



## City Waiting for the Perfect Plan to End Homelessness - Out There?

Faith communities taking action with and for persons who are homeless in the District of Columbia

### WE ARE CONNECTED

There is no such thing as an individual. Many of us operate under that assumption, but separateness is a mental concept which holds no reality. We are persons connected - not just to *some* people and things, but to *everything*. N. Gordon Cosby, Church of the Savior

February 13, 2014

"It sounds bad and it's worse than it sounds...I don't have any fresh ideas." David Bems, DHS

### Good Faith Winter Meeting

The moral obligation to seek justice - what does it mean for the faith community? How must we act out of our faith traditions to address the crisis of homelessness in our city? And do it NOW!

National City Christian Church, 5 Thomas Circle,  
February 18, 2014, 7 PM.

**Discussion and Action Plans:** Seeking new strategies and discussing Good Faith's planned initiatives to make our voice clearer (and louder) as the community struggles to find solutions to the crisis: letter to the Mayor, questionnaire to candidates in Democratic Mayoral primary, visits to elected officials... and active support of current plans that will take significant steps to address the crisis NOW:

- DC Fiscal Policy Institute (and others), [Plan to Address the Family Shelter Crisis](#) (2014).
- [The Way Home](#), a campaign to end Chronic Homelessness in DC through Permanent Supportive Housing.

**Concluding Speaker.** Rev. Dexter Nutall, Director, DC Government Office of Religious Affairs and Pastor, New Bethel Baptist Church.  
*Faith Community in the City - the Larger Picture.*

**SHELTER CENSUS.**  
No need to repeat all the numbers. They are well known. 4223 persons in shelter 2/11/14, including 1479 children.

**Candidates for Mayor - April Primary.**

Good Faith with its partners distributed a [questionnaire](#) to all 8 candidates to gather information to help voters evaluate their positions on social justice issues - safety net, chronic homelessness, families who are homeless, affordable housing, outcome measures and transparency. Good Faith takes no position on candidates for public office.

The candidates are asked to respond to each question in 100 words. The responses verbatim up to 100 words will be posted on

**Good Faith believes we are not out of tried and true approaches or "new ideas" on how to address this crisis. The perfect plan that addresses all eventualities may not be possible. Nevertheless, we can't allow the search for the perfect to drive out implementing good plans and approaches that would make a difference NOW. No action is not an option. What role does the faith community have in making action happen?**

the Good Faith website in early March.

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