

**What's at stake:**

- Reauthorization of M-V Homeless Education
- HUD's definition of "homeless"
- Federal approach to homelessness
- Local approach to homelessness
- Poverty policies

**Other resources:**

- National Center on Family Homelessness' "Campaign to End Child Homelessness"
- Homeless Resource Center
- NPACH
- HEAR US website, Understanding Homelessness lists several links to resources for information/activities

**Possible local activities:**

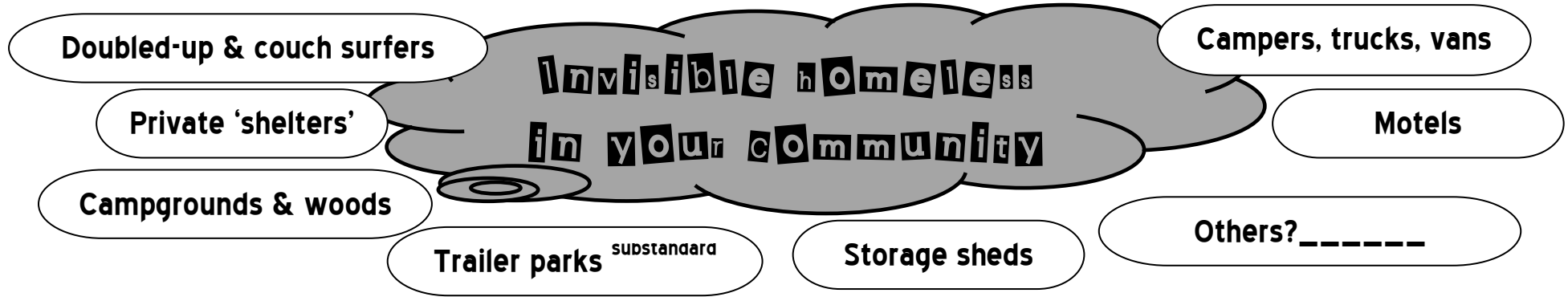
- Alternative to 'bum in a box' events
- Involve/team up w/ local college groups
- 'Tours' of non-shelter housing alternatives
- Film fest, children's book read-a-thon
- Needed item drive
- Foster relationship with local media, legislators

**HEAR US PLANS FOR INCREASED AWARENESS:**

- Learning Curve Express
- HEAR US website **COMPASSION EPIDEMIC**
- "On the Edge" (in production)
- Advo-videos (YouTube), Facebook
- Newsletter and media contact

**JOIN US! SPREAD THE WORD!**

In 4 years of cross-country backroads travel, talking to homeless families, youth, M-V liaisons, shelter and human service staff, monitoring national media, HEAR US has confirmed the issue of **invisible homelessness** often perpetuates the problem....



- LACK OF AWARENESS (locally):**
- Schools reluctance/ignorance = M-V noncompliance
  - Less resources available to F/Y
  - Local housing priorities overlook needs of invisible F/Y
  - Other...

- LACK OF AWARENESS (national):**
- Congress/White House minimizes issue
  - HUD fails to address housing needs
  - Inadequate, non-holistic approach
  - Increased number of families/teens become homeless

- BENEFITS OF INCREASED AWARENESS:**
- Kids get into school, access to tools for success
  - Congress/WH increase resources to ease/alleviate homelessness for families/teens
  - Housing/services needs of families, teens considered

- HEAR US TOOLS FOR INCREASED AWARENESS:**
- My Own Four Walls
  - Jonathon's HEART
  - It's About the Children books
  - Posters, etc.
  - REACH video, brochures, report
  - Presentations
  - Learning Curve Express
  - HEAR US website
  - "On the Edge" (in production)
  - Crossing the Line
  - Advo-videos (YouTube)