



Care  
For the  
Homeless



urban  
pathways

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**Homeless Persons' Memorial Day Honors New Yorkers Lost While Homeless**

*Care For the Homeless and Urban Pathways host virtual memorial to commemorate New Yorkers who passed away while unstably housed in 2021.*

**New York, N.Y.** – Care For the Homeless (CFH) and Urban Pathways will host Homeless Persons' Memorial Day on Thursday, December 16th. The memorial is free and open to the public.

The ceremony begins at 5:00 p.m. and will be held virtually via Zoom. Those interested can [click here](#) to register.

During the memorial, service providers and friends will read eulogies in honor of those who have passed. These moments will be intertwined with the reading of the names of those New York City lost in 2021 as a result of the negative effects of homelessness.

For many of the nearly 360 names mentioned, it will be the only commemoration they receive.

Homeless Persons' Memorial Day is a grassroots effort involving every member of the community, including those with lived experience of homelessness, service providers, advocates, and policymakers. For all involved it is a solemn event. However, it is also a call to action.

We know the solutions to homelessness, and it is the hope of both organizations that this memorial not only provides those in attendance with the opportunity to reflect on the trauma that unstable housing inflicts on people, but also to recommit to advocating for policies that increase access to housing and quality healthcare for homeless New Yorkers.

“Homelessness is a public health crisis, a crisis that we have the tools to end,” said CFH President & CEO, George Nashak. “We hold this memorial to hold ourselves accountable. None of the people we recognize died because of a personal failure. We believe they died because the system designed to help them failed. We recognize these individuals and acknowledge the necessity to provide a measure of dignity and respect to our brothers and sisters who may not have received the benefit of such compassion when they were alive.”

Urban Pathways CEO, Frederick Shack commented, “This memorial recognizes the value and dignity of every New Yorker lost, regardless of their housing status. We must use this opportunity to not only honor them with remembrance, but also with action. We can end the crisis of homelessness by providing access to permanent affordable and supportive housing for all in need. We must work together to end homelessness so that the names of those passing without a home will be fewer next year.”

Care For the Homeless and Urban Pathways have hosted Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day annually for the past several years. This year it is expected that over 180 cities will host a Homeless Persons’ Memorial Day observance.

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**About Care For the Homeless:**

*Care For the Homeless (CFH) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and is committed to providing individuals experiencing homelessness with high quality medical, mental, and behavioral health care services. In addition, CFH actively advocates for policies to prevent and end homelessness. CFH also currently operates Susan’s Place and the 52nd Street Women’s Center, transitional shelters for mentally ill and medically frail women as well as multiple health care delivery sites across all five New York City boroughs. For more information, visit [www.careforthehomeless.org](http://www.careforthehomeless.org).*

**About Urban Pathways:**

*Urban Pathways engages New Yorkers experiencing and at-risk of homelessness, with a focus on providing both transitional and permanent services to those experiencing chronic street homelessness and individuals living with mental illness. Through a full continuum of services, Urban Pathways helps more than 3,900 individuals each year achieve stability by providing housing and services to meet their needs, including wellness, employment, and consumer advocacy programming. For more information, please visit [www.urbanpathways.org](http://www.urbanpathways.org).*