

**#CSocD58SideEvent #EndHomelessness**

**#MultidimensionalPoverty**

# FINDING OUR WAY HOME:

**A call for integrated solutions built on the lived experience of homelessness and poverty**

**Friday, February 14th, 2020 – 3pm to 4.15pm**

**Conference Room E, United Nations Building, NYC**

By looking at the issue in the United States and in high income countries, this side-event will explore how homelessness contributes to deep poverty, discrimination and social exclusion. Ending homelessness calls for integrated solutions where housing rights are inseparable from access to decent work and quality healthcare for all. A comprehensive approach to eradicating poverty and ending homelessness that is conceived with those experiencing it first-hand is needed to understand the complexity of the dynamics at play.

## **SPEAKERS**

Ms. Stacy White

**Activist, ATD Fourth World NYC**

Mr. George Nashak

**Executive Director, Care for the Homeless**

Ms. Maryann Broxton

**Activist, Multidimensional Aspects of Poverty  
research coordinator, ATD Fourth World USA**

Representative

**French Ministry for Solidarity and Health**

## **MODERATOR**

Dr. Deborah Padgett

**Professor at NYU Silver School  
of Social Work**

**PLEASE RSVP TO:**

**[nycteam@4thworldmovement.org](mailto:nycteam@4thworldmovement.org)**

**by February 14th, 2020, noon.**

## **Finding our way home:**

### **A call for integrated solutions built on the lived experience of homelessness and poverty**

In the Global North as in the Global South, homelessness is a cause and consequence of multiple social and economic factors at play in our societies. When one's right to adequate housing is violated, the impact is complex and connects with various other aspects of life. The lack of a safe and secure place to live leads to sleep deprivation and degrading mental and physical condition. Not having a physical address prevents many to access their rights and benefits and as such, creates a vicious cycle of deprivation, leading to social exclusion, shame and stigma.

Ending homelessness therefore calls for integrated solutions where affordable housing rights are inseparable from access to decent work and to quality healthcare for all. Fostering community building and creating spaces for participation of people with the direct experience of homelessness and poverty are essential for breaking the silos that usually prevent a real understanding of the lived experiences of homelessness. A comprehensive approach to eradicating poverty and ending homelessness that is conceived and designed with those experiencing it first-hand is needed to understand the complexity of the dynamics of poverty at play.

By giving the floor to local activists with the experience of homelessness and poverty, policymakers and researchers, our side-event will propose to develop a wider understanding of how integrated solutions - designed with those experiencing the issue first-hand - are crucial to end homelessness and poverty.

By looking at the issue in the United States and in high income countries, this side-event will explore how homelessness contributes to deep poverty, discrimination and social exclusion. Ending homelessness calls for integrated solutions where housing rights are inseparable from access to decent work and quality healthcare for all. A comprehensive approach to eradicating poverty and ending homelessness that is conceived with those experiencing it first-hand is needed to understand the complexity of the dynamics at play.

#### **The questions this side-event will address:**

- What is the lived experience of homelessness in New York City? How are the service providers working to deliver relevant and high quality services to homeless individuals and families?
- What are the interconnected dimensions of poverty that needs to be addressed to end homelessness, discrimination and social exclusion?
- How can the voices and experiences of people experiencing homelessness be integrated in the design, implementation and evaluation of policies aiming to end homelessness in the US and in high income countries?