



HOMELESS TRUST
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

HOMELESS AWARENESS DAY



ACTIVITY TOOL KIT

FOR COMMUNITY LEADERS, FAITH-BASED GROUPS & SCHOOL ORGANIZATIONS

If not you, then who?
Help End Homelessness!



HOMELESS TRUST
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

#HomelessAwarenessDay



HOMELESS AWARENESS DAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2026

Four Steps to Spearheading Homeless Awareness Day (HAD)

1. Choose an event leader

This can be a teacher, student, parent, organization chair, or another person willing to volunteer their time to raise awareness for HAD.

2. Pick an event...or create your own! (This is the fun part!)

The Homeless Trust team can plug you into events happening around town or you can create your own event, reflecting on themes such as the importance of finding landlords willing to rent to formerly homeless individuals, volunteering at local shelters, bringing joy to people currently experiencing homelessness, feeding the homeless indoors in a safe, sanitary environment, and ending veteran homelessness in Miami.

3. Tell the Homeless Trust all about it!

We want to share what our community is doing. Help us highlight your work on November 6, 2026, by emailing HADmiami@gmail.com with information about your event. Don't forget to send us photos too! And make sure to tag us on social media.

4. Launch into action on November 6, 2026 ([Click here](#))

All day, any time! You set the parameters. (And yes, you can schedule events on other days if they are more convenient, but we love it when we all come together on the same day!)

Lived Lessons – Ideas for Homeless Awareness Day

Over 1,000 people spend tonight sleeping on hard concrete in our community, not by choice, but because they lack a safe place to call home. The fact is simple: Housing ends homelessness. Let's spark a conversation and remind our community how hard living on the streets can be.

[#EndHomelessness](#) [#HousingFirst](#) [#CommunityAction](#)

Participate in a Cardboard Brigade

Brigades are a fantastic way to engage both students and parents in our mission. Gather on the sidewalks outside the school holding provided signs or get creative and design your own!

Your presence will help educate passing families about Homeless Awareness Day and meaningful ways to get involved. To support your efforts, The Trust also provides Helpline calling cards and age-appropriate activity brochures to hand out.

Host a drive

From pillows to sheets to lightbulbs and cutlery, one in four homeless are old enough to be your grandparent! Help them get the items they need to live on their own. Start a drive to raise these items and the Homeless Trust will pick up everything you collect!

Socks on a String

People forget how little things like socks make such a big difference! Collect socks and hang them around offices, hallways, and classrooms as a visual reminder that the homeless need your help for the basics that make life livable.

If none of these ideas inspire you, **email us:** HADMiami@gmail.com.

We love brainstorming with participants to create programs that are the perfect fit for them!

Find out more at:

[@homelesstrust.org](https://www.homelesstrust.org)



I'm Ending Homelessness!

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FOR SCHOOLS:

School Announcements: Sample Scripts

1. Mark your calendars - Homeless Awareness Day is **November 6, 2026!** (SCHOOL NAME) is hosting a "Cardboard brigade" at the school. What is a cardboard brigade? You and your fellow students will gather in front of the school with posters to educate others on the issue of homelessness. What will you do this year for people experiencing homelessness? If you have ideas, contact (NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION.)
2. The countdown has begun... There are (NUMBER OF DAYS) until Homeless Awareness Day. Our school is (SUMMARY OF WHAT YOUR SCHOOL IS DOING...FOOD DRIVE, SOCK DRIVE, ETC.), and you can help. Contact (NAME) to join. There are an estimated 6,875 students with unstable housing in Miami-Dade Public Schools. They could use your help. So, step up today and help people transition from "homeless to housed."
3. (NAME OF SCHOOL) wants to help Miamians experiencing homelessness move from "homeless to housed." How? We are participating in Homeless Awareness Day on **November 6, 2026**. Our school is doing (LIST ACTIVITIES), and we need your help. Contact (NAME) for information.
4. Did you know that Lil' Kim was homeless? She was. And so were Harry Houdini, Halle Berry, Tyler Perry, Jewel, and many other famous people. Homelessness can happen to anyone. If you are a person experiencing homelessness or know a student, remember that our school has a Project UP-START Liaison (NAME OF TEACHER). Our school's Project UP-START Liaison can provide all kinds of support to you or your friend.
5. Remember that Homeless Awareness Day is **Friday, November 6, 2026**. Join us in celebrating by (LIST ACTIVITIES AND CONTACT PERSON.)

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Parent Notification (Sample English Letter)

Dear Parents,

Friday, November 6, 2026, is *Homeless Awareness Day* in Miami-Dade County, and many of our students participated in various programs related to the topic to explore ways to help end homelessness in our community.

The Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust helped us create this program, and the Trust wants parents and the community to know that the needs of the individuals facing homelessness are many. Here are just a few ways you can help:

- The County offers landlords monthly rent in perpetuity if they house someone who was formerly homeless. If you have a venue to rent, contact RentConnect at 305-349-RENT or visit <https://www.homelesstrust.org/homeless-trust/landlords/home.page>.
- If you want to feed individuals experiencing homelessness, please do so at a shelter and not on the streets. The Trust can link you with shelters that need help. Visit www.homelesstrust.com for details.
- Clothes and food items are always welcome. Email [HADmiami@gmail.com](mailto:HADMiami@gmail.com) to get started.
- High School students can receive community hours for volunteering at shelters. We can connect you, email [HADmiami@gmail.com](mailto:HADMiami@gmail.com).
- Miami-Dade County Public Schools has a program called Project UP-START that identifies and serves students experiencing unstable housing. You can donate new school supplies, non-perishable food items, or toiletries to identified Project UP-START students. Contact projectupstart@dadeschools.net if you are interested in helping.
- Businesses receive tax credits for giving homeless individuals an opportunity to work. If you have employment opportunities, email HADMiami@gmail.com.

Thank you to the many students who participated in Homeless Awareness Day events. Your involvement was an incredible outpouring of support for members of our community who need it most.

Sincerely,

I'm Ending Homelessness!

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MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

Parent Notification (Sample Spanish Letter)

Estimados padres:

El **viernes 6 de noviembre de 2026** es el Día de Concienciación sobre las Personas sin Hogar en el condado de Miami-Dade, y muchos de nuestros estudiantes participaron en diversos programas relacionados con el tema para explorar formas de ayudar a poner fin a la falta de vivienda en nuestra comunidad.

El Fideicomiso para Personas sin Hogar del Condado de Miami-Dade (Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust) nos ayudó a crear este programa, y el Fideicomiso desea que los padres y la comunidad sepan que las necesidades de las personas en situación de calle son muchas. A continuación, se presentan algunas formas en las que puede ayudar:

- El condado ofrece a los arrendadores el pago de la renta mensual de manera perpetua si alquilan a una persona que estuvo en situación de calle. Si tiene una propiedad para alquilar, comuníquese con RentConnect al 305-349-RENT o visite <https://www.homelesstrust.org/homeless-trust/landlords/home.page>.
- Si desea alimentar a personas sin hogar, hágalo en un refugio y no en las calles. El Fideicomiso puede vincularlo con refugios que necesitan ayuda. Visite www.homelesstrust.com para obtener más detalles.
- La ropa y las donaciones de alimentos siempre son bien recibidas. Envíe un correo electrónico a HADMiami@gmail.com para comenzar.
- Los estudiantes de secundaria pueden recibir horas de servicio comunitario por realizar voluntariado en los refugios. Podemos conectarlo, envíe un correo electrónico a HADMiami@gmail.com.
- Las Escuelas Públicas del Condado de Miami-Dade cuentan con un programa llamado Project UP-START que identifica y atiende a estudiantes que enfrentan inestabilidad de vivienda. Puede donar útiles escolares nuevos, alimentos no perecederos o artículos de higiene personal para los estudiantes identificados por Project UP-START. Escriba a projectupstart@dadeschools.net si está interesado en ayudar.
- Las empresas reciben créditos fiscales por brindar oportunidades de empleo a personas sin hogar. Si tiene oportunidades de empleo, envíe un correo electrónico a HADMiami@gmail.com.

Agradecemos a los numerosos estudiantes que participaron en los eventos del Día de Concienciación sobre las Personas sin Hogar. Su participación fue una increíble demostración de apoyo para los miembros de nuestra comunidad que más lo necesitan.

Atentamente,

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Parent Notification (Sample Haitian-Creole Letter)

Piblikasyon / Avètisman pou Paran yo (Modèl Let)

Chè Paran yo,

Vandredi 6 novanm 2026 se Jou Konsyantizasyon sou Moun ki Sann Abri nan Konte Miami-Dade, epi anpil nan elèv nou yo te patisipe nan divès pwogram ki gen rapò ak sijè sa a pou yo te ka eksplòre fason pou ede mete yon fen nan pwoblèm moun sanabri nan kominote nou an.

Miami-Dade County Homeless Trust te ede nou kreye pwogram sa a, epi Fideikomi an (The Trust) vle pou paran yo ak kominote a konnen ke bezwen moun k ap fè fas ak pwoblèm sanabri yo anpil anpil. Men kèk fason ou ka ede:

- Konte a ofri pwopriyete kay yo lwaye chak mwa pou tout tan si yo bay yon moun ki te sanabri yon kote pou l rete. Si ou gen yon espas pou ou lwe, kontakte RentConnect nan 305-349-RENT oswa vizite <https://www.homelesstrust.org/homeless-trust/landlords/home.page>.
- Si ou vle bay moun ki sanabri yo manje, tanpri fè sa nan yon refij (abri) epi pa nan lari a. Fideikomi an ka mete w an kontak ak refij ki bezwen èd. Visite www.homelesstrust.com pou plis detay.
- Yo toujou byenresevwa rad ak manje. Voe yon imèl nan HADMiami@gmail.com pou w ka kòmanse.
- Elèv lekòl segondè yo ka resevwa èdtan sèvis kominote lè yo fè volontarya nan refij yo. Nou ka mete w an kontak, voe yon imèl nan HADMiami@gmail.com.
- Lekòl Piblik Konte Miami-Dade yo gen yon pwogram ki rele Project UP-START ki idantifye epi sèvi elèv k ap viv nan kondisyon lojman ki pa estab. Ou ka fè don materyèl lekòl ki nèf, manje ki pa ka gate, oswa pwodui ijyèn pèsònèl pou elèv yo idantifye nan Project UP-START yo. Kontakte projectupstart@dadeschools.net si w enterese nan ede.
- Antrepriz yo resevwa mezon taks (kredi sou taks) lè yo bay moun ki sanabri yo yon opòtinite pou yo travay. Si ou gen opòtinite travay, voe yon imèl nan HADMiami@gmail.com.

Mèsi ak anpil elèv ki te patisipe nan evènman Jou Konsyantizasyon sou Moun ki San Abri yo. Enplikasyon nou te yon gwo demonstrasyon sipò pou manm nan kominote nou an ki pi bezwen l yo.

I'm Ending Homelessness

Kòdyalman,

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