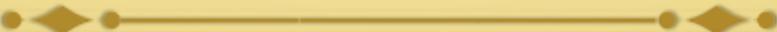




# Homeless

Moving from “managing” street people in the community to “solving” homelessness

# Statistics



- ✦ Even though most cities do not provide enough affordable housing, shelter space, and food to meet the need, many cities use the criminal justice system to punish people living on the street for doing things that they need to do to survive.

*Homes Not Handcuffs: The Criminalization of Homelessness by U.S. Cities*

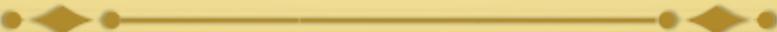
- ✦ 20 to 25 percent of homeless people suffer from severe mental illness, as compared to only 6 percent of America.

*Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration*

- ✦ Approximately half of all homeless people suffer from mental health issues or have at some point in their lives.

*National Alliance to End Homelessness*

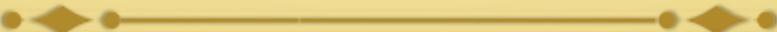
# Why are people homeless



## DISABILITIES

- ✦ Chronic medical issues
- ✦ Bi-polar disorder, chronic depression, schizophrenia, schizoaffective disorder, severe personality disorder
- ✦ Lack of affordable health care
- ✦ Complicated and minimal disability process

# Why are people homeless?



## BARRIERS

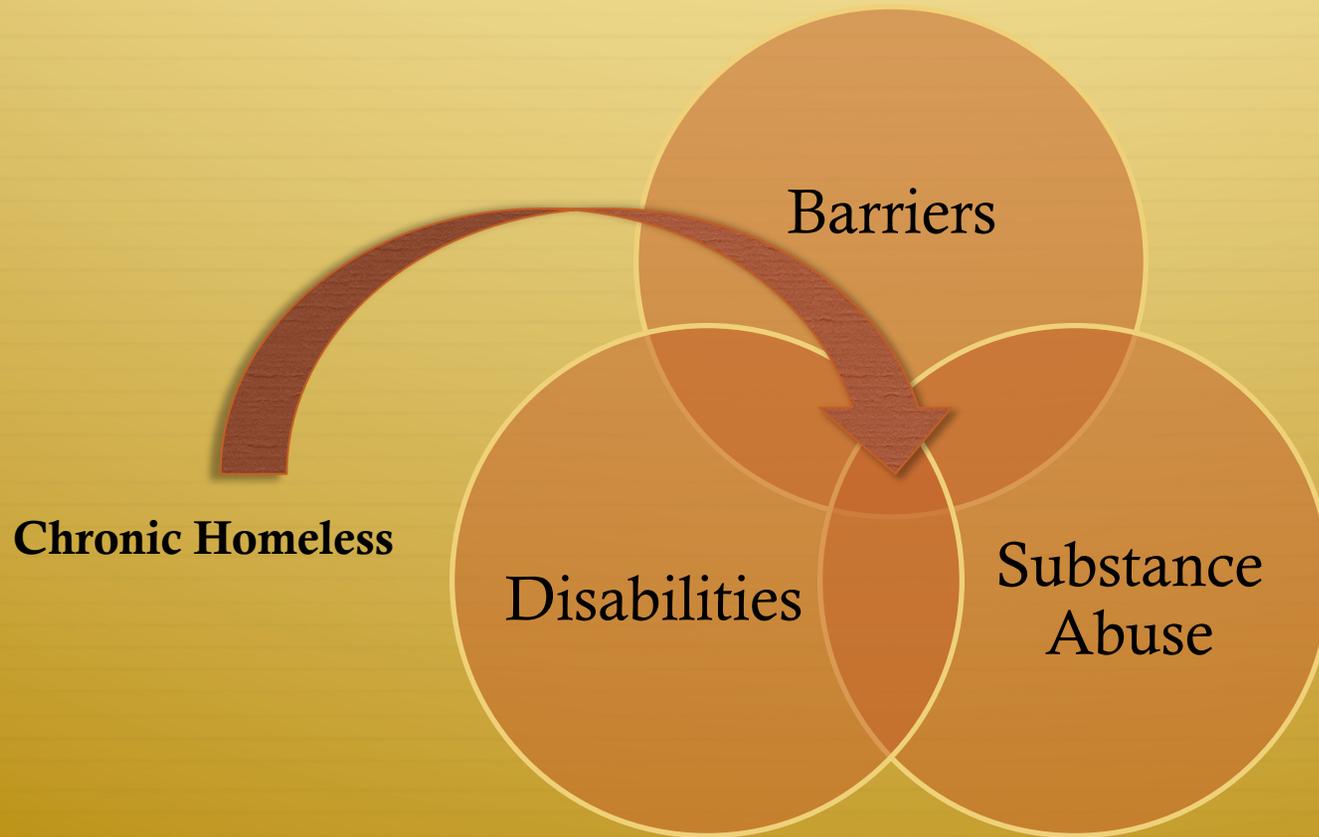
- ✦ Low wages
- ✦ Criminal histories
- ✦ Poor credit
- ✦ Excess child support debt that triggers wage garnishment
- ✦ Spotty job histories
- ✦ Single parent households

# Why are people homeless?

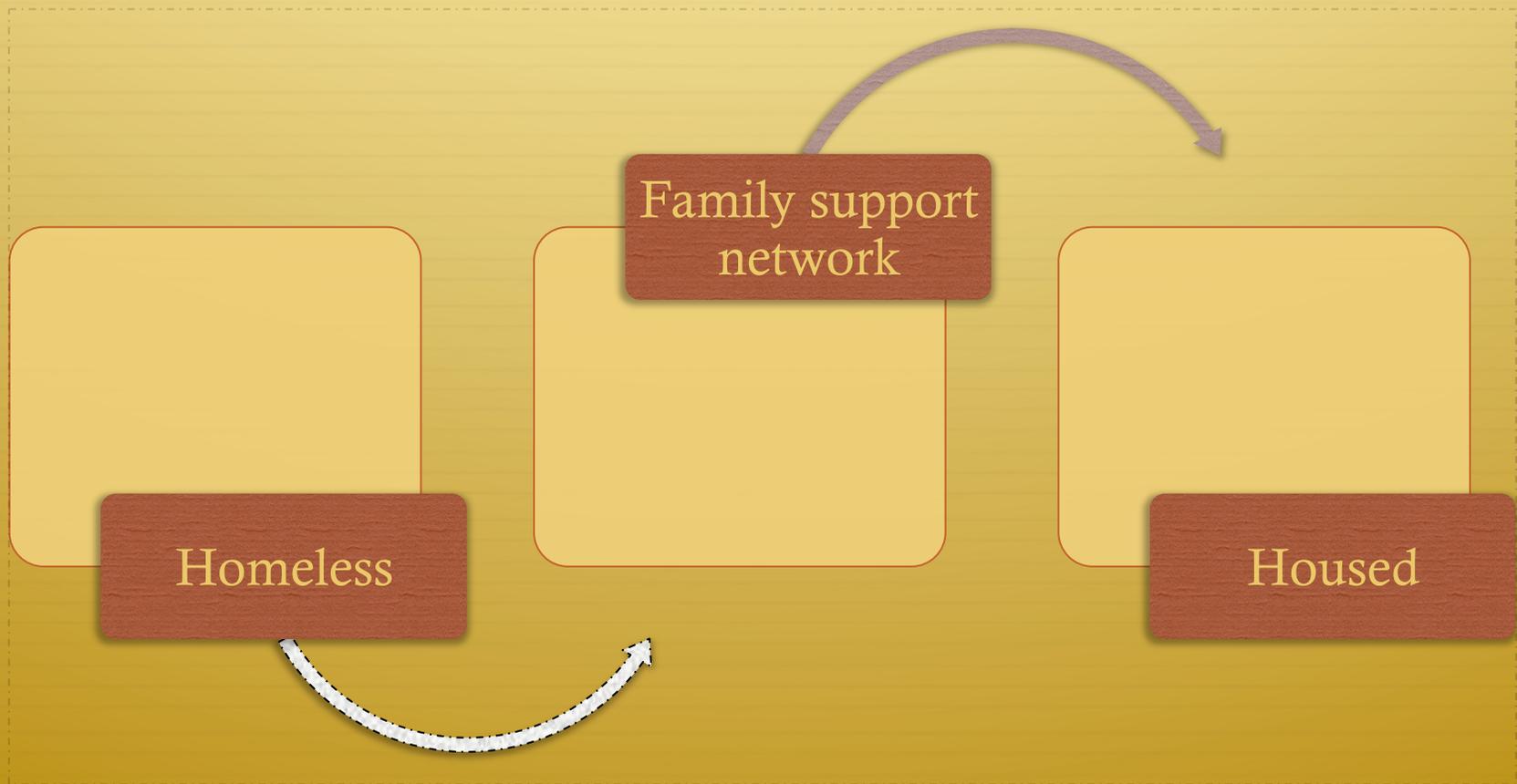
## SUBSTANCE ABUSE

- ✦ Alcohol, cocaine and heroin
- ✦ “A 1997 study conducted in Alameda County, Calif., found that such abuse was eight times more prevalent among homeless people than among the general population.” But use on the street, as compared to use before homelessness, actually decreased. An increase in substance use was only proven in the case of mental illness.

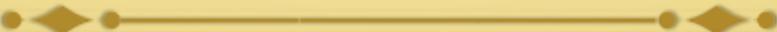
# Why are people homeless?



# The missing link

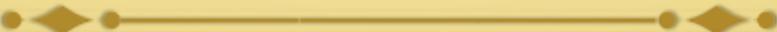


# Power struggle



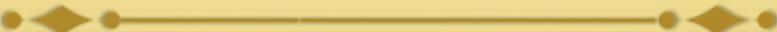
- ✦ Favoritism
- ✦ Child-like
- ✦ Responses and Behaviors

# Community Solutions



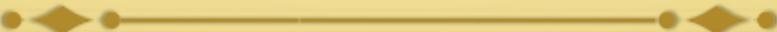
- ✦ Panhandling
- ✦ Alternatives to arresting
- ✦ Camp clean up
- ✦ Moving on
- ✦ YOU

# Strategies



- ✦ To combat panhandling, Denver, CO installed donation meters throughout the city with the intent of funneling money collected by panhandlers toward agencies better equipped to distribute resources.
- ✦ To address excessive loitering and trespassing, the City of Daytona Beach started a program that hires homeless people to clean up streets , in exchange for housing.
- ✦ To address public camping, Portland, OR enabled outreach workers to place people living on the street directly into permanent housing,

# Micah Ministries



Micah Hospitality Center

1013 Princess Anne St.

Fredericksburg VA 22401

540-479-4116

Cold Weather Shelter

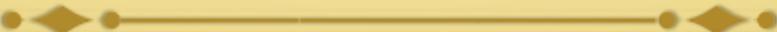
750 Kings Highway

Fredericksburg VA 22405

540-656-2908

*November-February when the  
temperature drops below 32  
degrees*

# Additional Resources



- ✦ Homes not handcuffs: The Criminalization of Homelessness in U.S. Cities
- ✦ [www.nationalhomeless.org](http://www.nationalhomeless.org)
- ✦ [www.nlchp.org](http://www.nlchp.org)