



Special points of interest:

- **Where Does The New Administration Stand**
- **New Book Release “The Millipede Effect”**
- **Word on the Street**

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WE CARE NEWS!!!

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

WHERE DOES THE NEW ADMINISTRATION STAND?

We are still within the first 100 days of the new Administration and some worry about some of the preliminary budget cuts the Administration has put forward. Below is an excerpt from the Associated Press on the issue:

Advocates of homeless vets fear Trump budget could hurt them

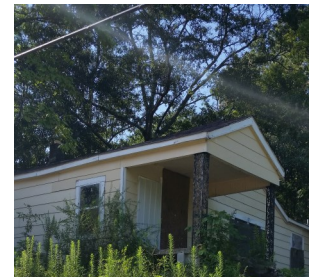
The push to end homelessness among veterans would suffer without the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, which is up for elimination under President Donald Trump's proposed budget, non-profits and local officials say.

The council coordinates the efforts of 19 federal agencies that play a role in preventing and ending homelessness among all Americans. But the strides made with veterans — for whom homelessness has been effectively ended in three states and dozens of communities amid a concerted effort — make the proposed cuts particularly upsetting to advocates.

Homeless advocates in any given state consult the council, whose annual budget is about \$3.5 million, on which strategies are working elsewhere as they seek to house veterans. They worry momentum will slow.



The Plight of the Homeless in America



WHAT IS HOMELESSNESS?

Homelessness is an individual without permanent housing who may live on the streets; stay in a shelter, mission or single room occupancy facilities. Who are the homeless, stranded and down & out:

- **Adults**

- **Children**
- **Whites**
- **Blacks**
- **Latinos**
- **Veterans**
- **Disabled**
- **Domestic Violence Victims**

- **Mental Illness**
- **Addiction Disorders.**





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SPOT LIGHT—MULTI-COUNTY COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a better place to live. We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other. President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Poverty Bill also known as "The Economic Opportunity Act" . The Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, created the Community Action Program from Volunteers in

Service to America (VISTA) and Job Corps. This Act, which became the centerpiece of the President's "War On Poverty" initiative was signed into law August 20, 1964. Community Action in Mississippi was born out of the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964. Since 1967 this organization has been a staple in the Mississippi area. Ronald Collier is the Executive Director for Multi-County stated that: "It is important that we teach in-

dividuals that opportunities for success are available through education, job training, stable employment, and hard work."



**Ronald Collier
Executive Director**

WHO AND WHAT IS HUD? US HOUSING DEPARTMENT OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT

Taken from the HUD Website at <https://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD>

HUD serves over 1 million people through emergency, transitional, and permanent housing programs each year. The total number of peoples who experience homelessness could be twice as high. There are four federally defined categories under which individuals and families might qualify as homeless

1. Literally homeless
2. Imminent risk of homelessness
3. Homeless under other Federal statutes; and
4. Fleeing /attempting to flee domestic violence

HUD's office of Special Needs Assistance Programs (SNAPS) supports the nationwide commitment to ending homelessness by providing

funding opportunities to non-profit organizations and State and local governments to quickly re-house homeless individuals and families. Through these opportunities, SNAPS advocates self-sufficiency and promotes the effective utilization of mainstream resources available to individuals and families experiencing homelessness.. Taken from the HUD website. at

BREAKING THE CHAINS FOR A NEW BEGINNING

Misconceptions About Those Who Are Homeless

There are so many misconceptions about those who are homeless. We hear them all the time. They steal, they will hurt you, they are rapist, they are psychotic, they are con-artist ,or they are alcoholics or drug addicts just to name a few. I am pretty sure as you drive your vehicle you see them on the side of the

road and you say where did they get the pen to write that nice sign that they are holding up. Or you say every time I come through here I see the same person and he or she is not going to fool me this time. However the majority of those who are homeless do have a story and you will find out they are no different that the rest of society. For some to break the chains of this vicious cycle become very

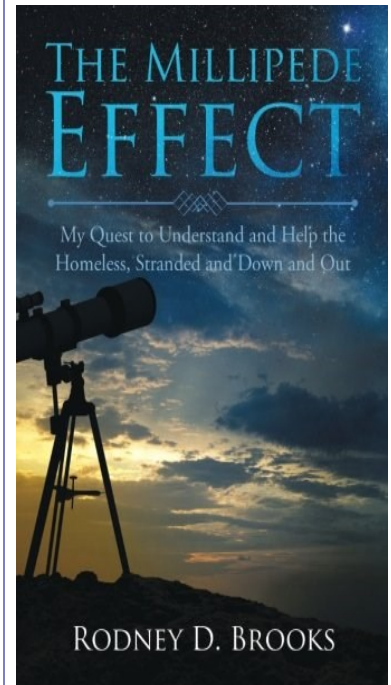
tough when certain perceptions and actions continue to keep them locked up into a vicious cycle. Those who are homeless are no different than me or you. Some have run into unfortunate situation such as loss of job, loss of health care, effected by natural disaster or domestic violence. Let's do our part in helping break the chains for a new beginning.

NEW BOOK RELEASE: 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/>



HOMELESS
Give them a hand
not the boot

WORD ON THE STREET—FANNIE MAE JOHNSON



In our last issue we brought you a story in our Spotlight section of a food shelter with a unique name and spirit that has been permeating the Meridian, MS area for decades. The place is named L.O.V.E.S Kitchen, which stands for Lauderdale Outreach and Volunteer Effort and its dynamic and charismatic director is Ms. Fannie Mae Johnson. Ms. Johnson

not just a job for her but a commitment to help those who need help. Ms. Johnson has announced her intentions to run for City Council in the city of Meridian. She will definitely be one Politician that will look out for the interest of the homeless, stranded and down & out. Ms. Johnson and L.O.V.E.s Kitchen was recently featured with Chef Rushion McDonald on the

Steve Harvey Show.



Fannie Mae Johnson

LEGAL NEWS—Harder for Homeless to Enter N.Y.C. Shelters, Report Finds

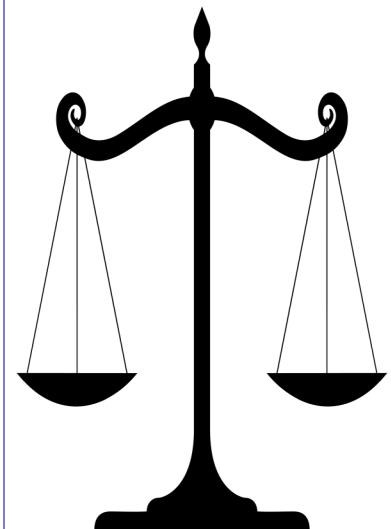
Excerpt from Article written by Nikita Stewart of the New York Times 3-21-17

More homeless families are being denied permanent shelter in New York City, and many are being forced to reapply multiple times before the city finds them eligible to enter the system — two trends that burden already fragile families, according to a new report by the Coalition for the Homeless. According to the re-

port, the city could achieve a reduction of about 25 percent in all of the city’s shelter systems by 2020 if the city and state adopted policies to open more affordable housing and rental subsidies for homeless people. “We don’t want the expectations to be that we can’t reduce homelessness in a meaning-

ful way,” said Giselle Routhier, the policy director at the Coalition.

Frank Sobrino, a spokesman for Gov. Andrew Cuomo, disputed some of the report’s findings as well, and noted that the state has committed itself heavily to affordable housing.



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

[We are on the web at bbv2m-brothersbrooksvision2missionllc.com]



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 patri-archs 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.



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 2017 and be exceptional stewards of Love!



Rodney D. Brooks
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Founder of Brothers Brooks
Vision 2 Mission LLC.**
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