


STEP INTO THEIR SHOES: A CHALLENGE FOR CHANGE

Participant Toolkit

Presented by the *Homeless Children's Education Fund (HCEF)*




 #StepIntoTheirShoes | #HCEFChallenge

WHAT'S THE GOAL?

To raise awareness about the challenges faced by students experiencing homelessness—and inspire others to take action—by completing a small, empathy-building challenge and sharing your experience.

STEP 1: CHOOSE YOUR CHALLENGE


Pick one that reflects, in a small way, what many homeless students experience; for **one week**:

-  **Sleep on the floor or a couch**
-  **Take public transit or walk** anywhere you would normally drive
-  **Share a room** with someone you normally wouldn't

STEP 2: RECORD YOUR REFLECTION

After completing your challenge (or part of it), record a **60–90 second video** answering these questions:

1. What challenge did you choose and why?
2. What was the hardest part?
3. What did it make you realize about the experiences of students facing housing insecurity?
4. How can we better support youth experiencing homelessness?

 *Optional: Tag 3 people to take the challenge next!*

You can share a video at the end of your week, or share a series of vlog entries throughout the entire experience!

STEP 3: SHARE YOUR VIDEO DURING WEEK OF CAMPAIGN LAUNCH

We'll reach out in early October asking everyone to post your video(s) on your favorite social media platform(s):

- Use the hashtags: **#StepIntoTheirShoes** and **#HCEFChallenge**
- Tag HCEF:
 - Instagram: **@homelessfund412**
 - LinkedIn/Facebook: **Homeless Children's Education Fund**
- Include a short caption about your challenge
- Encourage friends and followers to join in!

TIPS FOR RECORDING

- Use natural light and speak clearly
- Hold your phone vertically
- Keep it authentic—speak from the heart
- No edits needed—we'll take care of the polish if we reshare it!

NEED HELP OR HAVE QUESTIONS?

Contact Brian at bknight@homelessfund.org. We're happy to support you in any step of the challenge.

Thank you for stepping into their shoes.