

Bringing Awareness, Compassion, & Action to End Homelessness Rally



SPONSORED BY: CHESTER COUNTY PEACE MOVEMENT

Saturday, May 4, 2019

12:00 – 1:00 p.m.

**Historic Chester County Court House Steps
(downtown West Chester / High Street)**

Join CCPM for another *Theft of War* rally bringing awareness, compassion, and action to homelessness in Chester County. **Please bring an item** (clothing, toiletry, or snacks) to be donated to West Chester's **Safe Harbor** homeless shelter for men and women.

"Poverty is not an accident. Like slavery and apartheid it is man-made and can be removed by the actions of human beings."

Nelson Mandela

"...homelessness mirrors everything that is broken in our society. It reflects our biases, our meanness, our lack of compassion and our views of each other as fellow human beings." Jeff Olivet, Threads: Changing the Conversation

"The rich nations must use their vast resources of wealth to develop the underdeveloped, school the unschooled, and feed the unfed. Ultimately a great nation is a compassionate nation. No individual or nation can be great if it does not have a concern for 'the least of these.'"

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. - Nobel Peace Prize address, 1964

Contact/Donate: Chester County Peace Movement
PO Box 801
West Chester PA 19381
www.ccpeace.org

FACTS

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development / 2018:

- 1.42 million people experienced homelessness
- 43% of those were African American
- 21,338 included families with children
- 49.2% experiencing homelessness had a disability

Homeless Veterans / 2018:

- 23,000 veterans were living in shelters
- Approximately 3,600 female veterans were living on the streets
- 45% suffer from mental illness including PTSD
- 70% suffer from alcohol/substance abuse

Chester County Homelessness / 2016:

- 1,232 were living in a shelter
- 994 experienced homelessness for the first time
- 451 were female
- 240 were children

***We must stop blaming others for conditions when
we remain silent.***

SPENDING

Cost of War since 2001: \$5.9 TRILLION!

Department of Defense Budget 2019: \$686 Billion

Cost of Border Wall: \$5 Billion

What \$5 Billion could buy instead:

- Provide Medicaid for 1.4 million people
- More than double federal spending on energy efficiency & renewal energy
- Give the EPA a 60% raise
- Increase federal aid to public K-12 schools by 30%
- Double heating assistance for low-income households
- Resettle 11 times more refugees than we did in 2018
- Double funding for substance use and mental health

***“Every gun that is made, every warship launched, every rocket fired signifies in the final sense,
a theft from those who hunger and are not fed, those who are cold and are not clothed.
This world in arms is not spending money alone. It is spending the sweat of its laborers, the genius
of its scientists, the hopes of its children. This is not a way of life.”***

– Dwight D. Eisenhower

Contact/Donate: Chester County Peace Movement

PO Box 801

West Chester PA 19381

www.ccpeace.org