



FACE THE HOMELESS

BUILDING

communities of

CHANGE



20th Annual Texas Homeless Network Conference

September 2-5, 2008

Omni Austin Downtown

Join us!



Welcome! You are invited to participate in the Texas Homeless Network's 20th Annual Conference!

Join The Texas Homeless Network September 2-5, 2008, in Austin, the live music capital of the world, as we celebrate over 20 years of building communities! The THN conference is one of the largest and most diverse events of its kind in the southern and southwestern United States. Scores of learning and networking opportunities will be offered for the conference attendee who enjoys informative and timely presentations, and for those who enjoy seeing, *first-hand*, Austin area social service agencies. Everyone is sure to come home revived and renewed after experiencing the Texas Homeless Network Conference! Register now!!

Key Note Speakers

Tom Spencer, voted Best Televised Moderator / Gardener by readers in *The Austin Chronicle* 2004 Best of Awards, is an award-winning independent producer and free lance writer. Employed by KLRU for more than 20 years, Tom has served as a manager and producer of local and statewide public affairs programs, nationally distributed documentaries on art and architecture, and worked a wide variety of special projects. Throughout his association with KLRU he has also served as a host for many of the station's local programs. Currently he is one of the producers and the host of the weekly public affairs series *Austin Now*. His work has appeared in a variety of publications including: *The Good Life*, *Domain Magazine*, *The Austin Chronicle*, and *The Austin American-Statesman*. Tom is also the Chief Executive Officer of AAIM (Austin Area Interreligious Ministry) which has made homelessness one of its key issues.



Diane Nilan's unconventional approach takes her to places not typically thought of as experiencing homelessness including: rural areas, resort communities, and affluent cities and towns. She's invited homeless children, teens, and parents to share their thoughts on video, highlighting the plight and dreams of the most invisible homeless population: young people and families. In July 2005 Nilan created HEAR US, a nonprofit organization to give voice and visibility to homeless children, youth and families. In November 2005, having sold her house, car, and most of her possessions, Nilan purchased an RV to set out on an extraordinary venture: to create a documentary featuring kids talking about their homelessness. By the end of June 2006, she logged more than 20,000 miles through 34 states, conducted over 75 interviews, and connected with a likeminded producer/partner, Northern Illinois University's media professor, Dr. Laura Vazquez, to shape these powerful encounters into a series of short documentaries, "My Own Four Walls." Diane's work was featured in the *Christian Science Monitor*, and in 2007 she received the award for "Best Media Presentation" from the National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth.



Conference Week at a Glance!

Conference Highlights!

Tuesday, September 2, 2008

8:30-5:00 Pre-Conference Institutes

Wednesday, September 3, 2008

8:30-10:00 Regional Dialogue with Coalition Leaders (Invitation Only)
10:30-11:30 Regional Dialogue Continues with Regional and Texas Interagency Councils (Invitation Only)
11:45-1:00 Kickoff Lunch with Speaker & Awards
1:30-3:00 Breakout Workshop Sessions #1
1:30-3:00 THN HMIS Steering Committee Meeting
3:30-5:00 Breakout Workshop Sessions #2
3:30-5:00 Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless Quarterly Meeting
5:00-6:30 Reception & Ice Cream Social

Thursday, September 4, 2008

7:30-8:30 Breakfast, Fashion Show & Awards
9:00-11:30 Talk Show with Tom Spencer
11:45-1:00 Lunch with Keynote Speaker & Awards
1:30-3:00 Breakout Workshop Sessions #3
1:30-3:00 Offsite Workshops (Caritas, Lifeworks, ARCH-FrontSteps)
3:30-5:00 Breakout Workshop Sessions #4
3:30-5:00 THN Board Meeting
3:30-5:00 Offsite Workshops (Caritas, Lifeworks, ARCH-FrontSteps)

Friday, September 5, 2008

7:30-9:30 Breakfast Speaker, Awards, General Membership Meeting
10:00-11:30 Breakout Workshop Sessions #5
11:30-12:30 Box lunch
12:30-1:30 Press Conference

Texas Homeless Network Annual Awards

Join us to recognize the outstanding professionals in our field! *Don't forget to put in your award nominations, due August 1.* Awards will be presented at the general sessions throughout the conference.

Face the Homeless Film Festival!

For the first time ever, THN is offering *Face the Homeless Film Festival* as a preconference institute! Join us for a full day at the famous Alamo Drafthouse for movies, discussion, and entertaining speakers that will all explore the plight of homelessness through the lense of Hollywood. The cost is \$75, including lunch, snacks, and films, and is one of the 8 preconference institutes on September 2, 2008. **Register now, limited seating!**

2008 Silent Auction - In collaboration with the Austin/Travis County Ending Community Homeless (ECHO) Coalition, THN is pleased to present this year's Silent Auction. Profits from silent auction sales go directly to fund future conference registrations for individuals from small nonprofits and for homeless or formerly homeless individuals. Please join us for the Auction and browse the many wonderful gift items available for purchase. Purchases can be made by cash, check, or credit card.

Ice Cream Social - Hosted by THN with ice cream provided by the Lifeworks' Ben & Jerry's Store. Join us Wednesday evening for the tasty and exciting THN Ice Cream Social!

Offsite Workshops at ARCH, Caritas and LifeWorks

Three offsite workshops will be offered on Thursday, September 4, 2008, from 1:15 pm to 5:00 pm. Instead of regular workshops, these unique events will allow conference participants the opportunity to visit facilities and programs that serve the Austin/Travis County homeless population. Registration for Thursday's offsite workshops is limited and available on a first-come, first-serve basis at the registration desk. Transportation for these site visits will be available outside the hotel lobby on Thursday afternoon.

Exhibit and Vendor Hall - Join us as an exhibitor, vendor, or participant at our networking exhibit hall. This year we will feature several local and statewide organizations and businesses. Don't miss this opportunity to meet and greet, as well as showcase your organization. Space still available - see Exhibitor application.

Other Information:

Continuing Education Units

Social Work, Licensed Professional Counselor, Licensed Marriage and Family Therapist, Licensed Chemical Dependency Counselor, and Continuing Professional Education CEUs are available for all conference workshops and site visits. The cost is \$35.

Do you need a Scholarship?

Funded through the silent auction, the Texas Homeless Network has established a scholarship fund to assist those individuals that might be experiencing financial difficulties in attending the conference. See thn.org/conference.htm for more information.

The 2008 conference will be held at the
Omni Austin Hotel Downtown
 700 San Jacinto at 8th Street
 Austin, Texas 78701

For conference reservations call
 1-800-THE-OMNI

GROUP NAME:

Texas Homeless Network Conference
\$85 Single/\$115.00 Double

When making reservations, please refer to the Group Name: Texas Homeless Network

Rooms and Reservations

This rate is valid for 3 days prior and 3 days after the conference dates (August 30 - September 8, 2008).

Each additional Room Occupant will be \$20.00 per person. *The cut-off date for reservations is Tuesday, August 12, 2008 at 5:00 pm.*

Transportation

For ABIA On-Site Airport Parking information and updates, call (512) 530-3300.

Taxis, limousines, and shuttles

Yellow Cab: (512) 452-9999
 Austin Cab: (512) 478-2222
 Lone Star Cab: (512) 836-4900
 SuperShuttle: Austin direct number: (512) 258-3826;
 National number: 1-800-BLUE VAN (258-3826)
 AJE Transportation & Charter (512) 423-8390

Rental Car Companies

ACE Car Rental of Austin: (512) 530-3900
 Advantage Rent A Car: (512) 530-3330
 Alamo / National Rent-A-Car: (512) 530-3500
 Avis Car Rental: (512) 530-3400
 Budget Rent A Car: (512) 530-3350
 Dollar Car Rental: (512) 530-7368
 Enterprise Rent-A-Car: (512) 530-8100
 Hertz Rent-A-Car: (512) 530-3600
 Thrifty Car Rental: (512) 530-6811

Texas Homeless Network
 1713 Fortview Rd.
 Austin, TX 78704

Phone: (512) 482-8270
 Fax: (512) 478-9077

Do you have questions about registration?
 Please contact Lori at (512) 687-5104.



Workshops

More to come!
Stay tuned to www.thn.org/conference.htm

1. My Bag; My Home.
2. Standing in the Gap: Creating Opportunities to Engage in Understanding an Activity to Address Poverty & Homelessness.
3. Rise of a Phoenix in South Texas: Building Successful Collaborations to Prevent the Loss of Services in Your Community.
4. Use Your Voice: Advocacy Strategies and Policy Updates.
5. Engaging Rural Communities.
6. Making a Difference: Rainbow Days' Nationally Replicated Curriculum-Based Support Group & Family Connection Programs.
7. Together is Better: Collaborative Approaches for Successful Partnerships.
8. Outreach and Engagement with Individuals Who are Homeless and Mentally Ill.
9. PhotoVoice: Learning to See from an Insider's Perspective.
10. Universal Living Wage.
11. Relationships within the Homeless Population.
12. PTSD and Homelessness.
13. Leadership Transitions: Opportunities for Growth.
14. The Wild and Woolly Adventure of Starting a Recuperative Care Program.
15. Coping Skills Training: Teaching Mindfulness, Emotion Regulation, Distress Tolerance and Interpersonal Effectiveness to Shelter Residents.
16. Dealing Successfully with the Media.
17. Criminalization of Homeless: Hate Crimes and Violence Against Homeless People.
18. Homeless Vote 2008.
19. Grantsmanship: Research and Resources.
20. Working with the Homeless.
21. Networking Tips – Working A Room for Advocacy and Fundraising.
22. The Presence of Emotional Intelligence.
23. Social Security Outreach, Access and Recovery (SOAR) Overview.
24. TIP 42 Training on Co-Occurring Disorders: Service Delivery and Systems Change, Part 1 and Part 2.
25. How to Survive a HUD Monitoring Review.
26. Accessing Affordable Housing Programs.
27. Ask the Accountant.
28. Local Homeless Count Planning and "Voices of the Homeless" Report.