

**Please join us in making a difference for some of our state's most vulnerable people during the worst economic crisis of our generation.**

**Join Us in Salem on Friday February 12, 2010**

## **Interfaith Briefing and Dialogue on Homeless Children and Families**

10:00—11:45am

Public Service Building, 255 Capitol Street NE, Basement Room A  
(across the street from the capitol)

**Free and Open to the Public**

## **Interfaith Prayer Vigil for Homeless Children and Families**

State Capitol Steps at 12 noon

**Free and Open to the Public**

**Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon and the Interfaith Project on Homeless Children and Families** invite you to a day at the Oregon Capitol to help draw attention to the growing number of homeless families statewide and the increasing number of homeless children in our public schools.

In 2009/09 there were 18,059 homeless children enrolled in Oregon's public schools, according to the Oregon Dept. of Education. That number was up 14% from the previous year, and is an increase of 122% since 2003/04.

The day begins at 10:00am with an interfaith briefing and dialogue on issues affecting homeless children and families. Briefings and discussion will focus on education of homeless children and youth, and on programs that prevent and reduce homelessness.

At noon there is a rally and prayer vigil in support of homeless children and families on the capitol steps, and at 1:00pm an important legislative hearing on reducing taxes on low-income working families by increasing the state Earned Income Tax Credit (see below).

### **Advocacy Opportunity**

**Senate Finance and Revenue Committee Hearing  
on SB 1044 - Expanding the State Earned Income Tax Credit  
Friday Feb. 12 at 1:00pm State Capitol Hearing Room A**

**Contact Kevin Finney at EMO for more information.**

**As the Legislature meets in Special Session join religious leaders in lifting up the needs of homeless families and homeless students in our public schools.**



*art from a child  
living in a homeless shelter*

**Interfaith Project on Homeless Children and Families  
c/o Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon  
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