



For Immediate Release

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Heidi Sloan Joins Religious, Community Leaders to Defend Austin's Homeless from Governor's Attacks

AUSTIN, TX -- At 7:30am on Friday November 1 at the Texas Governor's Mansion, candidate for U.S. Congress in Texas's 25th District Heidi Sloan will stand alongside faith leaders, service providers, community organizers, and people experiencing homelessness in an action in solidarity with Austin's homeless against threats made by Texas Governor Greg Abbott. The action will be a faith service dedicated to the houseless poor.

"When the most marginalized people in our society are attacked by the richest shareholders of power in our state, there is no moral path forward that includes silence," said **Heidi Sloan**, who has farmed alongside the formerly homeless at Community First! Village for the last six years. "We must speak out and take action in solidarity with our homeless neighbors. This vicious opportunism on the part of the Governor further solidifies him as an enemy of poor people. We stand with the poor, now and always."

[Sloan was a lead organizer](#) in the [Homes Not Handcuffs](#) coalition which successfully moved Austin City Council to decriminalize homelessness in June following years of campaigning. After Austin City Council's vote, a reactionary right-wing backlash mobilized to spread deliberate misinformation about rewrites made to three city ordinances, an effort that has been [aided and abetted](#) by Governor Abbott. The Governor's hysteria has culminated in [a threat to leverage the power of the state against the homeless](#) in Austin in November.

Politicians like Greg Abbott and Sloan's opponent Roger Williams are funded by banks, landlords, and developers that profit off of displacement and housing insecurity. Heidi Sloan stands firmly [on the side of the working class](#) in the fight for housing justice, democratic control of our homes, and dignity for poor people. While Abbott contributed to homelessness directly by [leaving Medicaid money on the table](#), Sloan has proposed [lifting the ban on rent control, expanding Medicaid, and raising the minimum wage](#) to address the material factors contributing to homelessness.

WHAT: Austin Religious leaders hold "Sunrise Service"

WHEN: Friday, Nov. 1, 7:45 a.m. CST

WHERE: Governor's Mansion, 1010 Colorado St, Austin, TX 78701

WHO: Heidi Sloan alongside religious, spiritual, and community leaders

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