2-16-1989

Students Gain First-Hand Experience About Plight of Homeless

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/5202

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlangen1@udayton.edu.
The University of Dayton

News Release

STUDENTS GAIN FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE ABOUT PLEIGHT OF HOMELESS

DAYTON, Ohio, February 16, 1989—University of Dayton students are being encouraged to leave their residence halls or houses and sleep outside one night.

They'll also stand in a soup line, perhaps work at a shelter for the homeless and join in a letter-writing campaign to urge Congress to allocate more funds to help solve the plight of the homeless.

It's all part of Campus Ministry's "Weekend in Solidarity with the Homeless" (W.I.S.H.) March 2-4.

"The purpose of the program is to draw the attention of the students to the growing problem of homelessness in the U.S. and to provide some opportunities for students to get involved in projects for the poor and the homeless in the Dayton area," explained Sister Nancy Bramlage, S.C., coordinator of the Office of Justice, Peace and Community Outreach.

On Thursday, March 2, information about the plight of the homeless will be distributed in the Kennedy Union Plaza on campus at noon. Organizations in the Dayton area that are working to provide solutions to the problem will be present. The film "Ironweed," the story of two homeless people starring Meryl Streep and Jack Nicholson, will be shown in Chudd Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. and 10:30 p.m. There is a $1 admission. Students will then be encouraged to spend a night and a day experiencing what it is like to be "homeless." Participants will be asked not to go to their rooms or houses for a 24-hour period and to sleep out on the Kennedy Union Plaza. There will be a prayer vigil and speakers during the night.

- more -
On Friday, March 3, breakfast will consist of coffee and rolls. The "homeless" students will stand in a soup line at noon in the plaza where handouts will be distributed about the problem of homelessness and how to get involved in a letter-writing campaign to support the Affordable Housing Act in Congress. Dean Lovelace, a director in the Strategies for Responsible Development—Neighborhood Development Office, will speak at a rally on the lawn area between Kennedy Union and the tennis courts. All will be invited to march to the Federal Building downtown where there will be a demonstration in support of the affordable housing legislation.

On Saturday, March 4, students will be invited to participate in various work projects for the poor and homeless in the Dayton area. Some will work with Dayton Power & Light's V.I.P. program or Habitat for Humanity's house building project, while others will volunteer at St. Vincent's Hotel, the House of Bread or Booth House (Salvation Army shelter).

For more information, contact Sister Nancy Bramlage, S.C., at 229-2576.

-30-