

Facts About Homelessness

2.3-3.5 million Americans experience homelessness each year:

- 39% under the age of 18
- 41% are adult single men
- 49% are African American
- 40% are Veterans
- 17% are Employed



In 2007, 7,494 people used the shelter system in Columbus:

- 3,544-single adult men
- 1,234-single adult women
- 2,716-individuals in families

To work toward ending homelessness by educating the Central Ohio Community about homeless issues and advocating in a unified voice for social and economic justice for all people, especially those who are most vulnerable.

Columbus Coalition for the Homeless

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Unsheltered Life

An Education Program on Homelessness

To educate the Central Ohio community about homelessness and promote action for working toward the end of homelessness.

What is Unsheltered Life?



Unsheltered Life is a five-session curriculum on homelessness. Participants are exposed to the realities of homelessness through lecture, discussion, first hand accounts and experimental learning activities. This program will prepare participants with the tools they need to take an active role in ending homelessness.

Unsheltered Life is presented to groups in up to five sessions. Participants can take part in any of the following activities:

1. What is Homelessness?

- Develop a definition of homelessness based on personal experience, facts and participation in an activity about some of the causes of homelessness.
- Explore personal/societal stereotypes of the homeless population as barriers to ending homelessness.

2. The Realities of Homelessness

- Listen to and reflect upon the story of one or more currently/formerly homeless individuals and engage in discussion with the speaker about their experiences with homelessness.

3. Simulated Experience of Homelessness

- Participate in an activity to highlight the challenges faced by people who are homeless titled “Three Days on the Streets.”



4. Developing Homeless Sensitivity

- Reflect on the “Three Days on the Streets” activity.
- Discuss the concept of homeless sensitivity and its importance for working with people who are homeless.

5. Developing an Action Plan

- Develop a personal action plan for working toward the end of homelessness that sets achievable goals for the group or individual.

This program can be modified to fit your group’s needs. It can run anywhere from a 45-minute session to a 5-hour session. It can take place over the period of one day or be split up into multiple sessions over multiple days.

Contact us today to schedule a group presentation!

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