



A Voice for the Sacramento Area Homeless Community Since 1997

HOMeward

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Sacramento Poor People's Campaign



On February 24, 2018, the Sacramento Poor People's Campaign celebrated the movement against poverty, the war economy, environmental degradation, and systemic racism, launching in 23 states.

Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Poor People's Campaign, initiated in 1968, continues under its new name, "The Poor People's Campaign: A National Call For Moral Revival."

Robots, Unemployment ... and Immigrants

By Roberto Savio

Amazon has recently introduced Amazon Go, a shop where the customer enters, chooses a product from the shelves, charges the price on a magnetic card and swipes it on the way out, transferring the charge to the customer's bank account. No queues, no cashiers, fast and easy, and the first shop in Seattle has been a roaring success.

Putting products back on the shelves will soon be fully automated, with robots doing the work previously done by humans. Floor cleaning is already done by a robot, and the aim is to have a fully automated shop, where no human can make mistakes, fall ill, go on strike, take holidays or bring their personal problems to work.

The US petrol industry calculates that the staff required at each well will be reduced from 20 to five within three years. Also

within three years it is expected that small hotels will have a fully automated reception – guests arrive, swipe their credit card and a machine supplies the room.

We are already accustomed to automated telephone for bookings and reservations, and we ourselves now do tasks at an airport which were previously done by clerks, such as checking in.

Contrary to what many think, self-drive vehicles are just around the corner, and car makers think they will be on the market by 2021.

In the United States, according to the ABI Research company, the number of industrial robots will jump nearly 300 percent in less than a decade. The National Economic Research Bureau has reported that for every industrial robot introduced into the workforce, six jobs are eliminated.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has released a "policy brief" indicating what this robotic revolution would mean in Africa, Asia and Latin America. "If robots are considered a form of capital that is a close substitute for low-skilled jobs, then their growing use reduces the share of human labour in production costs. Adverse effects for developing countries may be significant."

In May 2016, the World Bank's Digital Dividend Report, calculated that replacing low-skilled workers with robots in developing countries would affect two-thirds of jobs.

China is destined to become the biggest user of robots. China is aiming to become the global leader in high-tech. To take just one

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Robots ... and Immigrants

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example, Foxconn, the world's largest contract electronics manufacturer, reduced its workforce last year from 110,000 to 50,000 in Kunshan, thanks to the introduction of robots. The time of cheap imitations is gone, with China now registering more patents than the United States.

Economists call this wave of automation the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The first started, at the end of the 18th century, with the introduction of machines to do handicraft work, such as in textiles.

The second industrial revolution occurred in the middle of the same century, when science was applied to production, introducing engines and other inventions, creating the real Industrial Revolution. That meant rural populations migrating to towns to work in the factories. The third revolution in the middle of the last century is considered to be the introduction of the Internet, which once again changed forms of production. Gone were the jobs of lino typist in newspapers, accounting, documentation, libraries, archives and other hundreds of professions made obsolete by the 'net'.

The 2016 World Economic Forum in Davos was dedicated to the Fourth Industrial Revolution. The founder and director of the Forum, economist Klaus Schwab, even went to the effort of writing a book on the subject for the meeting: it is a book in which he expresses his concern.

Previous industrial revolutions had liberated humankind from animal power, made mass production possible and brought digital capabilities to billions of people. This Fourth Industrial Revolution is, however, fundamentally different. It is characterised by a range of new technologies that are fusing the physical, digital and biological worlds, affecting all disciplines, economies and industries, and even challenging ideas about what it means to be human.

We need to take a concerted global approach in the world, to make the positive override the negative impacts. The theme was practically ignored at Davos 2016, because politicians now only discuss themes in the short term: what has to be dealt with during their period in office.

At Davos in 2016, Schwab called for leaders and citizens to "together shape a future that works for all by putting people first, empowering them and constantly reminding ourselves that all of these new technologies are first and foremost tools made by people for people."

Clearly, that goes against the tide of nationalism, the new vision for the United States, India, Japan, China, Philippines, Hungary, Poland, Great Britain, Turkey and so on.

Well, like it or not, the Fourth Industrial Revolution is here. Today automation already accounts already for 17 percent of production and services. It will account for 40 percent within 15 years, according to World Bank projections.

But we should also take into account the surprising seeds of development of artificial intelligence (AI) – also known as machine intelligence (MI) – which is intelligence demonstrated by machines, in contrast to the natural intelligence (NI) displayed by humans and other animals.

We already have robots which can be reprogrammed and their functions changed. Without going into the vitally important relationship between AI and societies, it is important to note the most vibrant debate today concerns how our economy is mutating into an economy of algorithms and data and how this is impacting on politics.

Austrian economist and thinker Karl Polany saw this coming when he made a simple observation: capitalism, without controls and regulations, does not create a market economy but a market society where whatever is necessary for survival has a price, and that is submitted to the laws of the market.

The explosion of social injustice, privatisation of common goods and fiscal support for the richest are all consequences predicted by Polany's analysis. Add to this monopolisation of data by a few giant companies, like Facebook or Amazon, and their impact on social, cultural and economic behavior, and you can see where we are going. We have become data ourselves, and we are on the market.

The Fourth Industrial Revolution will further reduce the centrality of the human being, who has already been replaced by the market ever since the fall of the Berlin Wall...

All this opens up another crucial issue. Labour was once considered an important cost factor in production, and it was the extent to which workers had rights to the resulting benefits that sparked the creation of trade unions, the modern Left and the adoption of universal values such as social justice, transparency and participation, which were the basis of modern international relations.

The relationship between machines

and distribution of the benefits of production has inspired several thinkers, philosophers and economists over the last centuries. It was generally assumed that a time would come in which machines would eventually do all production and humankind would be free of work, maintained from the profits generated by machines.

This was, of course, more a dream than a political theory. Yet today, all managers of artificial intelligence and robotic production argue that the superior productivity of robots will reduce costs, thereby enabling greater consumption of goods and services, and this will generate new jobs, easily absorbing those displaced by machines.

The data we have do not show that at all. According to the Economic Report of the President of the United States, there is an 83 percent chance that those who earn 20 dollars an hour could have their job replaced by robots. This proportion rises to 31 percent for those who earn 40 dollars per hour. Given that the new economy is an intelligence economy based on technical knowledge, people have a future if they are able to adapt to that kind of society, and the new generations are much more attuned to this. But what will a taxi driver who has had no technical education do to recycle himself?

The statistics show that today, when people lose their jobs at a certain age, any new job they may find will almost always be for a lower remuneration. So robotisation will affect the lower middle class above all, and a new generational divide will be created.

Over the years, a number of economists and influential people have expressed

the idea of a universal basic income (UBI), arguing that there is a need to cushion society from tensions, instability and unemployment by giving all citizens a fixed income in order that they would be able to have a dignified life. In addition, by spending their UBI, they would generate wealth and increase demand, which would therefore stimulate growth and make for a just and stable society.

Martin Luther King was an early proponent, like neoliberal economist Milton Friedman. Now the billionaires of Silicon Valley like Elon Musk and Mark Zuckerberg, venture capitalist Mark Andreessen and Democratic Party senator Bernie Sanders have all expressed support for the UBI idea.

Meanwhile, Andrew Yang, an American entrepreneur and founder of Venture for America, notes that in the 2016 presidential elections, Donald Trump did particularly well in Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, states which have lost four million jobs because of automation: "The higher the concentration of robots, the higher the number of disgruntled people who vote for Trump."

Of course, in the United States the idea that people who do not work should receive public money is the closest thing to communism, and UBI faces formidable cultural obstacles. But Yang says that otherwise in a few years there will be "riots in the streets: just think of the one million truck drivers, who are 94 percent male with an average high school education, suddenly all jobless."

Trump and all the other politicians who want to restore a past glorious future

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A large robot nicknamed "Kong" lifts the body of a Ford Expedition SUV at Ford's Kentucky Truck Plant as the No. 2 U.S. automaker ramps up production of two large SUV models in Louisville, Kentucky, U.S., February 9, 2018. Picture taken on February 9, 2018. REUTERS/Nick Carey

Robots

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totally ignore this debate (unfortunately, it is not part of any political debate). Calling for restoring jobs in mines and fossil fuels, for example, fails to recognise that technological developments have already led to the loss of many jobs, and will continue to do so. So, the rallying of disgruntled people, as was the case in Britain with Brexit, is a consequence of the poverty of the political debate.

Another political consideration is that migration has become a major theme in elections. Trump was elected on a strong anti-immigrant platform, which continues in his administration. Governments in Hungary, Austria, Poland, Czech Republic and Slovakia are based on refusal of immigrants. All over Europe, from the Nordic countries to France, Netherlands and Germany, anti-immigrant feelings are conditioning governments.

The fear is that immigrants are stealing jobs and resources from citizens in the countries in which they live. However, statistics from the European Union tell us otherwise. The number of non-EU citizens living in Europe (some for a long time) is now 35 million, of whom about eight million are Africans, and seven million Arabs out of a total of 400 million. Those figures also include illegal immigrants. All statistics show that more than 97 percent of immigrants in Europe are totally integrated, and that they pay on average more taxes than locals (of course, they worry about their future).

It was the same story with the entry of woman into the labor market. An increasing proportion of women have joined the labor force over the last 30 years, but these increases have not coincided with falling employment rates for men.

A study on Brexit demonstrated that immigrants had helped to increase GDP, and that the increase in productivity meant a global increase in employment. But we have reached a point where nobody listens any longer to facts, unless they are convenient...

Truck drivers, taxi drivers, bus drivers and school drivers, to take some examples, do not fear for their jobs because of immigration. Nonetheless, within a very few years their jobs will become obsolete, and there will be no plans or preparations for that. When the problem explodes, politics might start looking at it.

Courtesy of Inter Press Service / INSP.ngo

Edited for length by HW

FOLLOWING THE CULTURE-CODE

By Georg Wimmer

The new management employee of a large production plant had attended all the important meetings. But, once again, he was completely surprised by one decision. This time it was about the launch of a new product that he knew nothing about. When he addressed this in the next meeting, he was met with a complete lack of understanding and was even portrayed by his colleagues as a complainer and a troublemaker. What he did not know was that he had violated an unwritten law within the company. The law was: you can communicate openly, but you only get the most important information if you keep the right company in your breaks. Salzburg-based organisation consultant Ingo Bieringer explains that such hidden codes are to be found in all companies. "These rules are part of corporate culture and, although they are never defined, they steer a lot of processes and lines of communication."

We can find codes in all walks of life and not just within companies. Codes are applicable within particular cultures or social groups. Managers will have their codes, a village community will have others, and the same goes for a family or a golf club. Of course, racists or Neo-Nazis also use terms, signs and behaviours in order to establish boundaries and to establish their identity. And cabaret artists, too, would face an embarrassed silence if they could not rely on common knowledge with their audience.

These codes are the key to mutual understanding. Science understands ideas, actions or signs that are loaded with a particular meaning. These codes take the form of spoken or unspoken rules; a set of behaviours that allow us to react to different situations. The Swiss sociologist Christian Jäggi speaks about socio-cultural codes in this context. These behaviours organise the actions or signs of other people and give them meaning. They explain the world to us and shape our view of things - and restrict our possibilities.

As a result, these learned codes can make us inflexible when we are on unfamiliar ground. In some Asian countries, it is considered

rude to say no in response to a question. Instead, people will answer with a friendly smile. They might also change the subject, which is a behaviour that may seem impolite to the other person. Even Austrians like to answer a specific question with "We'll see," which is something that their German colleagues often do not understand. If you do not know a particular code, there will be misunderstanding at best and some form of punishment at worst. This ranges from being laughed at and loss of reputation to being excluded from the group in question. There is a lot of room for conflict.

The good news? Misunderstandings among social groups are avoidable. The more someone knows about the idiosyncrasies of the other group, the less likely it is that they will feel offended or even harassed. This was shown by a project carried out by the Salzburg "Spectrum" organisation, which some years ago brought out a generational interpreter called "Oida." A resident from a retirement home told a generation festival that they often pass a group of youths and hear their conversation on the way to the bus stop. Whenever they yell "Bam Oida!", the woman feels that they are talking to her and she feels outraged. A lexicon of youth-speak and other relevant information eases tension between the generations.

While you do not always need a common background to decipher codes, a common background is always helpful. HR managers know this too. If a candidate's letter of recommendation says, "He was efficient and able to give his opinion", that can be translated as "this person cannot accept any criticism." If an employer tells a female co-worker that she has "a refreshing manner in dealing with colleagues and superiors," he wants to say that "she is cheeky and has no manners."

Marketing and advertising people also seize onto codes when they try to attribute values or desires to more or less banal products such as a bar of soap. The desire to purchase should promote curiosity, sexuality, beauty, happiness. But when you cross national borders, caution is required.

When the L'Oréal cosmetics company wanted to develop a new advertising campaign around the idea of "seduction", they used hundreds of interviews to see what codes people in different countries could connect with. The outcome sounds like a joke based on national stereotypes, but it prompted L'Oréal to change their strategy nonetheless. In France, seduction was consistently seen as being positive. In the interviews, French women said that they wanted to be seen as seductive in a natural way and would sit for two hours in front of a mirror to look like they were not wearing make-up. Men in Italy seemed to be more in touch with their feminine side and admitted to spending a lot of time on grooming. The feeling was that, for them, seduction was a kind of pastime in comparison with men from other countries. In England, men were not interested in the subject at all in comparison with the women questioned. In turn, in the US, the research showed that the term "seduction" made both sexes feel uneasy. Their primary connection with the term was manipulation. And who wants that? As a result, the marketing department created a separate line of advertising for the USA. L'Oréal products are not used to for seduction, but to enhance self-confidence. The slogan used is "Because you're worth it."

In advertising, it is clear that particular codes will be dropped if they risk triggering negative associations. In everyday life people find more subtle solutions. If a cherished habit or ritual has a politically incorrect connotation, the code will only be hinted at slightly, as is the case when it comes to the consumption of alcohol. Thus, the phrase "going for a beer together" can mean a lot of things in Austria. This ranges from "a quiet, in-depth chat about something" to "going on a bender."

But no one in Austria would expect to meet up and just stick with one drink. Not in the culture that we have.

Translated from German by Edward Alaszewski

Courtesy of Apropos / INSP.ngo

Sacramento's Message to the Poor: **MOVE OUT**

A Commentary

By Cathleen Williams

They chopped down the trees at Twin Rivers public housing project in December of last year, felling the bare, graceful sycamores, the dark-leaved live oaks and elms, that had shaded the homes and surrounding lawns of Twin Rivers. The rows of stucco bungalows, each with a little frame porch, stand in eerie quiet on curving, deserted streets, neat, well-maintained, ready for new residents. It seems. But the community is silently awaiting total demolition.

By the end of 2017, most (reportedly 60%) of the Twin Rivers' tenants had already been dispersed across the city and county – and to neighboring towns – under the Relocation Plan produced by Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA). They have rights under the law as displaced tenants, including the right of return. They are eligible to move to public housing projects managed by SHRA. Alternatively, some have found privately owned apartments where the rent is subsidized by "Section 8" vouchers, the federal program established to limit rent payments to about 30% of income. Those who remain fear for the future, seeing how families have been forced to move to remote suburbs and other cities in the region. And they fear that the move, as promised, will not be "temporary," or within the two year period mentioned in various reports. There is no legal limit or guarantee on how many years it will take to return.

Twin Rivers once provided 218 low-income units, housing over 400 people, half of them children. It is being torn down as part of a profitable plan to create "mixed income" housing on a new, expanded site. The same number of low-income units would eventually be available, no longer as public housing but as "project-based" Section 8 apartments. Also, the plan promises additional housing, 135 units at market rate, as well 134 "low income" apartments, to be rented to workers who would not otherwise be able to afford the steep costs of living near the central city (according to the promotional materials).

Twin Rivers and the surrounding area would undergo a total "transformation," as shown in the gauzy on-line drawings produced by the SHRA. Bike paths: A new park, a new light rail station, expansive facilities for new tech businesses. The homeless population of the area, described by Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment as "highly visible" – nothing else about them appears to be important – would be treated "sensitively"

while eliminating "unsanctioned food handouts" and expecting "an appropriate standard of conduct from this population." What might be "appropriate" conduct from these economic refugees, surviving outdoors in Sacramento's bitter wet winters and the death-dealing summer heat, is not specified.

The idea is to redevelop this old industrial and warehouse district, adjacent to downtown and to other redevelopment projects like the Railyards, and to create a new Silicon Valley of wealth, beauty, and happiness. A mix of federal, state, and local funds, as well as private financing is "expected" and "anticipated" to make it all possible, vastly enriching developers and other real estate interests, financiers, and construction companies, with the full support of every housing agency and politician in the city.

A \$30 million "seed" grant from the federal government under the Obama-era "Neighborhood Choice Initiative" is supposed to be "leveraged" to secure other grants and loans. However, this grant covers only a fraction of the cost of rebuilding Twin Rivers and the project as a whole – variously estimated to cost between \$100 million and \$300 million. There is no public record of any other grants, loans or financing. No timeline for reconstruction has been published. There has been no "breaking ground" for replacement housing – unless

you count hacking down the trees.

According to Malaki Amen, a member of the steering committee of the Healthy Sacramento Coalition, "They [Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment and the County] don't have the money. In fact, they've admitted that they don't have the money. They're forcing people to move – with no return," he said.

This long planned but wanton destruction of housing, launched without sufficient funds to actually rebuild – this plan to actually *reduce* the amount of available housing for the poor in our city-- raises a serious question. Why crush and pulverize existing dwellings, why force families to hit the road against their will, why disrupt and uproot lives *if you don't have the money to rebuild and to promptly restore residents to their former homes, which is, incidentally, required by law?*

In sum, *why would you destroy housing in the midst of a housing crisis that is – by every measure – tormenting the poor?* Thousands live outside, unhoused, or in shelters, and, according to the Sacramento Housing Alliance, rents have risen almost 20% since 2000 while income has dropped 11%. A staggering 62,072 more affordable rental homes must be built to meet the needs of Sacramento's lowest-income renters.

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Many Dead Trees in Twin Rivers

Sacramento's Message

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The destruction of public housing intensifies competition for Section 8 housing which is already in desperately short supply. Indeed, Section 8 – absolutely limited and further threatened by the Trump administration's ambition to eliminate housing for the poor – has become a shell game played by Mayor Steinberg and other officials.

They promise that homeless people – who are, after all, “highly visible” – shall be housed. Some spots on the Section 8 waiting lists are supposed to be prioritized for them. It's hardly noted that this policy will block housing for hundreds, if not thousands, of others on the waiting list. The Mayor's proposal for 1,000 “Tiny Homes” taps into Section 8 to pay the rent, with no other concrete proposals for financing or constructing these new units. Yet, according to the most recent, obscene, figures, 70,000 people need and qualify for Section 8 subsidized housing in Sacramento. SHRA holds only about 12,000 vouchers, and about 800 open up each year. Overall, landlords are increasingly reluctant to rent to tenants under Section 8 because they can get higher market rates. In a survey published in the Relocation Plan, only 37 landlords were accepting Section 8 tenants throughout the entire city

in the midsummer of 2017. Nationally (and probably locally), only one in five families who qualify for the housing subsidy actually receive one.

The fact is that the demolition of public housing is a national policy and its impact on the poor over the decades has been devastating. In the midst of eviction riots and sprawling homeless encampments, New Deal policy makers recognized in the 1930's that public housing was a basic democratic right, since “private developers and landlords were never going to build or maintain anywhere near enough homes for the urban poor.” (See, New York Times “*The Towers Came Down, And With Them The Promise of Public Housing*” 2/6/18.)

But as “inner” cities became profit centers once again, there was money to be made in demolishing public housing especially if it was located near “rejuvenating neighborhoods” like downtown Sacramento. Nationally, since the 1990's, 250,000 public housing units have been torn down. The pattern is always the same: suddenly, city fathers (like the Sacramento City Council) “discover” that there are pockets of (highly segregated) poverty in their communities – public housing communities – which must be torn down for the benefit of all.

The dislocation and dispersal begins, with the result, as in Chicago, that “the vertical [public housing] ghettos from which the families are being moved are being replaced with horizontal ghettos, located in well defined, segregated neighborhoods” – where Section 8 housing is concentrated. (see, New York Times, 2/6/18.) An unknown number never return to their homes – as recently commented in a Sacramento Bee article, that allows “more space for market rate housing” once the project is rebuilt. (Sacramento Bee, “*Sacramento Seeks to Demolish, Rebuild Public Housing Projects*” 6/10/15.)

The Sacramento Tenants' Union is now interviewing the remaining Twin Rivers tenants to involve them in a campaign to enforce their rights under the law. As Mackenzie Wilson, Tenants' Union organizer, explains, “The mission of the Tenants Union is to represent, advocate, and organize tenants facing eviction, confronting rents raised by landlords who are often distant, giant corporations, educating them to know their rights and bringing them together to brainstorm about what we know we need – a human right to housing.”

*To learn more, email
Cathleen@markmerin.com.*

Tiny Houses or Castles in the Clouds?

By Suzanne Hastings

Mayor Steinberg has promised at least one thousand tiny houses in the next two years to help alleviate the homeless situation in Sacramento. This may seem like a viable solution on paper, but to those who live on the streets, this may just feel like bread crumbs leading nowhere.

The problem is, people need a place to go now, not two years from now. With the amount of people being displaced in the city every day, a few tiny houses are not going to cover it.

The major obstacle to this is always the same; where will the city put tiny houses? The city will need to inspect all properties and there will need to be permits, and the local NIMBYs will always fight to prevent permits. All this takes time, and all this red tape means delays for people desperately in need of housing.

It would seem that maybe it would be quicker to just bring in low income trailer parks, at least until some out-of-

town investor buys up the land. Many apartment houses are owned by out of town corporations, which are under the control of Wall Street investors who build for profit. Local property owners want to get in on the profit taking so this drives up neighbor rents causing rents to become unaffordable for the current residents. The SN&R reported on one local instance that these corporations are “investing in African-American neighborhoods” driving once affordable rents up, and people out. (Sacramento News & Review: Feb 8 / 2018 “Land of Corporate Landlords” by Scott Thomas Anderson)

The city recently spent close to a million dollars on a riot vehicle, yet seems to have no money to provide for its most vulnerable citizens, the unhoused. As usual, the city is preparing for problems caused by its short sighted policies instead of trying to solve them.

Once again, the unhoused are being promised castles in the clouds, never anything tangible to stand on.

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People's Revolt

By Niki Jones

Is there fear here of a people's revolt?
People, revolt! Take up arms.
Arms meaning pens, guitars, computers
and...your arms.
People, revolt! People, demand!
The closer you begin, the closer it is at hand.

People, revolt!
Against exploitative bosses,
and privatized or underfunded, gutted schools
against lawless policy and eavesdropping, ego driven fools.

People, revolt,
with a preference for peace
and a love of what's true,
shout from street corners,
shout from roofs!

Take up arms, the time is here
to take up arms that release from fear.
Oh but fear is so strong, stifling,
so binding in it's might;
fear of chaos, loss, pain and plight,
fear of indictment or a falling GDP.
Will these fears bind you?
Do they still bind me?

More of us than them. More of us than them.
Take up arms, mostly pens.
If this is a war, then we'll wage it.
Keep in mind it's not what we've made it.
But heartbeats are stopping and our bills are piling
and overhead, look up and be assured,
the drones and lying narratives are flying.

More of us than them. More of us than them.
Take up arms, focus the lens.
If this is a war then we'll wage it.
Though it's not what we've made it.
Children and elders are hungry and living outside.
Behind bars, brothers, sisters, siblings have died.
With impunity cops and soldiers kill our loved ones worldwide.
Behind security, fear, and legal precedent, they effectively hide.

More of us than them. More of us than them.
Take up arms, sharpen your friends.
If this is a war, then we'll wage it.
It's not what we've made it.

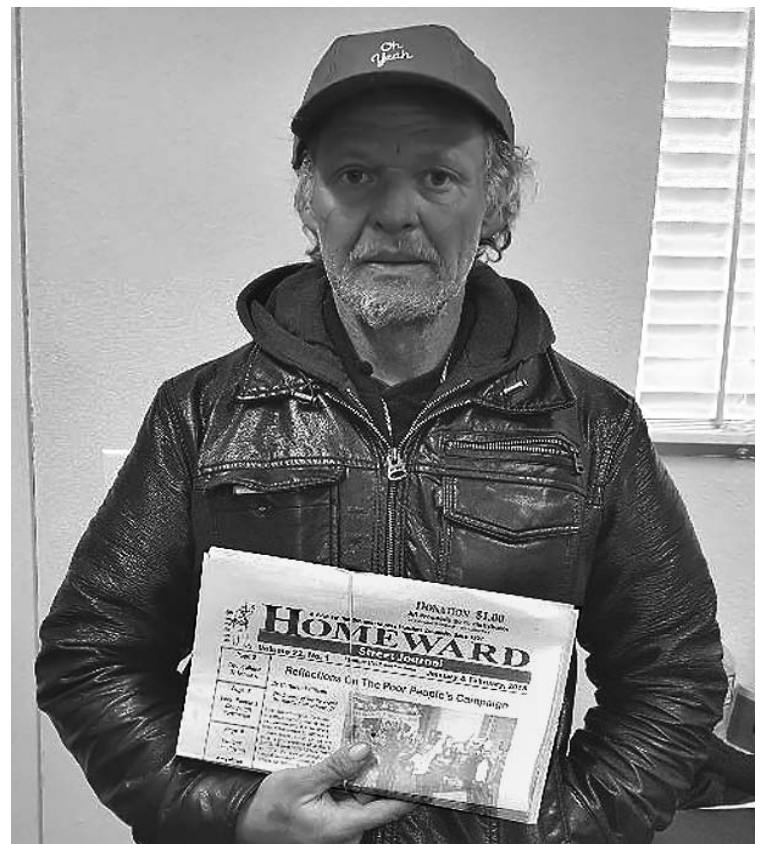
When their laws and systems of enforcement
are shown to be unjust and causing harm,
do they not feel their own legitimacy falter?
Our trust spoiled, indignant, we raise up an alarm:

Cops are complicit! Courts are complicit! Councils are complicit!
Capitols are complicit! Capital is complicit!

More of us than them. More of us than them.
Take up arms, grow potatoes, onions.
If this is a war then we'll wage it.
We know it's not what we've made it.
With our survival on the line, these are racist, sexist, economic war
crimes.
No path out for the poor but upheaval, continued oppression, a
nurtured evil
ripe for our righteous rage to engage in its complete uprooting.

More of us than them. More of us than them.
Take up arms, yet everywhere make amends.
This is a war and we'll wage it.
Together, we'll defeat those that make it.

Distributor Profile



Don Finch has been a Homeward Street Journal distributor for two and a half years. He's lived in Sacramento since 1967 and has been homeless for five years. He's working on getting low-income housing and is on the waiting list for housing. Don said "I like selling the paper. I meet very interesting people out here. Sacramento is a great place to live. I believe Homeward is a great newspaper!"

I want to help HOMEWARD continue in Sacramento.

Enclosed find my donation of \$20 for a one year subscription.

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Street & Apt: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Make checks payable to the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee (SHOC) and mail to: PO Box 952 Sacramento, CA 95812

22.2
Office Use Only

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Resources List

Night Shelters**Salvation Army:** 12th and North B St. 30 days per year: Dormitory living, C&S: Dinner, breakfast clothing for residents: Men/Women: Sign-up SA patio weekdays at 1PM. 916-442-0331**St. Johnis Shelter:** Women and Children. 4410 Power Inn Rd. Call between 10am & 3pm for space availability. 916-453-1482**Union Gospel Mission:** 400 Bannon St. Beds for Men Only, sign up 6:30pm at mission, Newcomers/Referrals have priority. 7:30pm Chapel Service with meal afterwards, 6am breakfast for residents. Showers / shaves 9-11am & 1-2:45pm. open to all homeless men: 916-447-3268**Next Move (formerly SAEHC)** 24 hr Family Shelter; Families, single adults with children who have no other resource: Women's Refuge; single women, no children: Call for screening/space availability 916-455-2160**Volunteers of America Family Shelter:** Adults w/children only. Apply Tues.-Thurs. 1-3 pm 1490 Blding B, N. "A" St. 916-443-4688**Day Shelters****Friendship Park:** 12th St. & North C: Weekdays 7am - 2:30pm: open to anyone: Many services**Meals****Union Gospel Mission:** 400 Bannon St.: 7 days, Evening meal, Men/Women: Church service 7:00pm required, dinner following 8:30-9:15pm. Sunday 11am service, lunch at noon. 916-447-3268**Loaves & Fishes:** 1321 No. C St.: Lunch every day 11:30am-1pm. Tickets available 7 am- 12:30 pm at Friendship Park weekdays: at 8 am on Saturday and 10am on Sundays .**Women's Civic Improvement Center:** Seniors Only: 3555 3rd Ave. 11:30-12:30 lunch M-F 916-452-2866**Food-not-Bombs:** serves free food in Cesar Chavez Plaza, 9th & J St., every Sunday 1:30 pm. All Welcome.**Foundation of Faith Ministries** 2721 Dawes St. Rancho Cordova. Every 4th Sat. 3-5 pm All Welcome.**Glory Bound Street Ministry** 4527 Parker Ave. Sundays; breakfast 11:30 am after 10 am church service; dinner 6:30 pm after 5 pm church service: Fridays; dinner 7 pm after 6 pm church service. Must attend services. 916-452-7078**Safe Haven Calvary Christan Center:** 1300 North C St. 8 am Sun, Coffee, Women's clothing, Service 9am: Wed. 6 pm bible study.**Women & Children****Maryhouse:** 1321 No. C St. suite 32: Breakfast for Women and children 8am-9am. Day shelter 8am-3pm weekdays for women and families.**Wellspring** 3414 4th St.: T&Th full breakfast: M-W-F continental breakfast for women and children. 916-454-9688**Youth Services****Wind Youth Services:** Drop-In Center for youth (ages 12-24) experiencing homelessness: 1722 J Street, M-F 9am-6pm, S-S 10am-2pm: Emergency shelter for ages 12-17, call **1-800-339-7177**: Emergency shelter for ages 18-24, call **916-561-4900**. Services also include: street outreach, case management, mental health**Free Clothing****Sacramento Food Bank:** 3333 3rd Ave. (at Broadway) 10am-2pm Mon - Fri. **916-456-1980****Union Gospel Mission:** 400 Bannon St. Men: M-Sat 9-11am or 1-2:45pm: Women and Children: Thurs. 9 am sign up, 9:30-10am bible study, 10 am - 12 pm shop. **916-447-3268****Glory Bound Street Ministry** 4527 Parker Ave. Clothes Closet, Sundays 11:30 am all welcome. **916- 452-7078****Medical****Mercy Clinic:** For homeless adults, children: Nurse's office in Friendship park 7:30am & 12:30pm. **916-446-3345****Sacramento Dental Clinic:** 4600 Broadway (Primary Care Blding) Walk-ins 8 am - 12:30 pm **916-874-8300****Mental Health****Guest House, 600 Bercut Drive.:** Homeless Mental Health Clinic. Mental Health evaluation, medication if needed. Housing referrals for mentally ill, GA refs, SSI aps, refs to A & D counseling: **916-440-1500****TLCS Intake Offices:** 1400 N. Ai St. Blding. A: Adults 18 yrs & up; Referrals to transitional living programs, independant living, mental health support services; SSI/SSDI application assistance; Walk-ins 8-11am M-F **916-440-1500****Genesis:** Professional Counseling for life problems. Referrals. 401 12th St. (DeLaney Center). **916-699-1536****Crisis Intervention****WEAVE:** Services for victims of domestic violence and sexual assault and their children. Referrals to court mandated battery intervention programs, Safe house, 24 hr. crisis line: 920-2952**AIDS / HIV****AIDS Housing Alliance** provides residential care, transitional housing & permanent housing services to homeless persons living with aids. **916-329-1093** weekdays.**CARES (Center for AIDS Research, Education and Service):** 1500 21st ST. Serves people with HIV and AIDS. Medical care, mental health, case mgmt, health ed and regional prevention/ed classes. **916-443-3299****Breaking Barriers:** Homeless Outreach Program provides direct services to people living with AIDS and HIV. Transportation to social services, medical appointments, job interviews, and housing assistance. **916-447-2437****Harm Reduction Services:** 40001 12 Ave.; High risk outreach; HIV, Hep-C testing; case management for HIV; free medical clinic, needle exchange. **916-456-4849****Alternative Test Site:** Free anonymous HIV testing, Wed /Thurs. Call for appt. **916-874-7720**.**Legal Aid****Disability Rights, CA:** Free legal services for people with disabilities. Call for appt. toll free: TTY:(800)776-5746**Tommy Clinkenbeard Legal Clinic:** 401 12th St. (DeLaney Center) Free legal assistance and advocacy for problems related to homelessness. **916-446-0368****Legal Services of Northern California, Inc:** 515 12th St. (at E ST.) M-F 8:30am-12pm, 1pm-5pm. Problems with public benefits, landlord / tenant, divorce clinic. Call for appt. **916-551-2150****Welfare Rights:** 1901 Alhambra Blvd. (2nd floor) M-F 9am-5pm: AFDC, Food Stamps, Workfare and Medical rep at hearings. **916-736-0616****Social Security Disability / SSI Lawyer** Free Consultation **916-658-1880****Veterans****VA Outreach:** 1-800-827-1000**Homeless VA Coordinator:** **916-364-6547****About SHA**

The Sacramento Housing Alliance is a network of concerned citizens who promote decent affordable housing for low income households and homeless people through advocacy and participation in public discourse.

For more info, or if you would like to participate, please call:

916-455-4900<http://sachousingalliance.org>909 12th Street, Suite 114
Sacramento, CA 95814*The SHA does not itself
provide or manage housing.***Mather VA Social Works:** help getting DD-214, any vet. **916-843-7064****Sacramento Veterans Resource Center** 7270 East Southgate Dr. **916-393-8387****Miscellaneous****Francis House Center 1422 C St.** Must get a lottery number 9am. M,Tu,Th,F for Direct Services: ID vouchers, transp. assistance; In depth resource coaching by apt.; Veteran's advocac.; Notary services Thurs. call for apt.; Job Development Center M,Tu,Th,F 9:30am - 1pm. Family Rescue motel vouchers for qualified families Mon. 1pm. **(916) 443-2646****Sacramento Food Bank & Family Services:** 3333 3rd Ave. (south of Broadway) Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 10am-1:30pm, and Wed 4pm-7pm. **916-456-1980**.**Social Services:** 28th & R ST. M-F 7:30am-5pm. Call for asst. **916-874-2072****Employment Development Department (EDD):** 2901 50th St. (at Broadway) M-F 8am-5pm. Unemployment, job services. **916-227-0300****Medi-Cal:** 1-800-773-6467, 1-888-747-1222. Or see DHA eligibility workers 1725 28th St. **916-874-2256****Social Security Office:** 8581 Folsom Blvd (East of College Greens Lite-rail stop, past the flea market) M-F 9am-4:30pm 381-9410: Natl line **1-800-772-1213****211 Sacramento
Dial 211**

for tele-info & referral service

Califorina Youth Crisis Line:
1-800-843-5200**Health Rights Hotline:**
1-916-551-2100

Welcome to Homeward:

Please help us make a difference!



Homeward Street Journal has been publishing since 1997 as a non-profit project of the Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, which is a member of the Sacramento Housing Alliance. The paper's mission is to alleviate miscommunication between communities by educating the public about housing and poverty issues, and by giving homeless people a voice in the public forum. Homeward also informs homeless persons of shelter and occupational assistance, and acts as a creative self-help opportunity for those individuals who wish to participate.

The opinions expressed in Homeward are those of the authors, and not necessarily the Sacramento Housing Alliance or SHOC or Homeward.**Submissions and Editorial Policy**

We welcome any participation or contributions: Articles, poems and other writing can be submitted at our office in Friendship Park, or mailed to the address below.

All writing submitted for publication will be edited as necessary, with due respect for the author's intent. The editors will attempt to consult with an author if changes are necessary, however, the paper will go to print with the story as edited if the author is unavailable.

All Letters to the Editor must be signed to be published. If the writer wishes to remain anonymous s/he should so state, but the letter must still be signed .

Poetry and graphics will not be edited, either the paper will publish the submission or not.

In submitting articles to the paper, authors give their permission to print their submissions in accordance with the above stipulations, as well as possible reprinting in INSP member papers, with due byline. Any requests for stories outside the above three will be referred to the author.

Subscriptions are available with a \$20 contribution. Make checks out to SHOC (Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee).

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Butte County Hires a CoC Coordinator, Finally

by Bill Mash

"I believe that it takes a village to raise a child and it takes a village to solve a problem. We are the Butte County Village with a lot of problems. Homelessness is not going away. Finally as a community we are looking at it and now is the time to address it with action plans, but more than that do the action. " — Jennifer Griggs, the new Continuum of Care Coordinator for Butte County, California

The HUD Continuum of Care (CoC) Program is designed to promote community-wide commitment to the goal of ending homelessness; provide funding for efforts by nonprofit providers, and State and local governments to quickly rehouse homeless individuals and families while minimizing the trauma and dislocation caused to homeless individuals, families, and communities by homelessness; promote access to and effect utilization of mainstream programs by homeless individuals and families; and optimize self-sufficiency among individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

Without a Roof: What would you like to accomplish over the next year as the CoC coordinator?

Griggs: The greatest accomplishment for me would be to increase the participation of organizations that are not currently involved. Whether it be healthcare, fire, police, or other non-profits and agencies, public funded or private funded. Diversifying the membership as a whole.

Without a Roof: Any queasiness that this is a one-year pilot?

Griggs: Yes, I took this position as a long-term job as something that I think is needed. After doing my own research on the CoC I concluded that, anything that moves forward in this world it's going to have to be a collaborative between government, private and public agencies. It doesn't matter if it's a homeless issue, it doesn't matter if it's a drug issue, crime issue, schooling; whatever the issue is. We as a society need to come together.



Jennifer Griggs, Butte County Continuum of Care Coordinator

Abandon, an 8th Grade Project on Homelessness

Be good to each other and do work that matters. This is the WHY behind our teaching at Chico Country Day School, within the greater community of Chico California, lends itself to teachers and students frequently seeing homeless people going about their lives in purgatory. Many people turn a blind eye to this issue, but as teachers we feel like doing work that matters has to address the problems and hardships homeless people face, especially in our community where our students can make a tangible impact on the problem. This year our 8th grade project combines science, history, math and English with the hope of one main outcome: empathy. Through research, community involvement, and the creation of a product or system, our students hope to make a change for the homeless population in our community. We asked a group of young women in our 8th grade classes to write about their experiences in the project thus far.

This project has allowed me to gain so much insight into the lives of the homeless people surrounding us. I had no idea how easy it was to become homeless. So many of the people living on the streets have no control over the factors that

led to them being homeless. I am looking forward to continuing this project and I hope our class can make a difference in our community. - Sophie S.

Starting this project shows me that you should be grateful. Some people don't have anything; and don't get to have three meals a day, or take a shower, or even have somewhere to sleep on cold winter nights. -Quincy S.

During this project, I have learned about the struggles of the homeless community, not just here in Chico, but at the state and national level as well. I have read about the hardships of different women all throughout the country, and how they built a life for themselves and what lessons they have learned from their years on the streets. I am looking forward to finding ways to help these people, because this problem of homelessness needs help and attention. - Harper M.

I have learned how homeless college students cope with school. I have learned about the differences between community colleges and universities, and the differences in expenses the students deal with on a daily basis. -Kaitlyn B.

We have recently been learning



about homelessness within our community and world wide. I was surprised about the statistics and stories. I noticed that the number of homeless youth is rising each year. This is a serious problem for our generation. What can we do to help? -Harper S.

While researching homelessness, it has become obvious to me homelessness can happen to anybody. Even with supporting programs it can sometimes seem impossible to dig out of the deep hole of homelessness. It is shocking to hear about everyday families becoming homeless almost overnight, and is terrifying to think about how easily I could be put in that situation. -Heather R.

I can admit; I avoid the homeless I see daily, within fifty yards of my school. Through this project, I am starting to understand their situation, and it is time to make a change in my community. - Kenna C.



A Heavenly Flu Experience by Bill Mash

Vickie, a delightful wheelchair bound woman without a home, was released from the hospital recently after a four-day stint with the flu. "It was like heaven, I had my own bed, bathroom, people to help me, a tv and three meals a day."

The next time someone belittles poverty stricken community members ask them if they know the difference between having a roof over your head versus living without one, and tell them, "Houseless community members consider a four day hospital stay with the flu as heavenly."

Writing for Donuts Thought it Through

It's weird having something alive inside of you
Like I know it's there, but sometimes I wonder
If I really want it there
And I should have thought it through
Because how am I supposed to, like, help it?
And I love sushi - why can't I eat it?
Maybe my baby likes sushi, ya know?
So all I gotta say is F what the doctors say
Being a good mom is more than it seems
I can barely afford a dollar for the bus
Just to get some prenatal
So how am I supposed to feed it when it comes?
I should have thought it through
Because now it's getting harder and harder
And the throwing up - god damn!
That sure as hell blows.
What to do... What to do...
Maybe I'll go smoke a cig
Even though I know it's bad for her/him
Bye

-Anonymous