

# THINK DIGNITY

## THINK DIGNITY



**Basic Dignity Coalition Meeting**  
Thursday, Mar. 7  
6-7 pm  
Moniker Warehouse  
(705 16th St., San Diego, CA 92101)

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**BASIC DIGNITY COALITION MEETING**

Our **Basic Dignity Coalition (BDC) Meeting** is a monthly forum that invites all members of the community, especially those experiencing homelessness, to share and discuss local issues that affect homelessness in San Diego County and work on innovative solutions to address those issues.

**On January 3rd, we had our first meeting of the year with around twenty people in attendance.**

People from our unhoused community, lawyers, board members, TD staff, local nonprofits, volunteers, activists, healthcare agencies and local journalists gathered around the table to discuss upcoming goals for the year.

Our conversation covered a variety of different topics. Inviting all voices to the table, decriminalization of those experiencing homelessness, work on impact legislation, and partnership with Voices of our City Choir advocate John Brady, for MTS Funding.

Finally, a MTS subcommittee group was formed to address the discrimination towards our unhoused neighbors who are riding on public transit as well as the barrier in the rising costs to obtain a monthly pass.

If you are interested in getting involved, please email [landon@thinkdignity.org](mailto:landon@thinkdignity.org).

**COUNTY BAR FOUNDATION FUNDING**

With the **generous \$7500 donation from the San Diego County Bar Foundation,**



Think Dignity will be able to continue providing access to justice for San Diego's homeless community through our legal referral and advocacy clinics.

Our legal referral and advocacy clinics empower the homeless to take the first step towards addressing their legal issues in an atmosphere where they feel safe.

Currently, **Think Dignity hosted 8 different legal clinics around San Diego County, including call-in hours every Thursday.** Individuals have the opportunity to speak with a licensed attorney regarding their legal issues and get connected to the proper resources to address their legal needs.



*Evening's topic:  
Is bail reform a tool to ending the criminalization of poverty?*

### DINNER DISCUSSION-BAIL REFORM

Nationwide, **more than 60% of inmates are jailed pretrial and over 30% cannot afford to pay bail.** Often, those being held on bail have **been accused of low-level offenses.** **Seventy-five percent of pretrial detainees** have been **charged with only drug or property crimes.** Meanwhile, this costs taxpayers \$13.6 billion each year. California Court of Appeals made ground in deciding that it was unconstitutional to set a high bail amount that a defendant cannot reasonably pay, just for the purpose of keeping them incarcerated.

Most recently, California voted to end money bail in the state. While these may seem to be huge victories for criminal justice reform advocates, this discussion will delve into how these changes are being implemented in our local courts and whether or not these changes will make way for an end to the criminalization of poverty.

Join us for our Dinner Discussion on Wednesday, February 13th, between 6:00 — 7:00pm at Bonnie Jeans Should Food (1964 54th St, San Diego, CA 92105). We will discuss if bail reform is a tool to ending the criminalization of poverty. We hope to see you there.

If you have any questions please reach out to our Staff Attorney, Michelle Woodson. [mitchelle@thinkdignity.org](mailto:mitchelle@thinkdignity.org)



### PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

Think Dignity participated in this year's **Project Homeless Connect**, which was held on **Wednesday, January 30th at Golden Hall.** This is an annual resource fair that connects those experiencing homelessness with resources such as housing, employment, medical and basic hygiene services.

If you are holding an event or wish to partner with Think Dignity, please email [thinkdignity@gmail.com](mailto:thinkdignity@gmail.com)

### MOD SQUAD MONTHLY UPDATES

### FRESH START SHOWERS



The MOD Squad has been busy this past month prepping for new changes for our Fresh Start Shower program. Jewish Family Services (formerly Dreams for Change) has taken over this site. **The new Dreams for Change site is not at 5605 Imperial Ave. This site begins on Wednesday, February 6th, between 6-8:30 p.m.**

### STREET CAFÉ

Our partnership with **HandsOn San Diego** (a local nonprofit) is off to a good start. Their main goal is to get people to volunteer for important causes. We are always looking for volunteers for this program. Get involved to help feed our food insecure neighbors.

### STREET BOUTIQUE

We held our monthly Street Boutique at the **Tay Academy's** yearly event, "New Year, New You." **San Diego Youth Services** invited us to come and hold the event to assist our local LGBTQ youth.

### VOLUNTEERS

We cannot do this without you! **If you are interested in volunteering, please visit our website** to get involved. **If you have any questions, please email** Landon DePaulo at [landon@thinkdignity.org](mailto:landon@thinkdignity.org)



### DIGNITY WITHOUT BORDERS DRIVE

To our Dignity Defender Community,

Since our founding, we strive to be an organization that uses grassroots efforts to inspire, empower, and organize San Diego communities to advance the basic dignity of those living on the streets. Most importantly, we continue to stand with marginalized populations, fight for justice, and demand that **everyone, regardless of their backgrounds, is treated with dignity.**

Many individuals have traveled thousands of miles to flee political persecution, death threats and increasing violence in their home countries.



**COLLECTION DRIVE**  
Start your own drive for hygiene items and our staff can pick them up! You can e-mail us at [thinkdignity@gmail.com](mailto:thinkdignity@gmail.com) to set up a pick up time!



**DROP-OFF DONATIONS**  
We have a donation box at our North Park office (3525 30th St., SD 92104) so come by and say hi!



**AMAZON WISHLIST**  
Purchase items straight from our [Amazon Wish List](#) and they will ship directly to us!

We are collecting travel-size hygiene items:  
Shampoo, conditioner, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, lotion and deodorant

As they are waiting to petition for asylum at the U.S.-Mexico border, many of them are now living in shelters that do not have the capacity to support their basic needs. Our community partners across the border have **identified the dire need of hygiene products** for these individuals. We wholeheartedly believe that our core values of providing compassion and dignity can transcend borders, so we are calling on all of our Dignity Defenders to help us in our "Dignity Without Borders" drive.

Thank you for all of your support and efforts, we are excited to defend dignity across borders with you!

Sincerely,  
Think Dignity Staff

**THINK DIGNITY**

Hands-on Advocacy & Activism with the Homeless

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**  
**for Think Dignity's**  
**10th Annual Fundraising Gala**  
**Saturday, October 5, 2019**  
**7:00-10:30 p.m.**  
**at**  
**Jacobs Center**  
*. . . more details to come*



We are excited to announce that we will be launching our **new membership program** for 2019! More details will be announced soon on social media and in our February 2019 newsletter!



Shop on Amazon.com? If so, consider using [Amazon Smile](#)! It's exactly like Amazon, but .5% of your purchase goes to the charity of your choice! All you have to do is choose Think Dignity as your charity when you visit Amazon Smile! You can also purchase items from our [Amazon Wish List](#) to support our programs!

**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**Date & Location TBD**

**Monday, Feb. 4th** (6:00pm-8:30pm)  
 Jewish Family Services - Aero Site  
[Corner of Aero Dr. & Murphy Canyon Rd.](#)  
 (behind Daley Square Plaza)

**Monday, Feb. 6th** (6:00pm-8:30pm)  
 Dreams for Change  
[5605 Imperial Ave., San Diego, CA 92114](#)  
 (behind Daley Square Plaza)

**Saturday, Feb. 9th** (10am - 1pm)  
 Thriving Life Church  
[560 South Melrose Drive., Vista, CA 92081](#)

**Wednesday, Feb. 13th** (1-4pm)  
 Crisis House  
[1034 Magnolia Ave., El Cajon, CA 92020](#)

**Saturday, Feb. 16th** (11:30pm-1:30pm)  
 The Rock Church  
[808 Jackman St., El Cajon, CA 92020](#)

**Wednesday, Feb. 20th** (9am-12pm)  
 Wesley Community Services Center



**Friday, Feb. 1st** (3pm-4:30pm)  
 Chicano Park  
 Parking lot on Logan Ave.

**Friday, Feb. 15th**  
 (3pm-4:30 pm)  
 Chicano Park  
 Parking lot on Logan Ave.

<a href="#">5380 El Cajon Blvd., SD, CA 92115</a>	
<b>Thursday, Feb. 21st</b> (10am-1pm) Our Lady of Guadalupe Church <a href="#">345 Anita St., Chula Vista, CA 91911</a>	
<b>Friday, Feb. 22nd</b> (3:30-5:30pm) Day of Hope <a href="#">560 Palomar St., Chula Vista, CA 91911</a>	
<b>Monday, Feb. 25th</b> (9am-12pm) St. Paul's Episcopal Church <a href="#">2728 6th Ave., San Diego, CA 92103</a>	
<b>Wednesday, Feb. 27th</b> (3:30-5:30pm) Meridian Baptist Church <a href="#">660 S 3rd St., El Cajon, CA 92019</a>	
<b>**Program dates are subject to change. Please check our <a href="#">Public Calendar</a> for updated information.</b>	

Sincerely,  
Your friends at Think Dignity

**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GALA SPONSORS**



Think Dignity is a grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working towards community-based solutions through hands-on advocacy and local advocacy.

<b>Contact Us:</b>	
Phone: (619) 537-8736	E-mail: <a href="mailto:info@thinkdignity.org">info@thinkdignity.org</a>