

Why join NCAB?

NCAB Members:

- Elect the NCAB Executive Committee
- Are Individual Members of the National Council
- Participate on NCAB and National Council working committees
- Receive the NCAB e-newsletter
- Conduct Consumer Participation Outreach Research
- Help each other with technical advice and personal support
- Work to end homelessness, and to improve health care for everyone

Joining NCAB is free and easy. Simply fill out the application below or use the online form on our website, www.nhchc.org. Membership is for two years and you can renew at no cost.

I am or have been homeless and have received services from a Health Care for the Homeless project or clinic. Please add me to the membership of the National Consumer Advisory Board.

Date: _____

Name: _____

Address where I can receive mail:

Address where I can receive e-mail: (if any)

Number where I can be reached by telephone:

NATIONAL
HEALTH CARE
for the
HOMELESS
COUNCIL



National Consumer Advisory Board

NATIONAL HEALTH CARE
FOR THE HOMELESS COUNCIL, INC.

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What is NCAB?

The National Consumer Advisory Board (NCAB) consists of homeless and formerly homeless persons from across the country and provides a voice for people experiencing homelessness.

NCAB understands and works on the health issues that are so closely connected with homelessness:

- How people become homeless because of health problems,
- How one's health worsens during periods of homelessness, and
- How health care services can be improved for homeless people.

NCAB Activities

Consumer Involvement in HCH Governance

Federal law requires that Health Care for the Homeless (HCH) projects and other Health Centers include people who use clinic services in the oversight of those clinics. "Consumers" who have used HCH services and help oversee those clinics make up the membership of NCAB. In many cases, these consumers are members of a local Consumer Advisory Board or the Board of Directors of a Health Center. NCAB pays close attention to helping Consumer Advisory Boards function effectively by providing training, publications and assistance to people in their own communities.



Ellen Dailey



Consumer Participation Outreach Research

NCAB conducts research on problems of homelessness and health in a consumer-driven, community-based approach that:

- Seeks information and opinions from people who are currently experiencing homelessness,
- Respects the people who participate in the research and protects their privacy, and
- Makes the results of the research nationally known.

National Leadership & Advocacy

NCAB provides national consumer leadership on issues of health care for homeless persons. NCAB leaders have emerged as powerful speakers and advocates for health care reform that will help to end and prevent homelessness.

NCAB members elect an Executive Committee each year during the National Health Care for the Homeless Conference & Policy Symposium. NCAB representatives sit on the National Health Care for the Homeless Council's Board of Directors and Governing Membership. NCAB members serve on numerous Standing Committees of the National Council, and participate fully in the consensus decision-making of this significant organization. NCAB exercises independent judgment in its decision-making under the legal authority.

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The Ellen Dailey Consumer Advocate Award

Each year, NCAB selects a person who has experienced homelessness and who has provided a strong voice of advocacy for homeless persons at the local, state or national level to receive the Ellen Dailey Consumer Advocate Award. A caring, powerful and effective role model for advocates from any background, Ellen Dailey was the Founding Mother of NCAB.



Ellen Dailey

NCAB News

NCAB publishes a quarterly e-newsletter that provides information on its activities and lets readers know how to get involved. The e-newsletter welcomes contributions from NCAB members and provides a way for HCH consumers to publish their own stories and poems. Free to NCAB members with an e-mail address, back issues of the newsletter are maintained on the National Council website.



Amy Grassetto speaking at the U.S. House of Representatives

National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day

For nearly two decades, providers and advocates have observed National Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on or around December 21, which is the first day of winter and the longest night of the year. NCAB is a major sponsor of National Homeless Persons Memorial Day, encouraging local groups to organize events to commemorate those who have died homeless each year.

Voter Registration

Consistent with the human rights agenda of the National Council, NCAB encourages consumers to promote the voting rights of people experiencing homelessness by organizing local voter registration drives.