THE WORLD'S LITTLE SLEEP OUT

HOST-YOUR-OWN Sleep Out Event

UNDER 18's
Foreword from Dr Alice Thompson
Co-Founder of Social Bite
Programme Director of Wee Sleep Out

Thank you for taking the time to read this. I have the pleasure of inviting the young people in your community to take part in a global movement to tackle the worldwide issue of homelessness and displacement. We would love for your community to join our World’s Big Sleep Out campaign by empowering your young people to organise their very own little sleep out event, and help us to support 1,000,000 homeless and displaced people, both locally and across the rest of the world.

By creating a Little Sleep Out event in your local community, with young people at the heart of the planning and delivery, you will be empowering them to not only use their creativity and entrepreneurship to produce their own fundraising event, you will also be helping them to engage in this global campaign; the world’s largest display of solidarity with those who need it most.

For one night, let’s come together in locations across the globe to show our determination to build a world where no one is ever left without a home. I look forward to joining with you all on this campaign!

Dr Alice Thompson

What?

We are on a mission to help 1,000,000 homeless and displaced people throughout the world.

The World’s Little Sleep Out is calling on teachers, youth leaders, parents and guardians. With your help, we can enable young people everywhere, to become part of this global movement. All of our official events will take place across the world on the same night:

Join our global movement and organise your own Little Sleep Out Event!

When?

You should aim to host your event on this same date in order to join this global movement as fully as possible but if this date doesn’t work for your community, you can always choose an alternative date.

Hosting a sleep out can make a major difference to organisations fighting local homelessness in your town or city. We believe that young people are instrumental in affecting the cultural and political change that we need to see in the world!

All of our official events will take place across the world on the same night:

Saturday 7th December 2019
Why a Global Sleep Out?

To help bring an end to global homelessness!

Homelessness and displacement are global issues and together they form one of the greatest and most visible social ills of our time. Yet, there has been no co-ordinated, global response to tackle it on the scale that is so desperately needed.

In 2016, as part of the Global Goals set out by the UN, all member states signed a commitment to ensure access to safe and affordable housing for all by 2030.

Delivering on this promise is a global responsibility with local challenges. Regardless of where we live or where we come from, our individual participation and collective solidarity do make a difference.

1.1 BILLION
people live in inadequate housing worldwide

68.5 MILLION
Are displaced throughout the world because of war, natural disaster and extreme poverty

100 MILLION
across the world have no housing at all

Where & who?

We’ve suggested two options for registration which should help you think about your venue and who you’ll need to work with in order to make the event come to life!

Every Little Sleep Out event needs a supporting adult to register the event with us online who is 21+ years of age.

SCHOOLS / ORGANISATIONS
If you’re a teaching practitioner or a youth association leader, then this would be the option for you: the assembly or gym hall could make the perfect venue. Likewise, if your group meets in a local community space!

AT HOME
If you’re the legal parent or guardian of a young person who for any reason cannot or would not like to take part in an organised event, why not turn a weekend sleepover in to something more meaningful. With a little extra planning, you can help your young fundraiser and their friends to contribute to something incredible.

There is no registration fee and no minimum fundraising target to register your event!

We’ll be sending you a resource kit once you have registered your event, complete with: a handy event & safety guide, an A-Z of fundraising and links to our downloadable fundraising materials!
Make it your own!

Every World’s Little Sleep Out event should be designed with young people, making each event unique!

QUICK N EASY!
For some groups taking part, you might not have a lot of time to spend to bring your sleep out to life. That’s OK! You might be surprised how much fun can be had by simply bringing young people together for a meaningful cause. We have lots of activity suggestions in our resource kit which are super simple to implement and make the evening fun and memorable for everyone!

GET CREATIVE!
Some groups may be excited to put together a comprehensive event, complete with entertainment, decorations, games, additional fundraising activities, high participation levels, and more! You can also task the young people taking part to dream up their own ideas for things they would like to do too!

Our team is available to offer general advice and answers to your questions but ultimately, it will be up to you to plan and deliver your event with your young people!

Your event should...

Be a CHALLENGE!
Remember this does not need to be done outdoors! Young people’s safety is of most importance to The World’s Little Sleep Out – we do not expect young people to tough it out all night if they are uncomfortable. If a young person or your whole group wants to move indoors at any point, this is fine! This is a good chance to reflect on the safety and comfort we all have.

Get out of your bed and out of your comfort zone.

Be FUN!
We want your event to be designed and delivered by young people and their supporting adults. While it is important to remember why you are doing this – to help 1,000,000 homeless and displaced people – it should also be fun to take part in!

If you decide to go outdoors...
There are some key considerations to take into account before you decide to hold your event outdoors. We’ll be sending you some general advice in your resource kit. However, if you are a school or organisation, you should always refer to your own policies on residential activities.
Who is behind the World’s Big Sleep Out?

The World’s Big Sleep Out campaign is founded by Josh Littlejohn MBE, the co-founder of the charity Social Bite – based in Scotland.

Social Bite started as a small sandwich shop in Edinburgh that started offering employment and free food to people experiencing homelessness.

They have grown to become a major charity with a mission of ending homelessness in Scotland. Social Bite have previously hosted visits from A-List actors George Clooney and Leonardo Di Caprio.

Social Bite has since undertaken major projects including building a bespoke village for people struggling with homelessness and developing a major “Housing First” programme, helping 830 people out of homelessness in Scotland.

They have also previously organised the World’s largest ever Sleep Out in Edinburgh – Sleep in the Park. This event campaign has raised over $10,000,000 in two years to tackle homelessness in Scotland.

100% of what you raise will go to the cause, with:

50% Going to charities helping rough sleepers and people suffering from homelessness in YOUR town or city

50% Going to charities helping some of the 68.5 million people displaced globally - who have lost their homes through war, natural disasters, or extreme poverty

You choose which local charities you would like to support! You may want to consider organisations that support young people affected by homelessness...

And you will be joining a global campaign to call for an end to global homelessness.
Key charities that you will be supporting

50% of the funds you raise will go towards a local homelessness charity in your area. If you would like to - you can pick a local charity of YOUR choice. The other 50% raised through your event will be invested to tackle global homelessness and the refugee crisis. Our key partners in this area are:

The Institute of Global Homelessness (IGH) supports an emerging global movement to end street homelessness. As a first step toward achieving this goal, we are working with key global strategic partners to eradicate street homelessness in 150 cities around the world by 2030. Our vision is that within a generation, we will live in a world where everyone has a place to call home – a home that offers security, safety, autonomy, and opportunity.

UNICEF works to keep children safe to protect their rights, no matter where they are. That work is more essential now than ever: today’s child refugee crisis is the worst since World War II. Whether they’re called migrants, refugees, or internally displaced, millions of children have been driven from their homes by conflict, poverty, or disaster. Far too many encounter danger, detention, deprivation, and discrimination on their journeys. UNICEF USA are our primary partner for all funds raised in the USA.

Malala Fund is an international, non-profit organization that fights for girls’ education. It was founded by Malala Yousafzai, the Pakistani activist for female education and the youngest Nobel Prize laureate. The organization aims to ensure 12 years of free, safe and quality education for every girl.

Next Steps!

If you would like to host your own World’s Little Sleep Out event, our team will be here to help you.

- Head to www.bigsleepout.com
- Select ‘Host a Sleep Out’ from the top right corner
- Scroll down and select ‘Host-Your-Own (Under 18s)’
- Complete the online form and submit your registration!

Once you have completed the registration process, you will receive a welcome email from our team, as well as a welcome email for the fundraising page that will have been automatically created for you*.

Attached to our welcome email will be a resource pack, to help get you started with your planning and fundraising!

* If your event is taking place outside of the UK, your fundraising page will be hosted by Just Giving.