

GREEK ORTHODOX LADIES PHILOPTOCHOS SOCIETY, INC.
NATIONAL COMMITTEE REPORT
JUNE 30TH -JULY 4TH – SAN DIEGO, CA
NATIONAL PHILOPTOCHOS CONVENTION



Homeless and Hungry Committee

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The Homeless and Hungry Committee (formerly the Feed the Hungry Committee) has expanded its focus to include assistance to those confronting the lack of housing and has adopted a mission statement that reflects its broadened scope and purpose. The mission statement sets out the aims of the Committee as follows:

- To address the challenges within our communities, with dignity and respect, for those suffering from hunger, lack of shelter, and basic daily needs with the assistance and continued efforts of our Philoptochos organization on all levels, National, Metropolis and Chapter;
- To promote awareness, resources, news and information regarding hunger and homelessness in the US and throughout the world through our website as well as social media platforms; and
- To partner with existing programs across the federal, state and local landscape such as Operation Classroom.

In recognition of the continuing and inspiring service offered by chapters across the Archdiocese, the Committee has sought approval and has been authorized to develop a page on the Society's website, targeted to these efforts. Committee members are in discussion with the staff of the National Philoptochos Office to create and offer information on our website which will offer:

1. News and information about hunger and homelessness in the United States and throughout the world, including links to news articles and informational studies,

2. Periodic articles highlighting local chapters and the services provided,
3. Resources on nationwide programs to assist the homeless and hungry,
4. A question-and-answer forum for chapters and members seeking information, guidance and inspiration from others already involved in the program, and
5. A directory of services currently offered by chapters across the Archdiocese.

It is estimated that over 28 million children in the United States participated in the National School Lunch Program on any day in the 2022-23 school year. This staggering figure leads us to ask what happens on weekends and to wonder where their meals come from during those days away from school. The Homeless and Hungry Committee looks forward to joining with the Operation Classroom Committee to assist in providing meals to children throughout the United States who depend on school food services for daily nourishment.

There are so many ways to help. Thank you for the extraordinary services you have and continue to offer. We welcome your suggestions, we hope to learn from your ideas and invaluable experiences, and we hope to make a difference in the lives we touch.