



BROTHERS BROOKS
VISION 2 MISSION LLC

Volume 11 Issue 1

Newsletter Date
January 2026



Special points of interest:

- **Snowstorm's impact on homeless people is 'life-threatening and brutal,' outreach workers say**
- **'Code Blue' nights: How homeless outreach works when it's freezing**
- **Word on the Street**

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Spot Light—Toof—The Other Ones Foundation 2
- Homeless services CEO steps down from government oversight board amid scandal 2
- The Millipede Effect 3
- Word on the Street— 3
- 'Viral Mass. TikTok launches crowdfunding platform to give homeless a 'fresh start' 3
- How You Can Help 4



WE CARE NEWS!!!

An Informative Newsletter regarding the Homeless, Stranded and Down & Out in America

SNOWSTORM'S IMPACT ON HOMELESS PEOPLE IS 'LIFE-THREATENING AND BRUTAL,' OUTREACH WORKERS SAY

The coming snowstorm will be an inconvenience for most people. For those with no homes, it's life-threatening, say homeless outreach workers.

These officials are sounding the alarm amid predictions for up to 18 inches of snow and single-digit temperature as a major winter storm moves through central Pa. Saturday night through Monday.

"From the perspective of those living unsheltered, this storm is frightening and dangerous," said Beth Kempf, executive director of Community CARES, a shelter and services agency in Carlisle.

"Harsh weather is not just inconvenient. When you don't have a home, it's life-threatening and brutal," added Chris Kapp, coordinated entry systems regional manager in Cumberland County.

There are so many ways the unhoused can be put at peril.

People living in their cars can be tempted to idle their engines for warmth. But the accumulating snow can block the tailpipe

exhaust fumes, to deadly effect, officials said.

Mounds of snow can cut off homeless people from their sources of food, like soup kitchens and pantries.

Bitter cold gives rise to hypothermia, frostbite, increased hunger and other life-threatening risks, they added.

When one is living outside in such conditions, there's "no truly safe place to rest," Kempf said.

As a result, many homeless shelters and outreach agencies are gearing up to do everything possible to protect the vulnerable.

For example, Community CARES was planning to operate its winter shelter around the clock on Sunday and Monday to "ensure the safety" of homeless people, Kempf said.

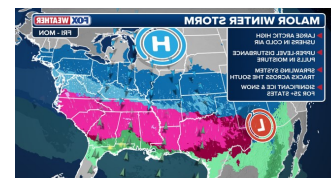
CARES also planned to increase shelter space, making room for an additional 40 people, men or women, who might not otherwise seek refuge, she added.

"In moments like this, access to shelter, warmth and food can mean the difference between life and death," Kempf said.

Tips for Helping those Who are Homeless During Winter Times

1. Direct them to the proper shelters
2. Offer food s that can be fulfilling
3. Offer Water
4. Offer socks
5. Offer Gloves
6. Offer any type thermal clothing

Be kind, not every person that is homeless is one who trying to be dishonest. There are homeless elderly and vets along with runaways that truly need a helping hand.



'CODE BLUE' NIGHTS: HOW HOMELESS OUTREACH WORKS WHEN IT'S FREEZING

When I moved from New York to Miami for my new job in information technology, my future seemed bright. Four months later, The sun has gone down and the temperature's below freezing. There's no sign of warmth outside, other than

the steam pluming up from underground. You're speed-walking to get inside, but you notice someone around the corner who's unsheltered.

You want to help, but what actually happens if you call 311, the city's service hotline?

And what else can you do? More than 4,500 New Yorkers live on the streets, according to the city's latest estimate. And whenever the temperature, with windchill, dips below 32 degrees between 4 p.m. and 8 a.m., the emergency management team at the Department of

poverty, the research offers

Toof—The Other Ones Foundation

Mailing Address:
The Other Ones Foundation
Inc
PO Box 17714
Austin, TX 78760-7714
512-568-7557
frontdesk@toofound.org



SPOT LIGHT— TOOF—THE OTHER ONES FOUNDATION

Driven by a mission to invite our unhoused neighbors into an engaged community, TOOF has been offering humanitarian aid, case management, and extremely low-barrier employment opportunities to people experiencing homelessness since 2018. The Other Ones Foundation was born out of a desire to find new and innovative approaches to serving Austin's homeless community. TOOF's origins involve a deep dive of outreach and interviewing in encampments, asking unhoused people what THEY felt was missing from the homelessness re-

sponse system. In our initial encampment outreach, our most common finding was that people felt directionless and disempowered to connect with their community during the day, while waiting to get into shelters or access other services. This gave way to our Workforce First Program, which offers unhoused people an extremely low barrier opportunity to get a day's work. The dignity and empowerment of working in a group setting and giving back to your community, complemented by income and case management, serves as a major stepping stone to getting

our homeless friends on the path to a more fulfilling life.

OUR MISSION

The Other Ones Foundation creates sustainable pathways to stable housing and independence by providing reliable shelter, developing workforce skills and opportunities, and offering a supportive environment to our neighbors experiencing homelessness in Austin, TX

OUR VISION

A supportive community where everyone can reach their full potential with dignity and a greater sense of con-

Homeless services CEO steps down from government oversight board amid scandal

The chief executive of one of Los Angeles' most prominent homeless service nonprofits has resigned from a government oversight board amid a federal investigation into one of the nonprofit's real estate dealings' Angeles Mayor Karen Bass originally appointed Weingart Center CEO Kevin Murray to the board of the Los Angeles County Affordable Housing Solutions Agency, which is tasked with spending a portion of Measure A sales tax revenue on affordable housing and

homeless prevention. Last week, a Bass representative emailed LACAHS staff that Murray submitted his resignation to the mayor's office on Nov. 29 and said the office would be in touch soon regarding a replacement. Murray and Bass' office did not immediately respond to requests for comment. Murray is no longer listed on the LACAHS board's webpage. Several weeks ago, the Weingart Center placed Murray and his director of real estate development, Ben Rosen, on leave while the nonprofit conducted an internal

into its housing projects. In a statement at the time, Weingart did not specify which housing projects were under review, but the move came after The Times raised questions about two projects, including one in Cheviot Hills that is now the subject of a federal investigation. w into its housing projects. In October, federal prosecutors accused a real estate executive of using fake documentation to buy a nursing home in Cheviot Hills for \$11.2 million, then quickly selling it to Weingart for \$27.3 million.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1 'CODE BLUE' NIGHTS: HOW HOMELESS OUTREACH WORKS WHEN IT'S FREEZING

Social Services issues a "Code Blue" alert.

That's a signal for the Department of Homeless Services to follow specific protocols during their street outreach efforts, carried out by more than 400 workers around the clock daily.

On typical days, outreach workers — mostly contracted through non-profit organizations — are generally focused on canvassing the streets, building trust with unhoused

individuals and responding to 311 calls about homeless assistance.

During Code Blue nights, however, outreach workers are focused on reaching individuals on priority lists, which are submitted by service providers to DHS before the beginning of the cold months. DHS could not immediately provide the total number of people included on these lists. But outreach providers who spoke to THE

CITY say the lists generally focus on unsheltered individuals who are older, who live with medical, mental health or substance use conditions, or who appear to be chronically underdressed. Outreach workers are supposed to contact those individuals every four hours starting at 8 p.m. until the Code Blue event ends the next morning, or once every two hours if there's rain or snow.



THE MILLIPEDE EFFECT

Several years in the making, "The Millipede Effect" has been released by Authorhouse Publishing this past January. The book lays out BBV2M LLC founder and President Rodney Brooks quest to understand the homeless, stranded and down & out. From movies to our own perceptions, it all shapes how we approach this situation. Brooks looks at Government, Civic Organizations and religion (the Church) as all play a major part in finding ways to help the plight of the homeless. These different groups

display on a daily basis their commitment to service, financial giving and voluntary work. Like the millipede with its many body parts/ compartments (government, civic, religion) and its many legs (the people driving these various groups); there are many misconceptions about those that are homeless. The book looks at those various challenges as well hear from several of those that are homeless, stranded and down & out. Brooks introduces us to his spirit filled purpose and calling in helping the homeless, stranded and down & out

as well he walks us through what the various religions say about each individual of faith and their role in being a part of the solution. The book can be ordered through [Authorhouse Publishing](http://bookstore.authorhouse.com/Products/SKU-001092211/The--Millipede-Effect.aspx) at <http://bookstore.authorhouse.com/Products/SKU-001092211/The--Millipede-Effect.aspx> or [Amazon](https://www.amazon.com/) at <https://www.amazon.com/>

Word on The Street— Judge Blocks HUD's Effort to Overhaul Federal Funding for Homeless Services

The Los Angeles City Council After the Trump administration tried to change the rollout of the federal government's largest pool of funds for housing homeless people, court action has forced a return to the original funding plan—for now.

On Nov. 13, 2025, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) released a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for its Continuum of Care (CoC) Program, which funds shelters, permanent supportive housing, and other responses to homelessness. It also

said it would not renew two-year awards that were approved by Congress in 2024.

But on Dec. 23, 2025, a judge ruled that HUD would have to return to the original, Biden-era NOFO—pending a final order—and on Jan. 9, 2026, HUD reinstated the original NOFO. For now, legal action has halted a funding plan that would have forced shelters to discriminate against transgender people, encouraged criminalization, and redirected funding from perma-

nent supportive housing to temporary shelter systems. The National Low Income Housing Coalition estimated that the changes would have put 170,000 people at risk of homelessness. HUD's 2025 Notice of Funding Opportunity—since rescinded and shut down by a judge—was in the amount of \$3.9 billion, higher than the \$3.6 billion in funding available last year. But this number was deceptive, according to Deborah Thrope, deputy director of the National Housing Law Project: HUD housing.

'VIRAL MASS. TIKTOKER LAUNCHES CROWDFUNDING PLATFORM TO GIVE HOMELESS A 'FRESH START'

A viral TikTok from Massachusetts, known nationally for his feel-good deeds, recently launched his own fundraising platform to further his quest in helping homeless individuals start anew.

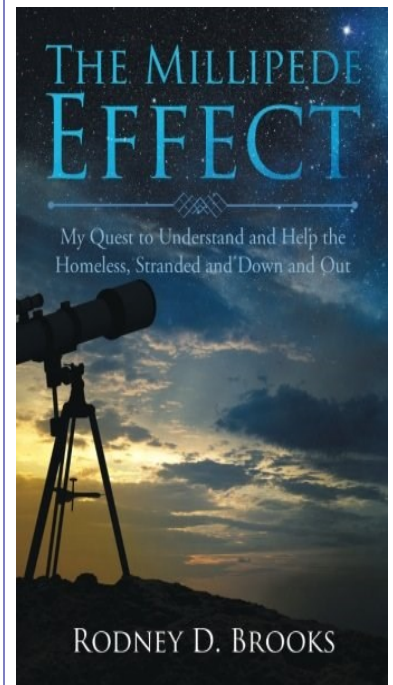
Victor Oliveira's Fresh Start Card is a crowdfunding website where donors can directly support people in need across the U.S. Current campaigns on the site include a single father rebuilding his life after several tragedies and a homeless man who was ready for help the

moment Oliveira asked. "I see it being a mega platform like GoFundMe," Oliveira said.

Fresh Start Card is the next phase of the 36-year-old Saugus native's philanthropic efforts under the name "victorthegoodboss." Oliveira has gained widespread notoriety among his 4 million Tok-tok followers by drumming up support for the homeless and people struggling with addiction. He films their interactions and stories, then turns to the public for monetary donations.

Oliveira says he's harnessed the good of social media to raise money for his nonprofit, The Good Project, which mainly provides recovery scholarships.

Now he's adding Fresh Start Card into the mix, a specialized fundraising platform he's been working on for more than a year. The Good Project started after Oliveira was released from Massachusetts state prison after serving nearly two years for selling drugs.



HOMELESS
Give them a hand
not the boot



**BROTHERS BROOKS
VISION 2 MISSION LLC**

BBV2M LLC
Marion, MS 39342

601-701-8873
bbv2mlc@gmail.com
bbv2m-
brothersbrooksvision2missionllc.com
Facebook - BBV2MLLC
Twitter - @bbv2mlc



*A Heritage of Excellence
in Helping Others!!!*

Brothers Brooks
Vision 2 Mission LLC

"WE CARE PROGRAM"

Helping the Homeless, Stranded and Down & Out



WE ARE.....

At BBV2M LLC our vision is to help all people excel in all aspects of life. The challenges facing the homeless, stranded and down & out is such a daunting task. There are great organizations in both the public and private sector with many wonderful people who are on the frontline in ensuring that these individual are taken care of and have a voice. Our goal is to due our part by assistance , education and support. Although our organization was founded in 2015 our heritage stretches back over seven decades of assisting and helping others. The patriarchs of the family instilled the values and beliefs of helping others through the biblical teaching of God's word. Our goal is to be the bridge that helps those in need that are homeless, stranded and down & out get to the proper resources to assist them in their endeavors. This has been spiritually rewarding for us as we truly look to fulfill our purpose of helping others.

You Can Help.



HOW YOU CAN HELP

James says it best "If a brother or sister is poorly clothed or lacks daily food, and one of you say to them , "Go in peace, keep warm and eat well," but does not give them what the body needs, what good is it? (James 2:15-16) Those of us who have been given the ability to practice our faith through our works should do so. The opportunity to help our brothers and sisters in need are tremendous. If you are already doing so then I salute you and ask as well as pray that you continue to do so. If you are not or have wondered how then let me give you a couple of suggestions. Your preference in helping is based how you feel in your heart assist.

There are many national and local charitable agencies that work with the homeless. Each of these organizations have a platform and plan on who and how they help those that are homeless. Most organization do take financial donations but they also look for volunteers and advocates. Your local Church or other places of worship also has various types of ministries that are deigned to help the poor and down trodden. Your local or national Wounded Warrior chapter that is designed to help our veterans who are homeless. Whatever your preference in helping; it all starts with you. Let's each do our part in 2022 and be exceptional stewards of Love!



Rodney D. Brooks
**Author and President &
Founder of Brothers Brooks
Vision 2 Mission LLC.**
(BBV2M LLC)