

EarthLinks at the Roots: What Can You Do about Homelessness?

Denver's Road Home has some exciting courses of action to end homelessness, but what can someone do on a more personal level? No fear, EarthLinks is here to give you some simple yet useful ideas! Obviously these are not exhaustive lists, but hopefully they can serve as a good starting point for your future community service endeavors!



Easy steps

- **Volunteer:** At EarthLinks, at DRH, a shelter, or a non-profit that works with people who are homeless. Some non-profits could use help for one day events if you only want to get your feet wet and others would gladly take you on long-term if you so choose.
- **Donate/Attend Fundraisers:** Support organizations working to end homelessness. Even a small amount helps and donations don't just have to be money.
- **Fundraise/Hold Drives:** We don't all have access to vast amounts of wealth, but that doesn't have to stop us from collecting much needed funds or supplies
- **Educate yourself:** The best way to advocate is to know the facts
- **Educate others and get others involved:** This could be as easy as talking to friends about it over lunch or organizing a community service day at your job or school to help the cause!
- **Purchase the Denver Voice monthly newspaper:** [The Denver Voice](#) gives the individuals who sell it a chance to be respectably employed and hopefully emerge from homelessness
- **Be kind** and non-judgmental towards individuals experiencing homelessness
- **Contact your legislators** to continue with Denver's Road Home's plan to end homelessness
- **Understand the needs of your community** around you and help where you can
- **Buy products made by non-profits:** Many organizations whose mission is to help homeless or low income individuals sell crafts to help fund their programs
- **SUPPORT EARTHLINKS!!!!** Donate, volunteer, purchase our products, or whatever you can do!

What most needs to be addressed?

- **Food:** Availability, nutrition, and equal disbursement
- **Shelters:** Availability and restrictions

- **Housing:** Availability of temporary and affordable housing, and a faster application process
- **Job search:** Finding jobs and working through obstacles to employment
- **Children/Youth:** Programs for youth to succeed in school and stay off the streets
- **Healthcare:** Availability despite insurance status
- **Mental Health:** Access to treatment and addressing obstacles to a housed, employed, fulfilling life
- **Resources:** Ensuring that individuals are connected to and educated on the services they need
- **Daytime:** Warm, safe, and productive daytime hangouts when shelters are closed
- **Supplies:** Availability of feminine products, razors, backpacks, etc.
- **Volunteers and funding:** Ensure non-profit organizations can continue running
- **Clothing:** Especially weather and interview appropriate clothing availability- in good condition, in all sizes and styles
- **Support Networks:** Building communities among persons who are homeless and creating support systems