



## 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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May 11, 2017

**OUR VALUES AND PRIORITIES DEMAND:** No one should ever die on the street or in shelter - particularly egregious when it happens in a city where the median income is close to \$110,000.



Join members of *The Way Home* and Good Faith on Thursday May 18th at 11 AM for Advocacy Day at the Wilson Building. Meet directly with Council Members and their staff to urge them to support life-saving investments in ending chronic homelessness. [Further information.](#)

If you can't be at the Wilson building, but want to show your support for ending chronic homelessness: [email the Council.](#)

**TRAGEDY:** On April 1 there were over 1000 single men and women living in city-run shelters in the District. In addition, more than 300 persons were unsheltered, living on the street or in public spaces. We see them daily as we move through the city. Many of these single adults have been homeless for years, often suffering from life threatening health conditions and/or mental illness.



**GOOD NEWS:** Between 2009 and 2016 chronic homelessness in the District decreased nearly 21%. Implementation of programs known to work have made this decrease possible: rent assistance with supportive services, and voucher programs to help with the rent. McPherson Square.

**CHALLENGE:** **A total of 262 units of housing assistance were added in the Mayor's proposed budget for FY2018, meeting only 20% of the need.** This proposal under-invests in proven housing interventions. For the chronically homeless, housing saves lives and makes a decent life possible. As a community we must increase our investment.



"Good intentions and conventional formulas, so often used to appease our conscience, are not enough. Let us help each other, all together, to remember that the other is not a statistic or a number. The other has a face. The 'you' is always a real presence, a person to take care of." Pope Francis, TED 2017



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