

A close-up photograph of a flower, likely a chrysanthemum, with vibrant red and orange petals. The petals are layered and curled, creating a dense, textured appearance. The lighting is warm, highlighting the natural colors of the flower.

2012



Annotated Bibliography & Webliography on Homelessness

Head Start Knowledge and Information
Management Services (HSKIMS)

1/31/2012

Children's Books - Fiction

Ackerman, Karen. *The Leaves in October.* New York, NY: Dell/Yearling, 1991.

Livvy and her family become homeless after her father loses his job and her mother leaves them. Ages 4-6

Bunting, Eve. *December.* San Anselmo, CA: Sandpiper, Press, 2000.

On Christmas Eve, a homeless boy and his mother share their small cardboard-box home with an elderly woman. On Christmas morning, the stranger has mysteriously disappeared, but good fortune follows. Ages 5 and up

Bunting, Eve. *Fly Away Home.* New York, NY: Houghton-Mifflin. 1991.

A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father, moving from terminal to terminal trying not to be noticed, is given hope when a trapped bird finally finds its freedom. Ages 5 and up

Cole, Brock. *Good Enough to Eat.* New York, NY: Farrar Straus Giroux, 2007.

An Ogre comes to town demanding a bride. The mayor decides to sacrifice a homeless, orphaned girl with no name that the townspeople regard as a pest, but she finds a way to outwit them all. Ages 4-8

DiCamillo, Kate. *Great Joy.* Cambridge, MA: Candlewick Press, 2010.

Just before Christmas, when Frances sees a sad-eyed organ grinder and his monkey performing near her apartment, she cannot stop thinking about them, wondering where they go at night, and wishing she could do something to help. Ages 3-7

DiSalvo-Ryan, DyAnne. *Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen*. New York, NY: Mulberry Books, 1997.

A young boy visits an urban soup kitchen with his uncle, who works there every day. The boy learns about the difficult lives of the people who come to the kitchen for meals and observes the sensitive, friendly attitude of the kitchen workers toward them. A Reading Rainbow selection. Ages 3 and up.

Duncan, Alice Faye, and Phyllis Dooley. *Christmas Soup*. Grand Rapids, MI: Zonderkidz, c2005.

The Beene family is so poor that they have nothing but watery soup for their Christmas dinner. Nevertheless, they share their food with a homeless woman and child and all are transformed by the generous act. Ages 4 and up

Grimes, Nikki. *Rich*. New York, NY: Penguin Group, 2009.

Though her best friend, Free, is excited about a local poetry contest, Dyamonde has little interest in writing a poem. She is curious, though, about Damaris, a new classmate. Dyamonde befriends her and encourages her to enter the contest. Damaris's poem reveals a secret that she's been hiding: She is living in a homeless shelter. This book looks sensitively at the issues of poverty and homelessness from a child's point of view. Ages 7 and up

Gunning, Monica. *A Shelter in Our Car*. San Francisco, CA: Children's Book Press, 2004.

A little girl and her mother live in an old car, scavenging for food, washing in the park restroom. Ages 5-9

McGovern, Ann. *The Lady in the Box*. Madison, CT: Turtle Books, 1997.

A boy and his sister bring food and warm clothing to a homeless woman who lives in a packing crate over a heating grate on the city street. The story illustrates the vast world of homelessness and shows that even small efforts can make a difference. Ages 5-9

Ryan, Munoz Pam. *Esperanza Rising*. New York, NY: Scholastic, Inc, 2000.

Thirteen-year-old Esperanza thought she'd always live with her family on their ranch in Mexico--she'd always have a big house, servants, beautiful clothes. But a shocking tragedy forces Esperanza and Mama to flee to California during the Great Depression. They settle in a camp for Mexican farm workers. Esperanza isn't ready for the financial struggles, hard work, or lack of acceptance she now faces. When their new life is threatened, Esperanza must find a way to rise above her difficult circumstances. Ages 11 and up

Sommer, Carl. *The Richest Poor Kid*. Houston, TX: Advance Publishing. Inc, 2007.

Though Randy is often reminded that things don't bring happiness, he desperately wishes he could be rich so he could buy everything new. To Randy's great delight, his wish comes true. Everything he touches turns into gold, even his beloved dog. As he holds his lifeless gold dog, he realizes he's the most miserable kid in the world. Remembering he has one more wish, he uses it to return things as they were before. His wish comes true, and he becomes the richest poor kid. Virtues: Appreciation / Cheerfulness / Trust

Children's Books - Nonfiction

Ayer, Eleanor H. *Homeless Children*. Farmington Hills, MI: Lucent Books, 1996.

Young people make up some 25 percent of the homeless population in America. This book details their struggles, from finding a safe place to stay to getting health care to going to school. Ages 10 and up.

Lynette, Rachel. *What to Do When Your Family Loses Its Home*. New York: Powerkids Press, 2010.

Kid-centered text and full-page photographs help children understand what kinds of events (divorce, illness, job loss, natural disaster) can cause families to become homeless and what happens next. Ages 7-11

Professional Resources

Hopper, Kim. *Reckoning With Homelessness (The Anthropology of Contemporary Issues)*. Ithaca, NY: Cornell University Press, 2003.

The author examines the plight of the American homeless as he attempts to stimulate new ways of thinking about homelessness in terms of social policy, advocacy, and anthropology.

Kozol, Jonathan. *Rachel and Her Children: Homeless Families in America*. New York, NY: Broadway, 2006.

Kozol presents detailed descriptions of the lives of a few homeless families in New York City and examines the successes and failures of the public welfare system which purports to help them. The toll of homelessness on children in terms of ill health, lack of education, and lost opportunity is heartbreaking.

Murphy, Joseph, and Kerri J. Tobin. *Homelessness Comes to School*. Thousand Oaks, CA: Corwin Press, 2011.

Homeless youth face challenges such as social isolation, health problems, and victimization. Those who work with at-risk youth will find this a valuable resource in helping these students to gain access to school and to experience success there.

Nunez, Ralph. *A Shelter Is Not a Home... Or Is It?* New York: White Tiger Press, 2004.

This study traces the evolution of the shelter system in New York City over some twenty years. As the city faces a record number of homeless families, the shortfalls of the current system are detailed and feasible reforms are proposed.

Wright, James. *Address Unknown: The Homeless in America*. Edison, NJ: Aldine Transaction, 2009.

The large-scale social and economic forces that have priced an increasingly large segment of the urban poor completely out of the housing market are examined.

Websites

Early Childhood Learning and Knowledge Center (ECLKC)

Interactive Homelessness Lessons

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family/Family%20and%20Community%20Partnerships/Crisis%20Support/Homelessness/homelessness.html>

The Interactive Homelessness Lessons were designed to strengthen the knowledge and skills of all staff who work with families experiencing homelessness. The lessons include useful strategies, compelling parent stories, experiences and lessons learned shared by Head Start and Early Head Start programs as well as LEA Homeless Liaisons, sample documents and much more.

America's Invisible Children

<http://eclkc.ohs.acf.hhs.gov/hslc/tta-system/family/Family%20and%20Community%20Partnerships/Crisis%20Support/Homelessness/AmerisIvisible.htm>

It is a staggering figure, but there are over 1.3 million homeless children in the United States alone. Teachers, family services staff and others who work with families and children will find *America's Invisible Children* both informative and alarming. Join Joan Lunden as she looks at the dire state of homeless children and their struggles to get a basic education.

Homelessness Resource Center

<http://homeless.samhsa.gov/>

There is a strong commitment to resolving homelessness in the United States, which has brought about a wealth of research and information about homeless populations, service providers, and other homelessness related issues. The Homelessness Resource Center (HRC) has collected and created factsheets of current statistics. With new research being conducted every year, the HRC is always seeking updated facts and statistics. Visit this site to discover the wealth resources that are available.

Horizons for Homeless Children

<http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org/>

Horizons for Homeless Children help children learn how to play, to share, to read, and to enjoy exploring their worlds. They help parents learn how to be nurturing and involved in the growth and development of their children, and help them learn and grow through job training, GED and college courses. Horizons for Homeless Children also help to stabilize families so that they can weather any crisis, and thus help to break the cycle of homelessness that too often occurs.

National Alliance to End Homelessness

<http://www.endhomelessness.org/>

The National Alliance to End Homelessness is a nonprofit, non-partisan, organization committed to preventing and ending homelessness in the United States. By improving policy, building capacity, and educating opinion leaders, the Alliance has become a leading voice on this issue.

National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth

<http://www.naehcy.org/>

The National Association for the Education of Homeless Children and Youth (NAEHCY) is the voice and social conscience for the education of children and youth experiencing homelessness. NAEHCY accomplishes this through advocacy, partnerships, and education.

National Center for Homeless Education

<http://center.serve.org/nche/>

The National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) provides research, resources, and information enabling communities to address the educational needs of children experiencing homelessness.

Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the Center serves as a clearinghouse of information for people seeking to remove or overcome educational barriers and to improve educational opportunities and outcomes for children and youth experiencing homelessness. The Center also supports educators and service providers through producing training and awareness materials and providing training at regional and national conferences and events.

The National Center on Family Homelessness

<http://www.familyhomelessness.org/>

Creating healthy organizations takes time and knowledge. The National Center has devoted an entire section of our website to Organizational Development. Visit the [Resources and Publications](#) page to view archived webcasts on developing a board of directors, creating a culture of supervision, evaluating programs, and the basics of employment regulation and compliance practices. This page also offers written resources on management skills, how to motivate employees, and avoiding burnout.

United States Department of Health and Human Services – Homelessness

<http://www.hhs.gov/homeless/>

The delivery of treatment and services to persons experiencing homelessness is included in the activities of the Department. The coordination of these services, both within the Department, as well as with our Federal partners who provide housing and complementary service programs, is a critical component of achieving the goal of preventing and ending homelessness. Visit this site to find out about grant opportunities and other resources that are available.

United States Interagency Council on Homelessness

<http://www.usich.gov/>

USICH's mission is to "coordinate the Federal response to homelessness and to create a national partnership at every level of government and with the private sector to reduce and end homelessness in the nation while maximizing the effectiveness of the Federal Government in contributing to the end of homelessness." Find out more about *Opening Doors*, a federal strategic plan to end homelessness.