gospel Mission, Ministry with Community, and Healthcare for the Homeless and will begin at the Kalamazoo Gospel Mission at 3:30 PM. The event will then proceed to the Martin Luther King Park at 4:00 with a candlelighting ceremony and an address from the City Commissioner, Don

Cooney. There will be a candle lighting ceremony there in memory of those who lost their lives this year with an open mic session beginning at 4:30.

## **Minnesota**

**Minneapolis**— The Hennepin County Health Care for the Homeless Project will be participating in the Homeless Memorial March and Service on December 21st starting at 5:00 at the Hennepin County Government Center at 3rd Ave. South and 5th Street South. There will be a march and silent vigil, a service of remembrance at 6:30 at Simpson United Methodist Church, 2740 1st Avenue, South and a community meal at 7:30 at the Simpson Shelter (basement of Simpson Church). It is sponsored by Simpson Housing Services, Minnesota Coalition for the Homeless and the Shelter Providers Action Association. See [www.simpsonhousing.org](http://www.simpsonhousing.org) for details.

**Red Lake**— Thursday December 21, at 12:00 Noon there will be potluck dinner and fire at the Red Lake homeless shelter on Council Street near the lakeshore and next to the water tower. Everyone is welcome to remember those whose lives were shortened by being without housing. There will be drums and likely some singing. For more information call 218-679-3171.

## **Mississippi**

**Jackson**— The Russell C. Davis Planetarium, 201 E. Pascagoula St. in Jackson, will host an observance of James Ivory Homeless Persons' Memorial Day at 10 a.m. Monday, Dec. 18. This year's event honors the memory of Annette Randall, a long-time Salvation Army social worker and advocate for the homeless, who died earlier this year. The City of Jackson will issue a proclamation in honor of the day. For more information, contact the Stubbs Homeless Program at (601) 351-8523.

## **Missouri**

**St. Louis** – The memorial service will take place at Centenary United Methodist Church, at Olive and 16th streets in St. Louis, from 4:30 to 5:30 p.m. It will include a candlelight vigil featuring the names of those who have died, remarks by public officials, an ecumenical service and proclamation from St. Louis Mayor Francis Slay.

## **Montana**

**Billings** – The Yellowstone County Homeless Project in conjunction with the Healthcare for the Homeless program of the Yellowstone City-County Health Department, will remember those homeless individuals who have died at a ceremony on Monday, December 18, 2006. The candlelight vigil and ceremony will take place at noon on the Yellowstone County Courthouse lawn. Those without food and shelter, including families with children will also be honored at

the ceremony. Those attending the ceremony are asked to bring a non-perishable food item for the Billings Food Bank. The Montana Rescue Mission van will be on hand and volunteers and staff will be serving hot beverages before and after the ceremony.

**Helena** – Memorial Day event will be on December 21, 2006 at 1p.m. on the Front Lawn of the Capital. Event will include: Ringing of Church Bells of the Cathedral, St. Paul's, St Peter's and the United Church of Christ; prayer: Bonnie Stevens; speeches by Sherrie Downing of the Montana Council on Homelessness, Lt. Governor John Bohlinger and a homeless constituent; presentation of the names and tree; presentation of County Commission Proclamation; poetry and bagpipe playing.

## **Nebraska**

**Omaha** – December 21 candlelight vigil at Omaha's Gene Leahy Mall.

**Omaha** -- December 18 observance at the Francis House Shelter.

## **Nevada**

**Las Vegas** – The Homeless Memorial Candlelight Vigil on Wednesday, December 20, starting at 3:45 pm at The Center for Independent Living, on Foremaster Lane. While we will be honoring the memory and life of many this year at our Vigil, we have decided that this year the Homeless Memorial Candlelight Vigil will be held in loving memory of Realitie Lynn Zozaya, born September 27, 2006 and passed away on November 14, 2006.

## **New Hampshire**

**Manchester** – Candle light vigil at Veteran's Park 6 p.m.

**Concord** – Candlelight vigil, readings, reading of names, official Proclamation read by representative of the Governor, 5:30 outside the State Capitol.

**Nashua** – Area residents will gather at the memorial at the top of Library Hill to observe Homeless Memorial Day in New Hampshire, held Dec. 21 to draw attention to the plight of hundreds, including many who have died, sometimes unknown all the way to the end. The candlelight vigil will begin at dusk, at about 4:30 p.m., said organizer Jeanne Maestranzi, program manager for Connections, the former Gathering Place, a program run by Harbor Homes to assist the homeless, mentally ill and others with desperate needs.

## **New Jersey**

**Camden**—Project H.O.P.E., the Healthcare for Homeless Project located in

Camden, NJ, will conduct a Homeless Memorial event outside of Camden's City Hall on December 21 at 1:00 pm. City officials, homeless agency staff, and homeless people will participate. There will be speeches, musical performances, and readings of poems written by homeless. Project H.O.P.E. will distribute food, blankets, and personal care items to homeless persons at the event.

## **New Mexico**

**Albuquerque**— Memorial Service December 14 at 1:30 at the Civic Plaza, followed by a march to the First United Methodist Church (4th and Lead) for a Memorial Service and Vigil. Participants are asked to bring donations of winter apparel in good condition.

**Las Cruces**—Mesilla Valley Community of Hope – a day drop in center for homeless people – is having a candle light vigil December 21, 2006. There will be a sit down dinner served to homeless people, music, open microphone, and reading of names. Many churches and city officials such as the mayor are attending.

**Santa Fe** – Vigil on Friday, December 15, including a march and a memorial service at the local cathedral.

## **New York**

**New York** --- Picture the Homeless is sponsoring a Memorial Day event. Thursday, December 21 at 6 p.m., Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South (SW corner of Washington Sq Park). Following the memorial, dinner donated by Judson parishioners, Broadway Community, Inc. Five Star Kitchen, Episcopal Church of the Holy Apostles and Fairway Supermarkets, will be served. Please contact William Barnett at 646-314-6423 or William AT [picurethehomeless.org](http://picurethehomeless.org).

**New York** – Prayers, Music and Storytelling on Tuesday, December 19, 9 a.m., Elizabeth Ann Seton Chapel, St. Vincent's Hospital, 170th W.12th Street (Corner 7th Ave)

**New York** – Care for the Homeless staff and contractors gathered for a private memorial service.

## **North Carolina**

**Greensboro** – HPCGC will sponsor an observance of Homeless Persons' Memorial Day in Greensboro on Wednesday, Dec. 13th. At 5:30 p.m., there will be a walk from Greensboro Urban Ministry at 305 W. Lee Street to Grace Community Church at 643 W. Lee Street. There will be a candlelight service and prayer outside, followed by a service inside.

**High Point** – High Point’s observance of National Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day will be held on Monday, December 18, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church, 405 North Main Street. At 5:30 p.m., Open Door Ministries and Caring Services will march to the First Baptist Church. Salvation Army of High Point and Interfaith Hospitality will transport individuals to the church. A program will be held at 6:00 p.m., a proclamation will be read, three formerly homeless individuals will speak and volunteers will serve dinner from Wesley Memorial United Methodist Church.

**Raleigh** -- A memorial service in memory of homeless men and women who have died is scheduled for the Bethel House of God off Sunnybrook Rd. in Raleigh on December 21 at 7 p.m. For more information contact Paige Rainey at 856-2536.

## **Ohio**

**Cincinnati**—The Greater Cincinnati Coalition for the Homeless will have its annual Homeless Memorial service in Washington Park on December 21 at 5 p.m..

**Cleveland** --- Thursday, December 21, 2006. A Candlelight Vigil will be held in Cleveland at Franklin Circle Church (Franklin & W. 28th St.) at 4:30 p.m.

**Columbus**— Columbus Coalition for the Homeless for Homeless Person's Memorial Day service will be held December 21st at 5:00 downtown on the Statehouse lawn at Broad St. and High St.

**Dayton**— Dayton, Ohio will hold a memorial at Court House Square on December 21 at 12:00. It is sponsored by our Emergency Housing Coalition, which includes the Samaritan Homeless Clinic (our HCH site) and 26 other agencies working on behalf of the homeless in our community. The names of the homeless deceased will be read one at a time and a bell will toll for each.

## **Oregon**

**Portland**—For the City of Portland, Oregon, a partnership of local homeless organizations is planning a special fireside ceremony to honor the homeless persons who have died on our streets. This year's event will take place on December 21 from 6-7 p.m. in the Outside Inn courtyard (1132 SW 13th, Portland). We expect to have Portland's Mayor, the Honorable Tom Potter, in attendance at this event, as a keynote speaker. At our event, we will be honoring each person who died on the street by casting a slip of paper with their name into the memorial fire.

The local partnership hosting this year's homeless memorial event includes: Outside In <<http://www.outsidein.org>>, Janus Youth Program

<<http://www.jyp.org>>, Sisters of the Road <[www.sistersoftheroad.org](http://www.sistersoftheroad.org)>, Potluck in the Park <<http://www.potluckinthepark.org>>, and Street Roots <<http://www.streetroots.org>>.

## **Pennsylvania**

**Philadelphia**— Homeless Memorial Day. Thursday, December 21 — 4:30-5:30 pm, City Hall, Dilworth Plaza (northwest corner of City Hall). Join us for a candlelight vigil as we remember those who have lost their lives to homelessness during this past year. Remember the lives and dreams of homeless men, women and children who perished this year in our city. Hope and work for the day when poverty is eliminated and justice prevails in this land of promise and plenty. Heal the pain of loss with a renewed commitment to end homelessness in Philadelphia. For more information: Will O'Brien, Project H.O.M.E., 215-232-7272, ext. 3047 or willobrien AT projecthome.org.

**Pittsburg** – Service organized by Operation Safety Net on December 21 at 7 p.m., Downtown, under the Monroeville ramp to the Parkway East, at the south end of Grant Street near Fort Pitt Boulevard. Plaques are mounted on a wall at the site to commemorate homeless people who have died.

**Pittsburg** – Bethlehem Haven candlelight service; 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of agency.

**Wilkes-Barre** --- The Luzerne County Homeless Coalition will be hosting a local Memorial Day Vigil. Please contact Mary Zack for more information, 570-825-8741 x224.

**Wilkes-Barre** – On the Feast of St. Thomas, December 21, the longest night of the year, St. Stephen's Catholic Church, Wilkes-Barre, will memorialize those who are homeless. The memorial is a nationwide event to remember those who die homeless, and is intended to draw attention to the persistent problem of homelessness and the issues caused thereby. The memorial is interfaith and is supported by public and private organizations. It will conclude with a candlelight vigil in St. Stephen's Park. If you are interested in participating, contact Father Daniel Gunn at 570-825-6653 or at Dgunn AT ecunet.org.

## **South Carolina**

**Charleston**— Crisis Ministries is holding a Homeless Memorial Candlelight Service on December 21 at 6pm in Marion Square park. A walking processional will leave the homeless shelter at 5:00 pm to walk approximately 1 mile to the service. Mayor Joseph P. Riley, Jr. will give opening remarks. Several volunteers, staff and Board members will read a memorial litany of 25 men and women who died homeless. A volunteer choir will sing two selections. Guests of the shelter will be offered bus transportation to the service.

## Tennessee

**Chattanooga**— Chattanooga will mark Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on December 21 during lunch at the Community Kitchen. It will begin about 10:30 a.m. The names of those people who have died will be spoken, a bell will toll for each one, and a candle, placed on an empty lunch tray, will be lit. We will have a brief, nondenominational prayer. Then staff of the Community Kitchen and Homeless Health Care Center, will bring lunch trays to all those eating that day.

**Nashville**—In Nashville, the 16th Annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day will take place on Saturday, December 16 with breakfast at 8:30 and a memorial service at 9:00 am at Riverfront Park, 100 1st Avenue North, Nashville. Contact Carmon Ryals at (615) 733-0633 for more information. Sponsored by the Homeless Power Project in remembrance of Tara Cole and others like her still on the streets.

The American Negro Playwright Theatre will also remember Tara Cole with its performance of Shelter, a play by Jim Reyland that explores a night in the life of some homeless people in Nashville. Barry Scott, ANPT's Artistic Director, will direct and perform in the piece. Performances are at 7:30 p.m. December 13-16 at the Thomas Edward Poag Auditorium on Tennessee State University's campus. On December 17 the performance will start at 3:30 p.m. Call 615-579-4223 or e-mail anptheatre AT yahoo.com for more information.

## Texas

**Corpus Christi** – December 22 sunrise memorial ceremony at Kinney Street Park organized by Homeless Issues Partnership Inc.

**Houston** – A ceremony that will be held at 12:00 noon on the steps of City Hall in Houston, Texas. The list of homeless individuals who have lost their lives will be read. The event is sponsored by the Coalition for the Homeless of Houston/Harris County in coordination with United States Veterans Initiative and the Housing Corporation of Greater Houston. The Harris County Hospital District Health Care for the Homeless Program is will participate.

**San Antonio**— In remembrance of homeless persons who have died, a ceremony dedicating a memorial wreath will be held on Thursday, December 21st at the opening of the annual CentroMed HCH Holiday Party (Noon to 3:00 PM). The wreath will be placed at Dullnig House Clinic. After the wreath ceremony there will be food, entertainment and gifts for HCH families and individuals. Flu shots, blood pressure checks, and diabetes screening will also be available to participants as they visit with Santa.

## **US Virgin Islands**

**St. Thomas** – God's House International is sponsoring two activities, a candle light vigil and prayer service on Thursday, December 21, and a December 24 Christmas Eve meal.

## **Utah**

**Salt Lake City** – Fourth Street Clinic is hosting a candlelight vigil at 5:30pm on December 21 in conjunction with the Salt Lake County Homeless Coordinating Council. Salt Lake County Mayor Corroon is the featured speaker with a Native American opening and closing prayers and drum circle honoring the 37 (and counting) homeless people who have passed away living on our streets. We will also have a memorial litany and a moment of silence.

## **Vermont**

**Montpelier** – December 19, 2006, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM at Bethany Church, 115 Main Street. Regular meeting of the Vermont Coalition to End Homelessness Continuum of Care starting early at 10 am, followed immediately by homeless memorial vigil outside. Travis Poulin, Chair of VCEH, 802.527.7392, tpoulin AT cvoeo.org

**St. Albans** – Vigil in a park attended by two dozen persons

## **Virginia**

**Charlottesville** – Daytime vigil at the downtown mall, ending with a prayer service at Community Chalkboard

## **Washington**

**Olympia**— The Washington State Coalition for the Homeless will be hosting its 2nd annual Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on December 21 at 4 pm on the Capitol Steps in Olympia. The event will include a candlelight vigil where we will read the names of everyone we know of in our state who has died homeless or as a result of homelessness in the last year, and Governor Gregoire's proclamation recognizing December 21 as National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day. Ken Kraybill of the National Health Care for the Homeless Council, and Craig Rennebom, a Mental Health Chaplain (<http://www.mentalhealthchaplain.org/>), will speak at the service. For more information: (360) 357-6990

**Seattle**— WHEEL/Church of Mary Magdalene Women in Black will be standing a special vigil from 5--6 PM on Thursday, December 21st at Westlake Park (4th

& Pine Streets) for all who died this year. This is an annual Solstice Vigil on National Homeless Person's Remembrance Day. For more information: WHEEL Office (206) 956-0334

**Spokane** – John Corolla of the Community Health Association of Spokane. Homeless Persons' Memorial Day event 12:00 noon.

**Yakima** --- A one-hour Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Vigil will be hosted by the Homeless Network of Yakima County on Thurs., Dec. 21, 2006, 5:30 - 6:30pm, at Millennial Plaza in Yakima. Beth Dannhardt, Homeless Network chair, will open the vigil by reading the formal proclamation honoring the day from the Yakima City Council. Homeless outreach worker, Steve Gaulke, will read the names of local homeless people who have passed on during the year and offer those in the assembly an opportunity to remember them with personal anecdotes. Starbucks will provide hot coffee for those assembled.

## **Wyoming**

**Cheyenne**— Homeless Memorial day in Cheyenne -- sponsored by the Wyoming Coalition for the Homeless. December 21 at 12:00 noon in front of the state capital building -- speakers include Mayor Jack Spiker, Rev. Bill Jividan, Richard McCullough, a Cross Roads Health Care for the Homeless Clinic outreach worker. 14 homeless or recently homeless died in Cheyenne during 2006.

## **CANADA**

### **Nova Scotia**

**Halifax** --- Homeless Memorial. Join Community to Remember and Celebrate the Lives of People who have Lived and Died Homeless and in Poverty. Thursday, December 21st 2006, Saint Georges Church, 2222 Brunswick Street, Halifax. Refreshments will be served following the Service. All are welcome. For more info please contact Community Action on Homelessness: info AT cahhalifax.org or call Darcy 902-420-2186 or Claudia 902-420-6026