

**Josh Spring**  
**Executive Director**  
**Greater Cincinnati Homeless Coalition**

The Homeless Coalition is a unified social action agency with the goal of eradicating homelessness. The Coalition consists of people who are or were without homes or are on the edge of homelessness and dozens of homeless services organizations in the area. Some of our efforts, in partnership with our Members and other organizations, over the past five years:

- Tenant organizing leading to more than 1000 threatened homes have been saved.
- Got legislation passed to create an Affordable Housing Trust Fund. Collected 9,541 signatures during the pandemic to put \$50 million in funding on the May 4, 2021, ballot. Collected nearly 12,000 signatures to put affordable housing back on the ballot for November 2023.
- Organized with people living outside against their criminalization, resulting in a federal lawsuit that is now in settlement discussions with the City of Cincinnati, with the potential to set a national precedent.
- Advocated successfully for restoration of City funding of Human Services organizations.
- Partnered with people who have experienced homelessness, presented in front of thousands of people, hosted universities for week-long stays, provided social justice walking tours and *Streetvibes* Distributor Shadow events to educate and build empathy and added virtual trainings.
- *Streetvibes* Distributors disbursed over 125,000 copies of the newspaper, spreading local news about the fight against poverty and homelessness.
- Led effort with shelters to move hundreds of people from shelters into hotels to prevent the spread of COVID-19. Successfully got Hamilton County to commit to improving shelter facilities to prevent spread, and organized a plan to ensure hundreds of people would not be forced to live outdoors due to loss of shelter space caused by the need to socially distance.