

2021 Online Conference on Community Engagement and Service-Learning
Pandemic, Pivots, and Potentials
Australian Catholic University in partnership with DePaul University

A Vincentian Question for Homelessness: What Must Be Done?

Claudia Cabrera

Special Projects Organizer, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Edrika Fulford

Grass Roots Leader, Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Karl Nass

Instructor, DePaul University



Chicago Coalition for the Homeless

Since 1980, the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless (CCH) has had a clear mission:

“We organize and advocate to prevent and end homelessness, because we believe housing is a human right in a just society.”



BRING CHICAGO HOME



Speakers Bureau Presentation Journal & Dialogue Activity

If you could have a cup of coffee or take a walk with Claudia or Edrika right now, what would be a first question or curiosity that you'd share?

Post-Speakers Bureau: Reflection

- List as many factors as you can recall that contributed to the speakers' experience of homelessness (joblessness, health, disability, addiction, unaffordable rent, etc.). When have you, a family member, or a friend – while maybe not homeless - experienced one or more of these contributing factors?
- How do you see human dignity in the leadership and work of the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless?
- How do you see or believe *human dignity* has been taken away through the stories from the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless?
- How, if at all, has your sense of dignity, humanity, or gratitude been awakened during the speakers you heard today?

Class Session Learning Outcomes

- *Articulate a sense of shared humanity with CCH speakers who experience(d) homelessness
- *Connect a personal, friend, or family situational reality with the speaker(s) who presented their experience of homelessness

Pre-Speakers Bureau Activities

- *St. Vincent de Paul's understanding of dignity in "seeing the other side of the coin" & "danger of the single story" exploration

Post-Speakers Bureau Classes & Activities

- *Power, privilege, and oppression
- *Vincentian family: direct service & systemic change
- *Homelessness: history, causes, policy, and solutions
- *What must be done: a personal, organizational, and societal response

Direct Service/Experiential Learning

Spirituality & Homelessness: A Service-Learning Externship



HERE, WE DO.

Thank you!

