



A Voice for the Sacramento Area Homeless Community Since 1997

# HOMEWARD

Street Journal

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May & June, 2022

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## Affordable Housing Lost In The Sacramento Region

By Ethan J. Evans

*Assistant Professor Sacramento  
State, Division of Social Work*

If I could turn back time, I would return to 2012, a time when nine jurisdictions in the Sacramento region had ordinances, commonly called an inclusionary housing ordinance, that required affordable housing to be built as part of new developments in Sacramento City and County, Folsom, Isleton, Sutter County, Yolo County, Davis, West Sacramento, and Winters. At the time, more than one-quarter of all inclusionary units constructed in the state were built in the Sacramento region, but several county boards and

“...the original ordinance produced 1,505 affordable units—an annual average of 107 ... the revised ordinance averages generation of only 7 units per year, totaling 36 units...”

city councils changed their programs while updating their 2013–2021 state required planning document, known as a housing element.

Those changes have led to plummeting numbers of new affordable housing units, and several years later, the region is left with far fewer available affordable housing

units, even as the need for housing continues to grow. If the region’s leaders want new developments to keep pace with the need for affordable housing, they should work to restore the original inclusionary housing ordinances and safeguard those provisions in the future.

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## Californians United for a Responsible Budget Met with Legislators on May 11th

Californians United for a Responsible Budget, “CURB”, is a state wide coalition of organizations working to reduce the number of people imprisoned and the number of prisons and jails in the state. CURB advocates for an investment in justice that centers on care, not punishment.

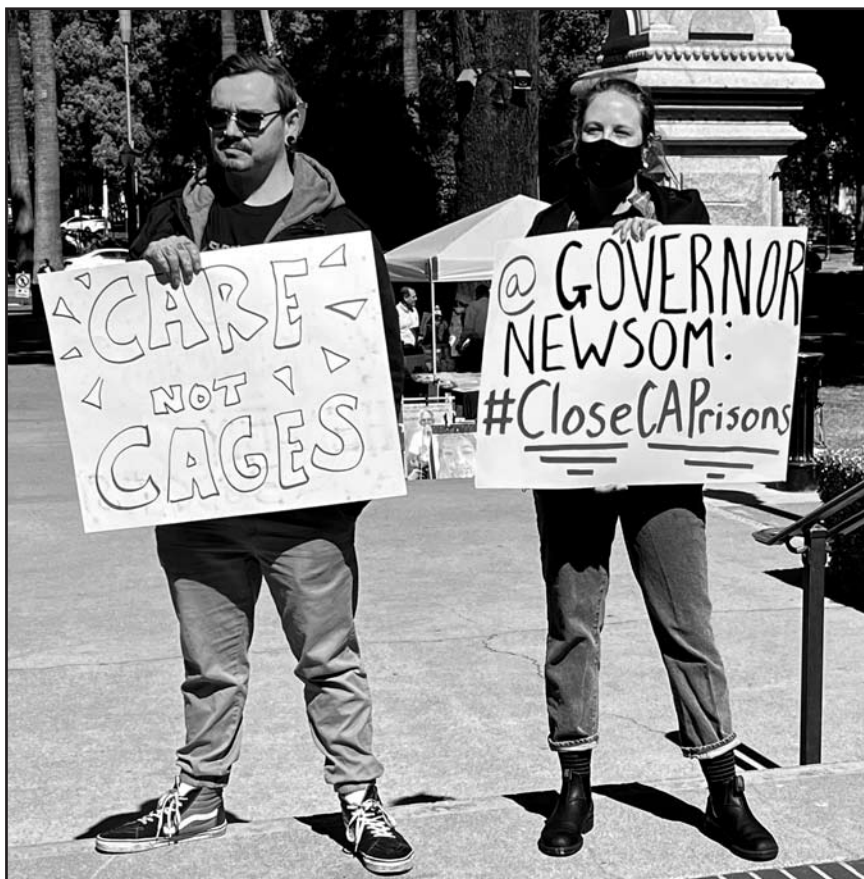
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Photos Courtesy the Author





## CURB at Capitol *from page 1*



The 2022-2023 state budget projects spending \$18.6 billion for prisons. On Wednesday, May 11th, CURB and allies gathered at the state capitol to meet with Legislators and call for Governor Newsom to redirect taxpayer dollars to community based care solutions that are proven to eradicate poverty and other root causes of harm, reducing crime and saving lives.



## *No Place to Be*

**By Cathleen Williams**

Mutilated elms  
Narrow houses on stilts  
Downtown, along the railroad tracks –  
Here, on a sidewalk  
You can get some rest, lay out  
Your coat

But don't even begin to imagine a makeshift  
bed  
Don't arrange your shoes, one by the other  
Don't fold your body  
As you always do and then zip up  
To dream of bridges in the fog  
Or forget to dream of them

Remember, it's a crime. You can  
Hunker down by the old dump  
Under the towers and transmission lines  
At Twentieth Street and C, hunker down  
Under the blackbirds who are carousing  
In sheer drunken song

We call this the wasteland.  
Here Pomo stays in his yellow tent  
(Left his people, left his native ground)  
Here Clover, thrown out by her husband  
Bathes in the American River  
As if the world were young

And Motorhome Dave  
Whose motorhome is long gone  
Offers me a smoke and a beer  
Tending his green wood fire  
He's sitting there with Cat Man  
Whose cat eases, feral, along the riverside.

At dusk, Cat Man calls his cat in  
From the wild grass, and she comes  
Swiftly running down the ravine.  
You see our desire, then  
You see our desire made known  
You see our desire for something

Necessary as a name. A home.

# Emergency Homeless Shelter & Enforcement Act of 2022

## DON'T BE FOOLED! VOTE NO ON NOVEMBER'S INITIATIVE

*Here's the Skinny on the Initiative*  
*By Homeward Staff*  
*Adapted from the Original Draft by Bob Erlenbusch of SRCEH*

- *The City of Sacramento PUNISHED CAMPING by unhoused people for decades through its "Anti-Camping" Ordinance until a Federal Court held it was "cruel and unusual punishment" to threaten criminal penalties, or to cite, arrest, and jail people who had nowhere else to go.*
- *Over the years, the anti-camping ordinance did NOTHING to resolve homelessness – which steadily increased -- but enforcement cost a lot in terms of police resources, court processing, and jail stays, as well as bringing harm to unhoused people and the neighborhoods, streets, and open spaces where they lived – as their belongings were confiscated and discarded and they were forced to circulate through the city.*
- *The Initiative brings back the wasteful, futile and cruel attempt to treat being unhoused and living outside as itself a crime, and adds new provisions and penalties for civil liability. WE CAN'T ARREST OR FINE OUR WAY OUT OF HOMELESSNESS – we know this because the police have already told us so. (Officer Mark Zoulas, Sacramento City Police.)*
- *The Initiative requires the City to "create" "spaces" and "beds" for hundreds of people within 90 days – and to forcefully move unhoused people there. Such "spaces" would be a public BLIGHT and would cost MILLIONS annually to run and maintain. Moreover, the notion that the city could create such "spaces" in 90 days is a FANTASY. TENTS ON ASPHALT? WHO KNOWS?*
- *The Initiative provides NO mandate or funding for housing, mental health and drug rehabilitation services and NO provision for PREVENTION of homelessness other than mentioning existing services provided through the County, which we know to be inadequate.*
- *The Initiative Breeds Litigation, authorizing residents to sue the City, which will cost unknown millions in court costs, city attorney's fees, and penalties which TAXPAYERS will have to pay.*
- *The Initiative provides NO FUNDING, other than mandating that the City Manager set aside a maximum of \$5 million of the general fund if it is "unobligated."*

### 6 REASONS TO VOTE NO!

- *It's a Crazy Initiative:* The reality is that there are between 16,500 – 20,000 people experiencing homelessness at present, according to official estimates. Based on mid-point of this estimate [18,000], the city would be required to "create" over 2,000 "spaces" and "beds" within 90 days and potentially over 4,000 "spaces" and "beds" within 4 months of the date the initiative passes -- without any advance planning, funding, or coordination. By comparison, since the City adopted the Comprehensive Siting Plan in August 2021, with the full efforts of the City Council and Staff, only a little over 1,000 "spaces" have been created, No amount of criminal penalties, sweeps, initiatives or litigation can "speed up" this process – without real funding and city wide commitment, which the Initiative does not and cannot provide.
- *The Initiative Is No "Magic Bullet" Because It Doesn't Provide Real Solutions:* Rising rents are pushing people to the street, and the Initiative does not include proven solutions, including tiny homes and villages; modular and mobile homes; and above all rent subsidies/affordable housing. It does not create any obligation on the part of the County to address the problems that individuals face in getting access to needed services, or even meals or sanitation at the sites of the "beds" and "spaces".
- *The Cost of the Initiative is Astronomical:* Using the city's own computations, the average costs for homeless encampments, housing, and other city provided services is \$75 per person/day. The cost of 4,320 spaces and beds which the City would be required to "create" in four months under the Initiative would be \$118 million annually, making it impossible to direct funds toward proven housing solutions and services.
- *No Funding:* The City Manager has already indicated that the City will be in the red next year due to a budget deficit. According to the City Managers budget projections, for FY2022-23 there will be no unobligated general fund; "external" funding (state and federal) is neither known or guaranteed. The Initiative thus mandates no funding at all.
- *Nimbyism Free For All -- No Neighborhood or Resident Input, or Elected Input, on Location of Unhoused Shelters or Encampments –* So where are these thousands of "beds" and "spaces" to be located in the City? The initiative leaves this up the City Manager – leading to inevitable disputes, lawsuits, and ugly rhetoric about where unhoused people can live, dividing and embittering our residents.
- *Sacramento Has Already Tried Criminal Penalties and Police "Management" to Control Unhoused People – It Doesn't Work.* After decades of relying on the police to "control" unhoused people, we know it's wasteful use of police resources, it is a cruel and unusual punishment for people who have nowhere to go, (as the Federal Courts have already ruled), and it has cost the city and the courts hundreds of millions of dollars. We can't arrest our way out of homelessness.

***Reject the Pie in the Sky – Vote No on the Initiative!***

***Let's Find Real Solutions for Real People!***



# Housing For The People: “Until I Can Make My Dream Happen...”

**By Brian Augustine**  
*Denver VOICE, Colorado*

Before I became homeless, I had a mortgage, truck, and dog.

I was buying a house in Northglenn, Colorado, a suburb of Denver. Me and my brother went in on the house together to give our mother a stable forever home. This was going to be my forever home too.

We had gotten lucky and found a five-bedroom, two-bathroom house for \$110,000 – just before Colorado’s housing market started to climb.

People offered us \$120,000 to buy the house from us. This was home to me because when I came home from work, people were waiting for me, and Ruth, my dog, was thrilled to see me each and every time.

After nine years, I came home, and my brother had moved out. His explanation didn’t make sense to me. He said he felt threatened for his life. In my family, that meant someone had a weapon and was coming after them. (Yes, I come from a very dysfunctional family.)

I found out later, he had taken a \$45,000 loan on the equity of the house, without my knowledge, to pay off his credit cards. He could do this because we didn’t sign an agreement saying he couldn’t. (Yes, that’s the law.) I was stuck not only with the mortgage, but also his loan.

So, I got a second job and prepared to spend my next ten years paying only bills. A few months later, my world fell apart.

It was the middle of May, and I was raking up the last of the leaves that had fallen after the first snow of winter. That’s when my back blew out. I blew a disc out, plus three vertebrae. The doctors told me it was just a matter of time before it ruptured, and I would be wheelchair-bound for life.

I walk with a cane because I refuse to listen to doctors. I still use the cane to stand up straight.

I now live in a room, where the rent has more than doubled in the ten and a half years I have lived here, and it would have been tripled if not for the pandemic or having a good landlord.

This is in no way a home. There is no one to come home to, nothing waiting for my return – just a shelter.

Don’t get me wrong, having a shelter is great after living on the streets. I don’t miss the cold winter nights of Colorado.

The house I ended up losing to foreclosure recently sold for \$450,000 – four times the amount I paid for it 20 years ago. I don’t miss the house, but the home is a loss that still leaves an ache in my heart.

Now, I sell the street paper *Denver VOICE* to pay my rent, and to live in the place I call home, but it isn’t. Home now are the corners I work. That is where people are happy to see me, where I feel welcome and comfortable.

The price of housing has gone up so dramatically, that if I wanted to buy a house in Denver and qualify for a loan, I would have to make in a month what I used to make in six months. But there are no places I could afford to live or a town where a home is affordable and livable. I would move to one of these places.

But being on a fixed income, I don’t have the money to move or the transportation to even do my shopping.

I don’t mind small towns or country living. I don’t need to be where things are happening, or where there are thousands of things to do, most of which I can’t afford to do anyway,

My dream is to have a nice house on 40 acres of land where I can grow food. I’d take that food to poorer areas of big places and give

healthy food to people who need it most. And I believe I will be presented with the ability to have what doesn’t come easily.

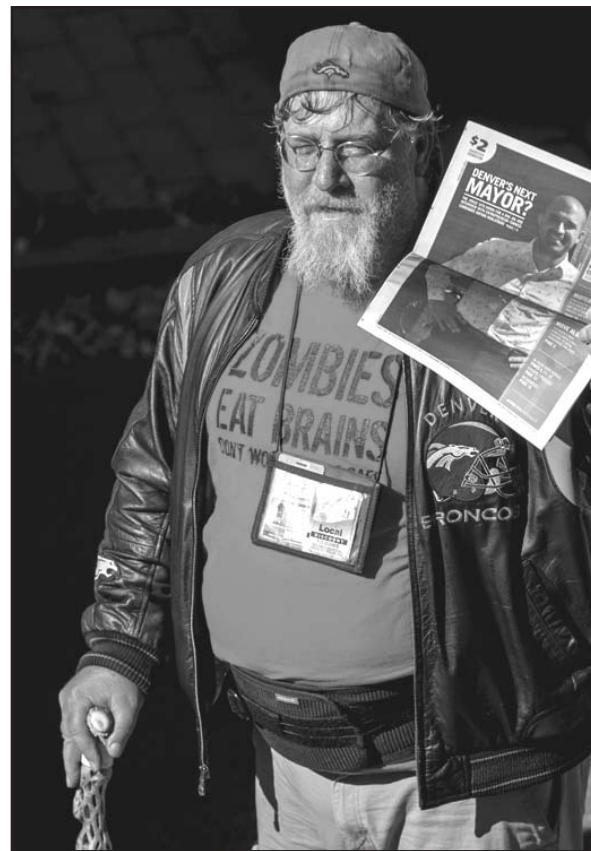
I would spend my free time writing the stories that come to me, maybe get a book published.

I’ve heard that throughout America, there is more than enough housing, that everyone could have a place to live without building even one new house. But we build big cities, bigger, while small towns are emptier.

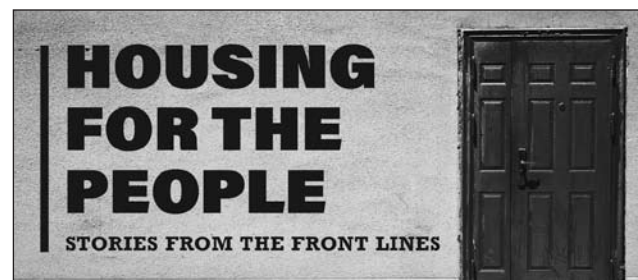
Until I can make my dream happen, I will keep stepping forward, looking at the short-term future, and getting prepared for more tough times, while at the same time, keeping an optimistic outlook on life.

*Housing for the People is a column produced by the International Network of Street Papers from people on the frontlines of the housing justice movement in America and beyond.*

*Courtesy of INSP North America / International Network of Street Papers*



Brian - Photo Courtesy Denver VOICE



# Affordable Housing Lost

from page 1

## Exhibit A: The City of Sacramento

Adopted in 2000, Sacramento previously operated under the Mixed-Income Housing Ordinance, which established an inclusionary housing program that required 15% of all housing built to be affordable to low-income households that earned up to 80% of the area median income (AMI) and very low-income households with income up to 50% of AMI—5% and 10% of the required units respectively. It applied in new growth areas of the city, i.e., those designated areas where a large majority of future residential development was anticipated, which included greenfield areas like Natomas and Delta Shores, two large brownfield sites, the Downtown Railyards, and to some infill areas, including the portion of North Sacramento that lies north of Interstate 80.

As one example of the changing ordinances that began after 2012, in 2015, Sacramento revised the Mixed-Income Housing Ordinance, which implemented an affordable housing impact fee for all new housing units and large subdivisions in place of required affordable housing units. The revenue generated from the fee was then to be placed in a citywide Housing Trust Fund and used to develop affordable housing units. Along with the fee, the ordinance also applied citywide, instead of only to new growth areas, and because planned developments were allowed to opt into the new ordinance, approximately 3,300 planned affordable units were affected.

### Opportunities Lost in New Growth Areas

Supporters of the revision claimed that a city-wide approach and use of an in-lieu fee option would result in unprecedented opportunities for affordable housing, while maintaining a healthy environment for Sacramento's growth and revitalization—however, the data from the past several years demonstrates that the revised ordinance is generating far fewer affordable units than the original. While in affect, the original ordinance produced 1,505 affordable units—an annual average of 107. So far, the revised ordinance averages generation of only 7 units per year, totaling 36 units.

Further, because the revised ordinance allowed developments with approved Inclusionary Housing Plans to opt into the new ordinance, at least five large, planned projects reduced the number of units that would have been built had the original ordinance remained. For two of these developments, there were plans to produce a combined 1,232 affordable units, but under the revised ordinance, the planned affordable housing unit equivalency was 614 fewer units.

The other three developments were located within new growth areas and if they had sought plan approval before 2015 would have had to meet the 15% inclusionary requirement—instead they sought approval after the revision was adopted. The revenue generated from their fee contributed toward 1,283 less units than what they would have been required to build under the original ordinance.

### Paradise Lost

Paradise lost is the story of original sin. The scenario for affordable housing in 2012 under the original Mixed-Income Housing Ordinance was not exactly paradise, but in comparison had the ordinance not been revised, it would have produced more than double the housing affordable to low and very low-income households. The greater availability of affordable housing could have kept families and low-income people from being priced out of the market—in 2021, average rent for a family of four was \$2,825. In affordable housing, the cost would be over \$1,000 less.

In sum, this means that had the ordinance not been revised, nearly 2,000 more individuals and families who were experiencing increasingly expensive housing in the city could have found a home in Sacramento's newest neighborhoods. To reverse and mitigate the damage done by the new housing ordinances, county and city leaders should assess the damage done, and where necessary either revert back to the original housing ordinances, or enhance requirements to better meet the need for safe, secure housing in the region.

## *A Special Thank You to all our Underwriters:*

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Gregory Martin  
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Michael Meek  
Kay & David Mogavero  
Robert Ream  
Salvador & Gloria  
Sandoval  
Jeffery Schwarzchild  
Dorothy Smith  
John & Jan Szostek  
Edith Taylor  
Edwina White  
Earl Withycombe II

Bongo Books  
Mercy Pedalers  
Organize Sacramento  
Uptown Studios Inc.



# Housing For The People: “How An Affordable Apartment Changed My Life”

By Vicky Batcher

*The Contributor*, Nashville

In the space of a weekend, my son Jason’s wife walked out, my other son Paul moved out of the RV he shared with me and in with Jason, who is also his twin.

I moved on. Soon after, a simple “like” button on Facebook turned out changing my life.

I liked the page of the Metropolitan Development and Housing Agency (MDHA), which runs Nashville’s largest housing developments, and started seeing their posts about waitlists opening up for real affordable housing, not income-restricted affordable housing. When a property came up for the waitlist to open, I felt like a runner taking the start stance. Everything was falling into place. My sons were in housing, now it was time for myself.

I filled out the online application, submitted it at the right time and waited. I had been living in that bare-bones RV, unless I was hooked up to electricity and water, which a church sometimes allowed us to do. The parks would soon be closing, and I had a little bit left over for the very first park we ever went to – 7 Points Campground. Then when I saw the first spot we ever camped, I felt it was a sign. Paul helped me hook up and off he went and there we were in the quiet of nature, relaxing. It was the final time I’d be in a park that year, or so I thought.

That next day I got a call from a number I wasn’t familiar with and hesitated to answer it. On the third ring, I thought I’d live dangerously and picked it up. I could hardly believe who was on the other end. She said her name was Erica and she was calling from MDHA. My heart just stopped. Everything came to a halt as I tried to comprehend what she was saying: “Your name has come up on our waitlist and we have an apartment for you.”

Tears started to fill up in my eyes. Is this really happening? Would I get my hopes up like before when the tenant tried renting her duplex out in a scam? Or the many

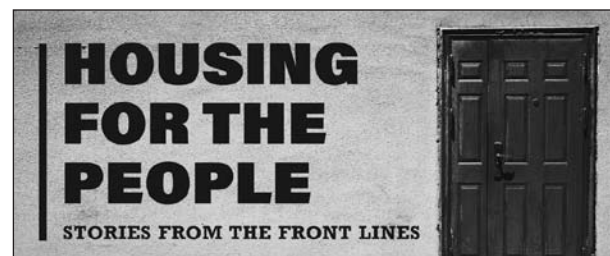
people who would contact me through the preceding seven years saying “I can rent to you” until the evictions came out. We made arrangements to meet that Monday to go over paperwork and the next day I could move in. It wasn’t until hours later I started making my list of questions, all the time knowing I didn’t care where or what it was. I was going to have a home. Monday arrived and the excitement grew until finally my ride picked me up at the church parking lot that I had called home for a few months, and off we went to Hadley Park Towers in Nashville.

After meeting with Erica and seeing the apartment, I felt this was home so went down to the office to sign the lease and make the payments. Then that moment came where she handed me the keys. It’s a moment I’ll never forget. A rollercoaster of emotions swept through every bit of my body. It was finally over. My journey of homelessness was finally over. Or was it?

That afternoon some friends helped with getting things out of the RV and down to my new apartment. *My apartment. My affordable housing apartment!* It was great, but also tough. I was moving to a city I lived near but never in. Nashville is big. Getting around was complicated and often filled with a lot of anxiety. I relied on friends to drive me or if that didn’t work, I’d call Access Ride. It would normally take me two days to get over the anxiety to call Access Ride, a door-to-door service WeGo provides for the disabled. It seemed like when I moved in, I was afraid to leave the apartment except to take my dog Faith, an emotional support animal, out. Writing was now my therapy, for real.

Selling *The Contributor* paid the rent on my apartment and other publications where I would write also paid me so I could pay up and stay ahead of the bills and anxiety. Feeling like I was put here to do more, I saw a Facebook post about needing someone with lived experience to serve on a committee and I applied.

That’s one thing I could really share, and maybe make improvements and save the lives of other people experiencing homelessness. I joined the Continuum of



Care Homeless Planning Council with monthly meetings, usually through Zoom due to the pandemic. When opportunities for positions on other committees came up where I thought I could help make changes, I jumped at the chance. It was intimidating at times looking over the others that made up the council – important people, leaders in the community.

Pretty soon I started opening my mouth, which probably shocked a few thinking I might be mute. I told them about the affordable housing at MDHA, I started putting myself into the conversation and making suggestions. The financial protection of finally receiving social security was such a feeling of peace. I’m able to pay rent, cell phone and internet bills, take care of Faith’s needs, and eat. After working with the Financial Empowerment Center, I’m learning to add to my savings account.

I just signed my renewal lease on my apartment for the third year. There is one thing I can count on with affordable housing – I can always pay my rent. True affordable housing is when your rent never exceeds 30 per cent of your income. You can always afford it. If your income changes all you do is show them in the office and they change your rent. Ending homelessness is easy – build more true affordable housing. Nashville has done some incredible things this past year in their fight to end homelessness. Many new programs have appeared that are housing the unhoused faster than ever before. We still have a lot of work to do but we’re on the right path.

Safety and security for the first time in seven years was an emotion that would take time getting used to. I was dealing with other feelings – fear, nightmares and the occasional note from the management threatening evictions if rules weren’t followed. Even though I was in compliance, that word eviction just sent chills through me. I can’t lose my apartment, I can’t. And I won’t.

*Courtesy of INSP North America / International Network of Street Papers*

# Who Are the Makers & the Takers?

By Muriel Strand

We've had about a century of industrial capitalists using cheap fossil energy to style themselves as 'makers,' all the while taking over sociopathic proportions of workers' lives in return for meager wages. But when the workers get ahead a bit, something shipwrecks their boat, and they need help mending it. Then the 'makers' who have taken over so much of workers' lives and productivity call workers 'takers' of government money even though that gummint money is after all just the taxes of the 99% because the 1% don't pay taxes.

Bottomline, all these debates about who are the makers and the takers, and when making or taking are good or bad, are about fairness. Anthropologists and psychologists report that humans have an instinctive rejection of unfairness almost from infancy. So the unfairness of criminalizing involuntary homelessness must arise from cultural rather than innate causes.

If making and taking were well balanced, the 'makers' who are industrial capitalists would pay workers a living wage for working safely instead of allocating all productivity increases to executive salaries and shareholder dividends. And the 'takers' who are laid-off wage earners, bankrupt famers, or unpaid caretakers would not end up homeless if they lost their job, their car or their apartment, or if they got sick and didn't have good or any insurance, or if they got divorced, or if their student loan servicer garnished their wages, or if they still had PTSD from war or other prior abuse, or if they were a victim of ID theft, fire, flood, or a car crash, etc.

A rising tide only lifts the boats that haven't been shipwrecked by any of the many economic reefs, shoals, and tsunamis that populate neoliberal capitalism. But when the makers who are actually net takers, the predatory capitalists, take so much of the pie that some get only crumbs at best, that's

“...their behavior suggests they think homeless folks will behave better if they are scapegoated, criminalized, and relentlessly swept hither and yon...”

Greed, one of the seven deadly sins. It's also a bad idea because it actually is less productive, so Greed means you are shorting yourself too.

As usual, heroic amounts of rationalization are necessary for the takers who call themselves makers to believe their own bullshit. One reason so much rationalization is needed is because cheap fossil energy allows the accumulation of a degree of economic power that could never have existed otherwise. This disparity creates vast psychic distances between the 1% and the half of the 99% who would like to be above average financially rather than underwater. Although people on the sides of that economic abyss may try to communicate, they live in different worlds and speak different languages. That makes it easy for comfy folks to blame homeless folks for being homeless even though predatory capitalism rationalized exporting all those blue-collar manufacturing jobs starting in 1980, thanks to the Reagan Revolution.

So what does all this have to do with your shopping and your voting? Many Sacramento business owners are reportedly terrified that people who have nothing, who often look like grownup versions of Linus' pal Pigpen or a plumber after a long work day, will scare away customers and the owners won't make enough to pay their staff or rent or mortgage or car payment or hospital bill or credit card or student loan payments, etc. Even though homeless folks are far more likely to be harassed than to harass others. And no, polite panhandling is not harassment.

So what do paranoid proprietors in Sacramento have to do with predatory capitalists? Mostly I think they both have an attitude problem—zero-sum thinking to

be precise. 'If you're not with me, you're against me.' Curiously and paradoxically, their behavior suggests they think homeless folks will behave better if they are scapegoated, criminalized, and relentlessly swept hither and yon because, as the sarcasm goes, 'the floggings will continue until morale improves.'

Taking the high side of expected estimates from the point-in-time count earlier this year, I calculate that there are about 35 city residents, and slightly over 100 county residents, for each homeless Sacramentan. And just about every politician and business and neighborhood association acts like this tiny minority has cooties and will shipwreck our property values. I think Sacramento as a community is overdue for a serious reality check. Joe Smith, the Loaves & Fishes Director of Advocacy, tells me that most homeless people want to work, to contribute, to belong, just like all of us.

That's why we need a right-to-work law mandating everyone's right to do useful work for a respectable wage, rather than the misleading version we have now that just weakens the unions, unions that are private-sector workers' only defense against your boss's right to fire you or change your work hours without notice.

Zero-sum thinking means win-lose policies. These are the policies of competitive Greed. We all need some cooperative, win-win policies, where the whole is more than the sum of the parts. Profit is what can happen when the whole is more than the sum of the parts, and smart, not-greedy business owners will share that profit fairly. And we won't get those win-win policies if comfy people or our leaders in business and in government continue to follow their fears.



# Resources List

## Sacramento Loaves & Fishes.

1351 North C Street - www.sacloaves.org - (916)446-0874  
On Campus Programs:  
Friendship Park – Day center for homeless adults. Mon-Fri, 7AM-2:45PM  
Welcoming Center – Donation drop-off and admin. Mon-Fri, 7AM-3PM  
Dining Room – Lunch served. Get tickets and eat lunch in Friendship Park.  
Maryhouse – Women & family services. Mon-Fri, 7AM-2PM. (916)446-4961  
Mustard Seed School – For children ages 3-15. (916)-447-3626  
Men's Wash House – showers and laundry for men. Mon-Fri, 7-11AM, 11:30AM-1:30PM  
Anneke's Haven – Kennel for spayed & neutered animals. Mon-Fri, 7AM-2PM, Sat-Sun 8:30AM-1:30PM  
Guest Advocate office. Mon-Fri, 8-11AM  
Library – Reading room, computers & glasses. Mon-Fri, 7:30-11AM, 11:30AM-1:30PM  
Jail Visitation – For individuals in custody or recently released. Mon-Thurs, 8AM-12PM. (916)447-9472  
Genesis – Mental health counseling. Mon-Fri, 7:30AM-12PM, 1PM-2:45PM, (916)669-1536  
Mercy Clinic – TB tests and General medical assistance. 8-11:30AM  
Tommy Clindenbeard Legal Clinic. Mon-Thurs, 8AM-12PM. (916)446-0368  
Miscellaneous on campus services: Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee, El Hogar Mental Health, DHA, RT, Mercer Clinic for veterinary services, Harm Reduction Services.

**River City Food Bank**  
(916) 446-2627. Food Distribution  
Hours: Midtown, 1800 28th Street – Tuesday-Thursday, 10:30am to 1:30pm. Arden Arcade, 2300 Edison Ave - Friday-Saturday, 10:30am to 1:30pm.

**Sacramento Food Bank and Family Services:**  
3333 Third Avenue, (916) 456-1980; 1951 Bell Avenue, (916) 925-3240. Visit website for list of services: www.sacramentofoodbank.org

**Food search** by zip code: www.sacramentofoodbank.org/find-food

**Sacramento Safe Space for Unhomed Youth –**  
Tuesdays, 9am to noon, at St. Paul's Episcopal Church at 1430 J Street. Temporary sanctuary for ages 18-30. Breakfast, hygiene items and other supplies when available. For more information: www.engage.us.org

**Pilgrimage Program –**  
Rotating support from congregations in Midtown Sacramento. Overnights temporarily canceled. Clothing, Meals, and mobile showers one or two days a week at:  
Bayside Midtown (19th & W) (916) 706-2337;  
First United Methodist (21st & J) (916) 446-5025;  
St. John's Lutheran (17th & L) (916) 444-0874;  
Trinity Episcopal (25th & Capitol) (916) 446-2513;  
First Church of Nazarene (28th & S) (916) 452-6171  
See @PilgrimageSac on Facebook for the calendar. or **call in advance** for place and times.

**Midtown HART Respite Centers –**  
Tuesdays: St. John's Lutheran Church, 1701 L Street, 9:30AM-12:30PM.  
Fridays: Trinity Cathedral, 2620 Capitol Ave, 9:30AM-12:30PM

**Sacramento Self Help Housing**  
offers housing counseling and lists, and shared and supportive housing. sacselfhelp.org - (916) 341-0593

**Tommy Clindenbeard Legal Clinic**  
provides free legal services to homeless people relating infractions and misdemeanors in Sacramento County. Also manages court-ordered community service sentences. (916) 446-0368

**Legal Services of Northern California:**  
Helps with cases about Housing, public benefits, including CalWorks, CalFresh (food stamps), Medi-Cal, General Assistance (GA), Social Security, SSI, unemployment insurance benefits (UIB), and state disability insurance (SDI). lsnc.net – (916) 551-2150

**Sacramento Tenants Union**  
– Advocacy support for tenants: sactenantsunion@gmail.com

**Department of Human Assistance(welfare)**  
Mail – use drop boxes outside office, or submit documents online through mybenefitscalwin.org, or mail them to: P.O. Box 487, Sacramento, CA 95812  
Apply for Benefits – apply online at www.mybenefitscalwin.org

Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee



<https://sacshoc.org>  
(916) 442-2156

**SHOC office hours Mondays and Thursdays, 10:30AM-12PM @Friendship Park. SHOC open meetings are temporarily being held online on Tuesdays at 10am. Email shoc\_1@yahoo.com for Zoom link.**

General Assistance, call (916) 874-3100  
EBT – new or replacements, call (877) 328-9677

**Harm Reduction Service:**  
2800 Stockton Blvd. Open from 4-6PM weekdays. Call for outreach schedule or supplies. (916) 456-4849

**City of Sacramento:**  
For general information or questions about Sacramento City's, shelters, safe camping and safe parking facilities, and COVID-19 in Sacramento, please call 211 or 1-800-500-4931 or 916-498-1000. You also can email info@211sacramento.org

**City services: 311**

**Community Resources: 211**

**Sacramento Covered**  
(916) 874-9670

**Elica Health Centers**  
(916) 454-2345

**WellSpace Health**  
(916) 737-5555

**Sacramento County Health Center**  
(916) 874-9670

**Sacramento County Department of Health Services:** www.saccounty.net/COVID-19

**National Call Center for Homeless Veterans:**  
(877) 424-3838  
**Healthcare & Program Referrals**

## 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.

The paper's mission is to lessen misunderstandings between communities by educating the public about housing and poverty issues, and by giving homeless people a voice in the public forum. Homeward also provides a financial self-help opportunity for those individuals who wish to participate by being a Homeward Distributor.

**The opinions expressed in Homeward are those of the authors, and not necessarily of 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).

**Loaves & Fishes is not affiliated with the Homeward Street Journal in any way. Participants with the paper are not allowed to solicit for donations for L&F, nor make any reference regarding the relationship between Loaves & Fishes and this newspaper whatsoever.**

All correspondence can be sent to:  
Homeward Street Journal  
PO Box 952  
Sacramento, CA 95812

The paper may be reached at:  
(916) 442-2156

The paper may also be e-mailed at  
homeward2@yahoo.com

On the web at:  
<https://sacshoc.org/homeward>

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

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