

2026 EVENT GUIDE

ONE NIGHT WITHOUT A HOME

ABOUT ONWAH

Join us for the **5th Annual One Night Without a Home**, a 12-hour awareness sleep-out held as part of The Conference's 5th Annual Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week.

Beginning **Saturday, November 21** at 7:00 p.m. and concluding Sunday, **November 22** at 7:00 a.m., One Night Without a Home invites individuals, families, businesses, churches, schools, and community groups to spend a night outside while learning more about the realities faced by individuals experiencing homelessness in our community.

While one night outdoors cannot replicate the experience of homelessness, this event creates an opportunity to learn, reflect, start conversations, and advocate for our neighbors experiencing housing instability and homelessness.

Participants can organize their own sleep-out, join together as a team, or connect with others in the community who are participating. Throughout the experience, we encourage participants to incorporate education, discussion, reflection, and awareness-building activities.

In recognition of our **5th Annual Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week**, we have set a community fundraising goal of **\$5,000**. All proceeds from One Night Without a Home will directly benefit The Conference's Street Outreach Team, helping provide critical support, resources, and connections to individuals experiencing homelessness throughout our community.

REGISTER HERE:

SCAN HERE ↙



PLAN YOUR EVENT:

SCAN HERE ↙



ONE NIGHT WITHOUT A HOME

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHERE DOES ONE NIGHT WITHOUT A HOME TAKE PLACE?

We encourage participants to choose a safe, appropriate location that is accessible and visible within their community. This could include your backyard, a church lawn or parking lot, a school property, or another approved community space. If you plan to hold your sleep-out in a public space, be sure to obtain permission and any required permits in advance.

DO I HAVE TO PARTICIPATE FOR THE ENTIRE NIGHT?

We encourage participants to take part for the full 7:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m. experience whenever possible. Participating throughout the night provides a deeper opportunity to reflect on the realities faced by individuals experiencing homelessness.

HOW CAN I MAKE SURE MY SLEEP-OUT IS SAFE?

Safety should be a priority when planning your sleep-out. Choose a secure and appropriate location and make sure all necessary permissions are obtained in advance. If you are using a public, school, church, or community property, work with the appropriate administrators or local officials regarding location, security, supervision, and other logistics. Public spaces may also require permits through your local municipality or parks and recreation department.

CAN I PARTICIPATE INDIVIDUALLY, OR DO I NEED TO BE PART OF A GROUP OR ORGANIZATION?

You can participate either individually or as part of a group. Families, friends, schools, churches, businesses, community organizations, and other groups are all encouraged to participate.

DO I NEED TO REGISTER TO PARTICIPATE?

Yes. We ask all participants to register in advance, either as an individual or as part of a team. Registration helps us know who is participating and allows us to provide important event information, resources, and updates.

AM I REQUIRED TO FUNDRAISE TO PARTICIPATE?

No. Fundraising is not required to participate in One Night Without a Home. However, we encourage participants to take part in our peer-to-peer fundraising campaign. Funds raised through the event help support programs and services for our neighbors experiencing homelessness.

CAN I JOIN AN EXISTING SLEEP-OUT INSTEAD OF ORGANIZING MY OWN?

Yes. We encourage participants to connect with local churches, community organizations, schools, businesses, or other groups that may already be hosting a sleep-out. If an existing event is open to additional participants, you are welcome to request to join their group.

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FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL ONE NIGHT WITHOUT A HOME EXPERIENCE LOOK LIKE?

Every sleep-out can look a little different depending on the size and location of your group. We encourage participants to incorporate education, conversation, reflection, and community-building throughout the evening.

Sample Agenda

- 6:00 p.m. – Participants arrive and get settled
- 7:00 p.m. – Welcome, refreshments, and/or meal
- 8:00 p.m. – Guest speakers or educational presentation
- 9:00 p.m. – Small-group discussion and reflection
- 11:00 p.m. – Late-night activities, conversation, or refreshments
- Overnight – Sleep-out experience
- 7:00 a.m. – Breakfast, closing remarks, and wrap-up

Groups may customize their schedule to best fit their participants and location.

HOW CAN I LET NEIGHBORS AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS KNOW THAT MY SLEEP-OUT IS PART OF HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK?

We encourage participants to clearly identify their sleep-out as an official Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week activity. Display event signage at your location, share your participation on social media, and consider notifying nearby neighbors or businesses ahead of time. This helps raise awareness about the purpose of the event while preventing confusion or concern about the overnight gathering.

HOW CAN I CONTINUE SUPPORTING INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AFTER THE EVENT?

One Night Without a Home is only one way to get involved. You can continue making an impact by volunteering, donating, attending community events, learning about issues related to homelessness and housing insecurity, and advocating for solutions. Participants can also contact local and state elected officials to encourage policies and resources that support individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

HOW CAN I DONATE NEEDED ITEMS TO THE CONFERENCE AND/OR VOLUNTEER?

Donate: The Conference accepts a variety of needed items throughout the year to support our programs and the individuals we serve. Visit the Donate page on our website to view current needs, donation guidelines, and opportunities to support specific donation initiatives.

Volunteer: The Conference offers a variety of volunteer opportunities throughout the year. Individuals, families, businesses, churches, schools, and community groups are encouraged to get involved. Contact **Amarelis Rodriguez** at arodriguez@lehighchurches.org to learn more.

