

**2020 Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award Committee Report. Presented to the Board of Directors of the Society for the Study of Social Problems:**

Submitted by

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**Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award: History and Description**

The Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award, established in 1991, is awarded to a local grassroots social justice organization in the Standard Metropolitan Statistical Area (as defined by the U.S. Bureau of Census) in which the annual meeting is held that year. While the recipient can be an organization that engages in direct service work, preferred recipients for the Social Action Award will be organizations in San Francisco, CA that also work at the level of systems change. The organization may not be a local or regional chapter of a national or international organization, and must be one that will benefit significantly from the award. The nomination of organizations that include directly impacted people and communities in leadership positions and decisions are also encouraged. The award carries a stipend of \$5,000.

For award details visit: [https://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/262/Thomas\\_C\\_Hood\\_Action\\_Award/](https://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/m/262/Thomas_C_Hood_Action_Award/)

Nominations can be made via our website: <https://www.sssp1.org/index.cfm/pageid/51>

Past winners have included the Philadelphia Mural Arts Program (2018) and Nobody Leaves MidHudson, based in Poughkeepsie, NY (2019).

**2010-2020 Hood Award Committee**

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### **2020 Thomas C. Hood Social Action Winner**

The Coalition on Homelessness was formed in 1987 by homeless people and front-line social service workers to address the crisis of homelessness in San Francisco. For over thirty years, we have centered the wisdom and tenacity of currently and formerly homeless San Franciscans in the fight to end homelessness.

“We fight for creative, systemic solutions. We fight for permanently affordable housing. We fight for eviction prevention to keep San Franciscans housed. We fight for behavioral health treatment for those in need. We fight to uphold the fundamental human rights of those forced to live on the street.”

They conduct outreach every week on the streets, in shelters and at other places homeless people congregate, and this is where our campaigns are formed. Through outreach, we regularly receive input on our work as we activate people to join our struggle. This input is brought to our weekly open workgroup meetings that homeless people and their allies are welcome to attend. At these workgroups we fine-tune our campaigns and choose our tactics. All decisions we make follow a democratic and radically inclusive decision-making process.

“We believe that every child, youth, and adult deserve a place to call home. We work tirelessly to ensure that San Francisco provides safe, dignified housing for all.”

In light of the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 SSSP Annual Meeting in San Francisco was cancelled. Instead, Ms. Olivia Glowacki, Development Coordinator of the Coalition on Homelessness, is invited to present a brief presentation at the virtual Awards Recognition that will highlight her organization’s accomplishment as part of the SSSP ½-day virtual meeting. The Awards Recognition from 2:30 PM–3:15 PM, Friday, August 7, 2020.

### **Selection Process Details**

This year, the Hood Award Committee received 4 nominations out of 8. The committee chair instructed committee members to rank the 5 organizations using the criteria established in the award description as stated in the SSSP call for nominations and posted on the SSSP website. In doing so, the results were as follows: Coalition for Homelessness (4 first choices and 1 second choice); 2. 67 Suenos (3 first choice, 3 second choice, and 3 third choice); 3. TGI Justice (1 first choice, 2 second choices); 4. Live Free (1 first choice and 1 second choice); and 5. Homeless Youth Alliance (5 third choices).

### **Note of Thanks**

As Chair, I want to thank the other members for serving on the Committee. As a committee, we thank Michele Koontz, Héctor Delgado, and the SSSP for the opportunity for serving on the Thomas C. Hood Social Action Award Committee.