



Creating and engaging solutions to end homelessness

The Haven Community Solutions Presents:

The June Newsletter



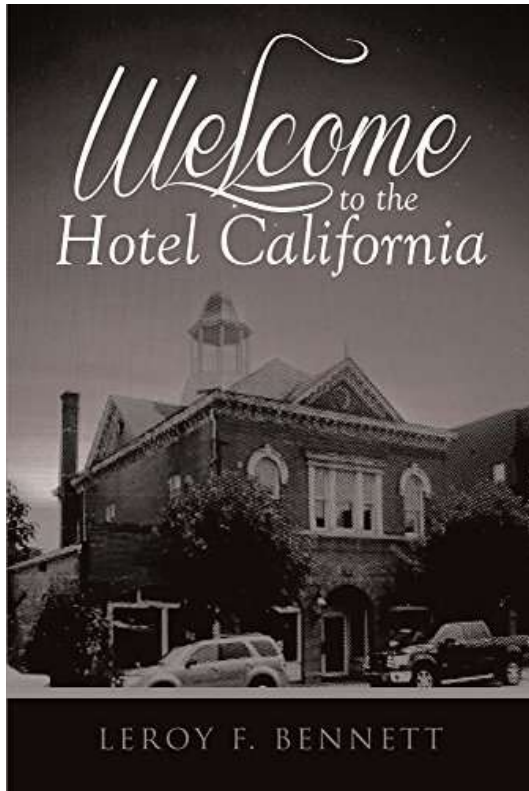
Homelessness Awareness

This month, The Haven is focusing on raising awareness of the rising homelessness and poverty issue in our community. Make sure you join us for this topic on this Saturday, June 15th at the Spartanburg Downtown Library. This event will be held in the Barrett Room from 1-3pm. The Haven staff will be discussing what we are doing to combat homelessness and poverty. In addition to Haven staff, we will have speakers that are currently or formally homeless telling their story and the struggles they face. One speaker is **author, Leroy F. Bennett**. Leroy F. Bennett wrote a book entitled "Welcome to the Hotel California" where he addresses his story and the struggles the homeless face.

Stick around after the presentation to engage in a meal with the speakers, staff, and those facing homelessness.

This event is free and open to all that are interested in attending. Click on the eventbrite link below to let us know you are coming!

[The Haven Community Solutions Presents: "From the Outside In" -
Get your Ticket Here!](#)



"Welcome to the Hotel California"

by Leroy F. Bennett

Each year Congress passes a budget, allocating funds to federal programs to include housing and homelessness programs. The reality of homelessness is more complex than its definition. People experiencing homelessness are naturally on high alert and alter their behavior that affects their routine, making it hard for them to get out of homelessness. Often, people experiencing homelessness will undergo a number of life-changing emotions, including severe depression, anxiety, paranoia, and post-traumatic stress. The Hotel California is a homeless shelter. It isn't a resort that you need to have a reservation for, and there's one in every major city and rural county in our country. There are more chains of Hotel California than there are any major hotel or motel. This book describes a man's five-year struggle of living in that situation, on the treatment of guest who lived in the shelters, the discrimination against the homeless population to secure jobs, and the improprieties of funds abused by the

people who run the shelters and transition homes. You can checkout anytime you like, but will you ever leave. This is my story! (Amazon.com)

If you are interested in getting this book, a link is provided below!

[Interested in this book? Click here!](#)

About the Author

Leroy F. Bennett was born in Orange, New Jersey. He is the son of former school teachers that worked in the Newark, New Jersey school district. Leroy returned to college as a non traditional student at Allen University before transferring to Benedict College in Columbia, South Carolina both located in Columbia, South Carolina. There he received his degree in Child and Family Development and graduated Cum Laude. He was a teaching assistant and non-profit professional prior to writing. Welcome to the Hotel California is his first book, a gripping thought-provoking story



describing a man living a homeless life, and the discrimination attached to it. It reveals the difficulty of living in homelessness and describes a life of sadness and distress for people who lack the basic need for a warm shelter to protect homeless and their interest, spiritual growth and personal advancement.

[Upcoming Event - This Saturday!](#)

**The Haven Community Solutions
Presents:**

***“From the
Outside In”***

Join us for an afternoon of hope & encouragement as we listen to the stories of the homeless in our community and what The Haven is doing to help. Speakers include current homeless individuals, formerly homeless individuals, Haven case managers, and community partners.

**Saturday, June 15th
1-3pm
Spartanburg
Headquarters Library –
Barrett Room**

Event Details:

**1-2pm – Stories of homelessness, hope,
and encouragement**

2-3pm – Food & Refreshments

**Stay and share a meal with our
speakers and other homeless
individuals**





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