



Good Faith Communities Coalition

Taking action on homelessness and affordable housing with and for the poor in the District of Columbia

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December 6, 2016

Persevere - Witness and Act - Accompany a Person in Need

Persevere...recommit to the common good

You, like everyone who reads this newsletter, have the capacity for being good and doing good. It is who we are. We are God's partner in seeking to repair the world. Gaining energy from our faith, our families and our community, we must continue to make concrete choices to share our lives, our spaces and our communities with more rather than fewer of our neighbors, especially with those we now exclude. We can't allow our neighbor to lose hope.

Make your ways known to us.
Show us the path on which we should walk.
Lead us in Your truth and teach us.
For You alone are the God who saves,
the God in whom we trust;
and the one on whom we wait.

Rabbi Harold Kushner, 2003



Witness and Act...out of deep moral conviction



"The legal system can force open doors and sometimes even knock down walls, but it cannot build bridges. That job belongs to you and me." Justice Thurgood Marshall

Charity and service in behalf of our neighbors in need are indispensable to maintaining and strengthening the safety net and the bonds of community. However, they will not solve the root problem that causes homelessness in our city. The same person who needs a bed and a meal you donate today is likely to need a bed the day after and the day after that.

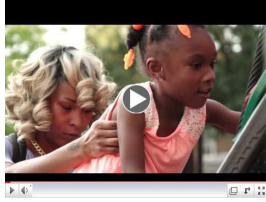
The challenge is to get at the root of the problem and to strengthen the badly frayed safety net. You can help meet this challenge in the following ways:

- educate yourself on the challenges and issues of homelessness in the city,
- advocate with Good Faith - testimony at hearings, letters, lots of letters, weekly emails, office visits to elected officials. Demand to be heard!
- think about declaring that you are willing for your taxes to go up (even just a little!) to increase the amount of affordable housing and to support a stronger safety net.

It is time to witness and take action - sign up to become an active participant in [Good Faith's](#) advocacy for our neighbors who are marginalized and vulnerable. Commit to 10 emails 1 letter and 2 office visits in the next 6 months. Good Faith will coordinate your efforts. You can make a difference!

Accompany a Person in Need...healing wherever we see the broken

"Hebrews 11:1 says it best, 'Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.' ...my personal paraphrase of that biblical text, 'Hope means believing in spite of the evidence, then watching the evidence change.' Faith enables us to act in hope, despite how things look, and that's what can help make change finally occur and change how things look." Jim Wallis, Post Cynical Christian



Listen to TANF mothers on their journey to independence and ask: is it not time to face the true cost of poverty in our city and to provide real hope for families and children trapped in circumstances they can't escape?

Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten - Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.



**SIGN UP FOR
OUR EMAILS**



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Good Faith Communities Coalition

301-325-8437

goodfaithdc@gmail.com

<http://www.goodfaithdc.org>

