

Working Together to End Child “Bedlessness”

The Knights of Columbus and Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) are working together to build beds for children who do not have beds of their own.

SHP’s mission is to create a world in which no child sleeps on the floor by organizing events across the U.S. and Canada where volunteers come together to build beds. Knights and their fellow parishioners are stepping up to ensure no child is left behind in their communities.

This work of building beds for children in need is closely aligned with Blessed Michael McGivney’s mission of charity towards the most vulnerable in society.



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SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE®
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Knights of Columbus

Build-a-Bed





Why Beds?

In the U.S., over one million children sleep on the floor or in other sub-optimal conditions because they do not have beds. This is an often overlooked need that Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) was founded to address. SHP has built and delivered over 375,000 beds for children in need since their founding.

Providing children with beds of their own goes a long way in recognizing and respecting their inherent dignity. More than just providing physical comfort, this work provides mental and emotional comfort to children by giving them a place to call their own.

Knights of Columbus is happy to be working alongside SHP to help end child “bedlessness” locally.

How It Works

Councils work with their local Sleep in Heavenly Peace (SHP) chapter and come together to build beds for children in their community.

Councils provide the funding, manpower, and build site (although some SHP chapters have their own build site), and SHP provides the tools, training, and materials. SHP will also identify the children in need of beds and coordinate the bed delivery.

KofC volunteers show up, sign in, receive safety gear and are given a short training by SHP team members. They then volunteer at various stations. There are stations for sawing, sanding, drilling, assembling, staining, and branding the wood. What starts as a pile of raw lumber from the hardware store becomes ready-to-deliver bunks for kids in need.



Supreme Knight Patrick Kelly drills together the frame of a child's bed during the Supreme Convention in Québec City, Canada. (Photo by Matthew Barrick)

How Can I Get Involved?

There are over 400 Sleep in Heavenly Peace chapters across the U.S. and Canada that councils can partner with.

If your council is interested in working with a chapter to organize a bed build, go to shpbeds.org/chapters in the U.S. or shpbeds.ca/chapters in Canada.

Reach out to your local SHP chapter and work with the chapter president to begin the process of organizing the build.

While much of the U.S. and Canada is covered by current SHP chapters, there are some areas that do not currently have local chapters. If there is no chapter near your area, you can reach out to SHP's headquarters and inquire about opportunities.