

NIGHT IN A CAR 2024





WELCOME TO NIGHT IN A CAR 2024!

Welcome to year eight of Night In A Car! Home Sweet Home is thrilled to have you along for this incredible ride. Please see below for information that might come in handy and serve as a quick reference. As you go along, if you come across something that you want to discuss further or simply have a question, you can jump on our NIAC Facebook group to reach out to HSHM staff. We hope you have fun exploring and learning more about Home Sweet Home and just how important your support is. Thank you!

If you have any questions or if you need me for any reason, contact Leslie at lbunge@hshministries.org or 217-440-4083.

Schedule for NIAC: Remote Participants

- 8:30 pm Check-In on Zoom (Invites were emailed)
- 8:45 pm Welcome, Instructions, and Line of Life Activity
- 9:15 pm Residential Stories
- 9:30 pm Tent Encampment/Shelter Village Update
- 9:45 pm Prayer and Send Off
- 6:30 am Morning Recap on Zoom (Invites were emailed)

Check-in Instructions:

For those checking in remotely from other locations:

- Between 8:30 pm-8:45 pm, register by letting us know you have joined us in the Zoom chat with your Team Name. The Zoom invite can be found on the last page.

Health & Safety Precautions:

- Please don't participate if you are feeling ill. If you are experiencing cold/flu symptoms, consider staying home.
- Know yourself and your limits. If it gets too cold, please play it safe and go inside.



Experience Night In A Car

Looking for something to do in your car? We have lots of great activities online at nightinacar.org. You can complete them as an individual or group. During this time or at some point in the night, you can also take advantage of reflection and stories from the Bookmobile Babes. Story videos can be found at nightinacar.org. We trust that these materials will enlarge your understanding and passion for caring for people in your community and will lead to rich reflection and discussion.

**Scan for NIAC
online activities** →



Fundraising during the event

During the event itself, you may want to take advantage of Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, Snapchat, TikTok, YouTube, or other forms of social media by posting on your experience and donation goal progress. You can send family and friends to www.nightinacar.org to donate on your team page. Take advantage of posting pictures of your team and sharing your experience. It's not too late to meet and surpass your donation goal. Be Creative! You can also initiate some fun challenges.

- Ask a family member or friend to match the donations of others up to a certain amount.
- Volunteer to do something funny or challenging like creating a new NIAC theme song or keeping a video journal to encourage others to support you.
- You are fun and incredibly creative. You can do it!!



NIGHT IN A CAR EXPERIENCE JOURNAL

Welcome to Night in a Car – where the road to compassion takes unexpected turns.

Buckle up as you embark on a night of reflection, resilience, and revelations. This journal is dedicated to your experience here. NIAC is a fundraiser but, more than that, it is about raising awareness and compassion. We believe that documenting your experience hour by hour (at least while you're awake) is a great way to understand the experiences of those who live out of their cars during the winter months.

7PM) PARKING PERFECTION: HOW DO YOU FEEL AS YOU PARK YOUR THOUGHTS AND SETTLE INTO YOUR CAR FOR THE NIGHT?

8PM) HEADLIGHTS AND HEARTSTRINGS: HOW MINDFUL ARE YOU OF YOUR SAFETY AS YOU ADJUST TO YOUR SURROUNDINGS?

9PM) CONSTELLATIONS ON CRUISE CONTROL: WHILE LOOKING AT THE NIGHT SKY, REFLECT ON THE CONCEPT OF "HOME." HOW HAS IT EVOLVED FOR YOU?

10PM) SOUNDTRACK OF SOLITUDE: WHAT ROLE DOES MUSIC PLAY IN YOUR ATTEMPT TO FIND SOLACE WITHIN THE CONFINED SPACE OF YOUR CAR?

11PM) LATE, LATE LEARNING: REFLECT ON THE CHALLENGES OF ADAPTING TO A MINIMALISTIC LIFESTYLE FOR A NIGHT. WHAT SURPRISES YOU?

12AM) MIDNIGHT MILESTONES: WHAT ARE YOU AFRAID OF WITH SPENDING YOUR NIGHT IN A CAR? HOW CAN YOU NAVIGATE THESE FEARS?

1AM) MOONLIT MEMORY: SHARE A MEMORY THAT HIGHLIGHTS THE KINDNESS OF STRANGERS. HOW DOES IT CONNECT TO YOUR EXPERIENCE TONIGHT?

2AM) REARVIEW REALIZATIONS: WHAT EMOTIONS SURFACE AS YOU CONTEMPLATE THE CHALLENGES FACED BY THOSE LIVING IN THEIR CARS?

3AM) DASHBOARD DREAMS: WHAT DREAMS DO YOU HAVE FOR YOUR LIFE? HOW THEY WOULD BE DIFFERENT IF YOU LIVED IN YOUR CAR?

4AM) RADIATOR REFLECTIONS: WHAT ARE THE BIGGEST CHALLENGES YOU'VE OVERCOME IN LIFE? HOW WOULD THEY COMPARE TO LIVING IN YOUR CAR?

5AM) DAWN OF EMPATHY: AS DAWN APPROACHES, HOW HAS THIS EXPERIENCE SHIFTED YOUR PERSPECTIVE ON HOMELESSNESS?

6AM) BRAKING BARRIERS: HOW HAS SPENDING THE NIGHT IN YOUR CAR SHAPED YOUR COMPASSION FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

7AM) COFFEE AND COMPASSION: HOW HAS SPENDING THE NIGHT IN YOUR CAR SHAPED COMPASSION FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?



NIGHT IN A CAR

KEY TAKEAWAYS

This section is for recording any key thoughts or takeaways that occur to you throughout your Night in a Car experience. There will be an opportunity to share these with other teams and staff in the morning while we all warm up!



NIGHT IN A CAR

May the compassion cultivated tonight continue to drive positive change in your thoughts, actions, and interactions with those who are navigating the challenging journey of homelessness. Enjoy the shared breakfast, and let the echoes of empathy resonate long after the night in the car has come to an end.

**INTERESTED IN STAYING CONNECTED?
FIND OUT HOW ON THE NEXT PAGE!**



SUPPORT HSHM THROUGHOUT THE YEAR

We are often in need of volunteers in just about every area of our ministry. One great way to get involved in the work of HSHM throughout the year is to get plugged in as a volunteer in a role fits your interests as well as your schedule. Interested? Scan the QR code below or reach out to our volunteer coordinator at smagarity_@hshministries.org. Thank you so much!

**Scan for HSHM
Volunteer Info** →



THANK YOU TO OUR INCREDIBLE #NIAC24 SPONSORS

Monster Truck Sponsor:



NIAC 24 is brought to you by our incredible Monster Truck sponsor, YOUNG AMERICA REALTY! As a local, family-owned real-estate management company, Young America is deeply rooted in the community.

Because of their deep roots, they have a vested interest in the well being of their residents and the community as a whole.

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LINGENFELTER
INSURANCE AGENCY

Thank you!

Because of your hard work fundraising for the NIAC event, so many families will be able to get the help that they need this year. Thank you so much for your commitment to this cause and this incredible community. You truly are an inspiring group of heroes. We are so blessed to be associated with you!



See you next year!

We know there are a million different ways that you could make a positive impact in this community, and we are so incredibly grateful for the faith that you put in the Night in a Car event, as well as Home Sweet Home Ministries.