Throughout the night, we’ll be using social media to connect the nationwide community of people Sleeping Out. Help us create momentum and show the nation that from coast to coast we are united in helping homeless youth by joining the conversation using #sleepoutamerica.

SHOWCASE YOUR SLEEP OUT AMERICA

Posting photos to Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, and other social media channels is the best way to spread the word about what you’re doing, why it’s so important, and to gather support for our national movement. A few key points to keep in mind:

1. For tonight, make your profile “public” so that your posts can be seen and shared across the Sleep Out America community

2. Use #sleepoutamerica to tag your photos and have them appear on our Facebook page and on the Sleep Out America website

3. Where possible, provide a link to your personalized Sleep Out America webpage to gather donations and provide your community with access to our website to learn more!

NEED SOME CONTENT FOR SOCIAL MEDIA?

Use the ideas and text below in your email, social media, and even in-person fundraising appeals and thank you messages. You can also access email templates in your Participant Dashboard.

Spread the Word and Raise Crucial Funds
Everyone can help spread the word about Sleep Out America! Use these sample messages below tell people about your night outside.

Facebook: Did you know that 40% of homeless in the US are kids? These kids don’t choose this life and I wanted to do something about it. So I joined Sleep Out America to raise funds for @CovenantHouse and tonight, I’m spending a night sleeping outside so homeless youth don’t have to. Support my Sleep Out and homeless kids across the country by making a donation to my Sleep Out page. Insert Personal URL

Facebook: Tonight, I’m spending a night sleeping outside so homeless kids don’t have to. I’m joining a movement of people from coast-to-coast who chose to step out of our homes – and comfort zones – to sleep outside in support of those who have no choice. Sleep Out America will help @CovenantHouse bring shelter to young people who have no place else to turn. Support my Sleep Out and homeless kids across the country by making a donation to my Sleep Out page. Insert Personal URL
Twitter: Tonight I’m sleeping outside so homeless kids don’t have to. Help me help the kids @CovenantHouse Insert Personal URL

Ask for What You Want
People feel more connected when they know what they are helping to fund, so try asking for a specific donation amount and share what they represent:

Facebook: Every day, @CovenantHouse outreach specialists canvass the most dangerous neighborhoods in search of homeless kids. Fueling an outreach van costs about $35 per day - make a donation to my #SleepOutAmerica page to help us keep outreach vans on the street and kids off them! Insert Personal URL

Facebook: 57% of homeless kids spend at least one day of every month without food. I don’t know about you, but I find it difficult to concentrate if I miss lunch. So today I’m asking you to consider making a donation to my #SleepOutAmerica page of $57 - so that no young person at @CovenantHouse goes hungry Insert Personal URL

Twitter: Provide a week of meals to a @CovenantHouse kid with a gift of $57. Please support my #SleepOutAmerica campaign Insert Personal URL

Goal-Oriented Appeals
Goal-oriented posts work, especially after you’ve collected approximately 1/2 of your goal. Share a screenshot of the thermometer on your page or for a clever pitch, try something like these:

Facebook: This week, I made it halfway to my fundraising goal of Insert Fundraising Goal! Thank you to everyone who has supported my efforts so far - I’m so excited about what we’re doing for the kids at @CovenantHouse. I still have Insert Amount Remaining to raise before #SleepOutAmerica on November 22- please help me get there! Insert Personal URL

Facebook: Tonight I am sleeping out and, I’m trying to raise $410 as part of my #SleepOutAmerica campaign for @CovenantHouse. Why $410? Because that will provide emergency medical care and a week of meals for a homeless young person coming off the street, along with a set of clean, warm linens for his or her bed. Please make a donation to help me Insert Personal URL

Twitter: Update on progress, can’t believe how close I am to goal! Thanks for the support of me and @Covenanthouse. Still time to donate Insert Personal URL

Say Thanks
Your donors will automatically receive a thank you note (and a receipt) from us, but hearing from you will make them feel special, too. If you’re using social media, tag your donors in a post about your campaign to make sure they see the shout-out. Others will notice the recognition and want to become donors, too!

Facebook: Thank you SO MUCH to Tag Donor Name(s) making a donation to my #SleepOutAmerica page! Not only are you helping me get one step closer to my fundraising goal (only Insert Amount Remaining to go!), but you are also helping provide kids @CovenantHouse with food, shelter, safety, and support. I appreciate your help more than I can say, and couldn’t do this without you! Insert Personal URL
Twitter: Thank you SO MUCH Tag Donor Name(s) for donating to my #SleepOutAmerica page and helping me help homeless kids @CovenantHouse!

Bonus material: Include a photo of you and your donor and use the above text as a caption to make your post pop!