



## Coalition for the Homeless Membership Agency Information

The Coalition for the Homeless is a nonprofit with a mission to advocate for people who are experiencing homelessness and for the prevention and elimination of homelessness in Louisville, KY. We are also a membership organization for homeless services and housing justice organizations. While these agencies are focusing on the day-to-day needs of clients, the Coalition is working to **educate, advocate, and coordinate** so that we can make lasting changes for people living in poverty or homelessness.

In order to be a member of the Coalition for the Homeless, an agency must be a 501(c) nonprofit, church, or volunteer organization (or have a fiscal sponsor); pay their annual dues; and adhere to the Coalition's values. Members and their staff must prioritize the wellbeing, dignity, and privacy of individuals experiencing homelessness; they cannot require religious participation to receive services; and shelters must have an up-to-date city license. (The Coalition is eager to include Black-led and other POC-led organizations, as well as grassroots ones; if you do not meet the above requirements but are still interested in joining, please reach out to Erica at [ejohns@louhomeless.org](mailto:ejohns@louhomeless.org).)

By becoming a member of the Coalition for the Homeless, agencies receive benefits that strengthen both individual missions and community efforts to prevent and end homelessness:

1. **Advocacy:** The Coalition engages in yearlong advocacy to promote local, state, and national changes in policy that will benefit those who have lost or are at risk of losing housing and to promote housing justice. Most recently, we advocated for a Right to Counsel ordinance for the poorest Louisville families facing eviction, millions of dollars in rental assistance citywide, and increased funding for affordable housing in the city. We ask our members for input regarding the most important advocacy issues and coordinate our asks accordingly.
2. **Community Information:** The Coalition sends regular emails to partner agencies informing them of events, webinars, progress, and news. We also publish *Street Tips*, a community resource guide for both those seeking services and agencies providing the services.
3. **Collaboration:** The Coalition hosts meetings six times a year to bring together our members' agency directors. This provides an opportunity for support, resource sharing, and collaboration on priority issues through both advocacy work and direct service.
4. **Data Collection & Analysis:** The Coalition collects, organizes, and analyzes data to inform our work together, which is also used to secure federal funds for the entire community. We make this data available for our partner agencies to secure other governmental and private funds.
5. **Education & Promotion:** The Coalition reaches tens of thousands of people a year through media engagement; presentations to schools, funders, and faith-based groups; meetings with legislators; social media; and more. Through these engagements, we bring awareness to the efforts of members, both through specifically bringing attention to member agencies, and through raising awareness more broadly.
6. **Training Sessions:** The Coalition provides regular training sessions to frontline staff at our member agencies at no cost, plus additional technical assistance and trainings as necessary.



7. **Operation White Flag:** The Coalition secures funds from the Louisville Metro Government and other funders to support Operation White Flag, which ensures everyone a safe place indoors during extreme weather. Participating shelters receive monetary support for the project while the Coalition completes the grant application and subsequent administrative reporting requirements.
8. **TARC Discount:** The Coalition provides access to discounted bus passes and tickets to member agencies for use by people experiencing homelessness. The discount is that for every ticket you purchase, you get one free; they must be ordered monthly in advance through our Office Manager, per the TARC program rules.
9. **Outreach Collaboration:** The Coalition works with local providers to host quarterly meetings to support the work of agencies providing street outreach to the homeless, known as Good News Events. The Coalition also collects and distributes backpacks and other items for those living outdoors, leads bi-weekly meetings with all outreach teams, and distributes information about homeless camp concerns to outreach workers.
10. **Fundraising and Messaging Support:** The Coalition is happy to share the resources, expertise, and time of our staff members to assist our members when needed with fundraising advice, grants assistance, messaging support, and advocacy work. Member agencies can reach out to Coalition staff members on an as-needed basis to schedule.

Membership is renewable each year, billed in January, and membership rates are effective for one full calendar year. Rates are based on each organization's operating budget for homeless services, and the first membership year is free. *(Please note that the Coalition is eager to include Black-led and other POC-led organizations, including grassroots ones, as member agencies, as well as agencies that are entirely volunteer-run. If the membership fee will be a problem for your organization but you are still interested in joining, please reach out to us at [ejohns@louhomeless.org](mailto:ejohns@louhomeless.org).)*

2021 Operating Budget for Homeless Services	Membership Rates
Under \$100,000	\$150
\$100,000 to \$249,000	\$300
\$250,000 to \$499,000	\$500
\$500,000 to \$1,000,000	\$1,500
Over \$1,000,000	\$2,500

To become a member of the Coalition, please complete this [Membership Form](#) [here](#) and [send payment online](#) [here](#) or via mail to Coalition for the Homeless, Attn: Membership, 1300 S. Fourth St #250, Louisville, KY 40208. Email [ejohns@louhomeless.org](mailto:ejohns@louhomeless.org) with any questions. Thank you!