

I Declare Transformation: Recharge and Speak Up!"

State of the Movement Event 2023

On June 6-7th, the organization, A Way Home America, hosted a two day state of the movement event titled, "I Declare Transformation: Recharge and Speak Up!". The two-day event invited attendees from around the nation to come together to meet, discuss, and share ideas, strategies, and commitments for how to work within their communities. Attendees were able to engage together in a number of ways. Dynamic guest speakers spoke with the large group sessions sharing lived experiences, inviting focus and hope, and engaging attendees in grounding/healing techniques to honor and help recharge all those who were present.

Breakout sessions – fittingly called "recharge" rooms -were a key part of each of the two days. In these sessions facilitators supported attendees in a couple of ways. They provided space for strategizing together on how to engage within their communities. They offered tools for how to learn from a person's own experiences and trauma to inform the work they do. Finally, the group offered people spaces to empower lived experiences and voices to be the change in the fight for unhoused youth. A youth policy panel, and musical performance were highlights of the second day before the event ended with reminders for all attendees to invest in themselves, their community, and most importantly the youth and young people they serve.

A Way Home America, is a leader in the efforts to end youth homelessness. The organization embraces and actualizes the voices and lived experiences of youth and individuals who have experienced being unhoused or homeless. A Way Home America's diverse staff team brings energy, hope, compassion, and empathy toward raising awareness of this important issue and being leaders of change to help and empower communities, agencies and young people to address the crisis of homelessness facing LGBTQ+ and BIPOC youth in America.

For more information about this organization, the work they do, and how to get involved, please visit their website: [A Way Home America](#)