



# SUMMER is no PICNIC for our homeless neighbors

July 31, 2019

Dear Friends,

Today I was speaking with a group of volunteers when someone said “at least it’s easier to be homeless in the summer”. I have heard this before and fully understand this misconception, but while we are spending time with family and friends, in air conditioning and vacationing, summer is no picnic for our homeless Guests.

Summertime brings increasing numbers of families to our shelter. Evictions are higher during these months as owners of apartments change and rents are hiked. In addition, relatives and friends who have allowed homeless families to live with them during the school year grow impatient with the situation when children are home all day.

For children who are homeless, a break from school can mean a break from the one stable, the one constant, in their lives. For the children who call Lazarus House “home”, our advocates work tirelessly to fill summer days with activities, provide opportunities for family bonding and a temporary distraction from the insurmountable stress and anxiety the entire family is facing.

Further, as temperatures climb, donations drop. The need, however, is as strong as ever and we ask you to remember the most vulnerable in our community this summer.

The hypothermia our Guests face in the winter is replaced with dehydration. Our need for gloves and blankets is replaced with sunblock and water bottles. The truth is there is no good time to be homeless. Summer is a particularly difficult time as our Guests try to escape the elements and heat-related illnesses.

Your donation, whatever the size, will help us to ensure our Guests stay safe through the sizzling heat and stifling humidity of summer and offer programs to let kids be kids this summer.

**[Click Here to Donate Now!](#)**

Gratefully,

Kelley Granahan  
Director of Development

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