

Hunger & Homelessness Texts

Fly Away Home

Eve Bunting (A) Ronald Himler (I)
Sandpiper (1993)

Depicts the tale of a boy and his father living in the airport. Follows the boy and his father as they try to remain unnoticed in the unusual environment.

The Lady in the Box

Ann McGovern (A) Marni Backer (I)
Turtle Books (1999)

Tells the story of two children who take an interest in a woman named Dorris who is living in a box outside of the Circle Deli. The two children get their mother involved when the Deli tries to have the woman moved away from the storefront.

Lily and the Paper Man

Rebecca Upjohn (A) Renee Benoit (I)
Second Story Press (2007)

Shows the evolution of a young girl's feelings (from fear to empathy) regarding a nearby homeless man.



Ways You Can Help

This brochure was inspired by the children and families at the Committee on Temporary Shelter (COTS) in Burlington Vermont.

For more information on COTS and to see more ways you can help please visit www.cotsonline.org



For questions regarding our Speakers Bureau or service opportunities, contact:

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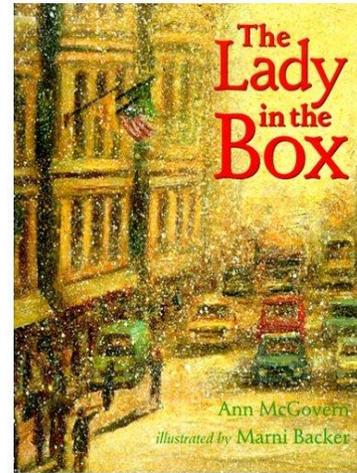
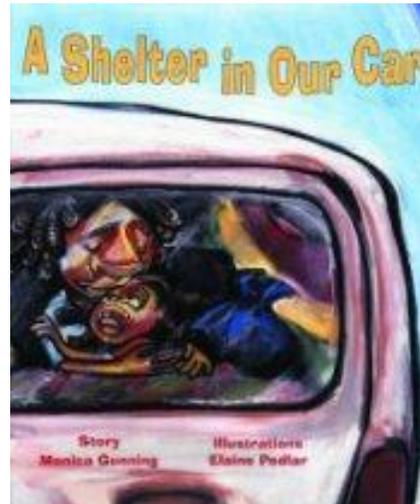
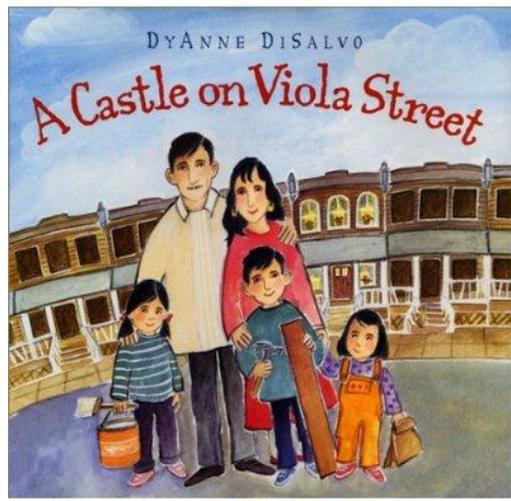
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Artwork from amazon.com; Microsoft Publisher.

Hunger & Homelessness Texts for Kids



COMMITTEE ON
TEMPORARY SHELTER



Hunger & Homelessness Texts

A Castle on Viola Street
DyAnne DiSalvo.
HarperCollins (2001)

Andy and his family live in a worn out apartment building until they learn of an organization (similar to Habitat for Humanity) that fixes up houses for those in need. The family volunteers their time to help other families and eventually earn a house of their own.

A Shelter in Our Car
Monica Gunning (A) Elaine Pedlar (I)
Children's Book Press (2004)

Tells the story of a Jamaican immigrant who is working to save up money for an apartment for herself and her daughter. In the meantime, the two are forced to live in their car. By the end, the mother secures a job and the two move into a motel room.

Uncle Willie and the Soup Kitchen
DyAnne DiSalvo
Harper Collins (1997)

Willie's nephew accompanies him on an after-school excursion to a local community kitchen. Gives a real-life portrayal of what it is like to work in a soup kitchen.

Talking to Kids About Hunger & Homelessness

Talking to kids about hunger and homelessness can be difficult, but not impossible! We hope that by providing this list of children's books that addressing the topic will be just a little bit easier.

Nationally, families are the fastest-growing segment of the homeless population, and according to the National Coalition of the Homeless, this is especially true in rural areas like Vermont.

It is not unusual for a COTS staff member to be speaking at a local school and have a child identify as having experienced homelessness at some point in his or her young life.

In fact, during October of 2014, **140 school-aged children** from Chittenden and Grand Isle counties began their day in a shelter, overflow motel, or doubled-up in an overcrowded house with friends or family.

It is our hope at COTS that learning about homelessness will help children to think about these issues in a thoughtful and compassionate way, to break down stereotypes, demystify what it means to be homeless, and help us *all* think about ways that we can be a part of new and innovative solutions.

