



A Voice for the Sacramento Area Homeless Community Since 1997

HOMIEWARD

Street Journal

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Sept. & Oct., 2020

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House Keys Not Sweeps - A Campaign for Dignity and Respect

by Western Regional Advocacy Project

Earlier this summer, law student interns with the Systemic Justice Project worked with local organizers to create Know Your Rights pamphlets for all ten of the communities banded together in the Stop the Sweeps campaign.

Over the course of their research into local ordinances and Constitutional protections, each of the interns remarked on how — while technically and theoretically unhoused people maintain rights the state must adhere to — basic civil rights are uniformly ignored, violated, and worked around. Court decisions that are supposed to protect the rights of unhoused people often lead to the opposite outcome: a whack-a-mole strategy in devising schemes to harras with them. People who are unwanted in public because they are homeless are stripped of the straight-forward claim to their right to exist in public spaces.

When local governments want you out of town, they have access to a plethora of business associations and city attorneys working with them on ways to evade the law, carefully calculating how far they can go in making sure people understand they are not wanted. One of the most enduring strategies is to steal people's stuff and criminalize them for being in public spaces.

Local governments try to justify sweeps in all sorts of ways, but their true design is to remove the visible presence of unhoused people. Even cops will admit that sweeps are



driven by complaints from local governments under constituent pressure to remove people, or complaints directly from the mouths of homeowners and businesses themselves about “those people” in their neighborhoods.

The singular, planned outcome of a sweep is the physical removal of human beings from one place to somewhere else — anywhere else. There is no other benefit derived from this violent community destruction, from removing people from the place they have settled to survive.

“Sweep” is a euphemism for “kicking someone out”. To those who are fortunate enough to be unfamiliar with sweeps, the word may sound gentle, but it's eradication, displacement, and eviction through physical force.

All sweeps follow the same routine: public works staff and police department personnel arm themselves with a dump truck and make sure people with no housing understand they need to “get the hell out”. They need to go somewhere else. And so people keep moving until the process repeats itself, maintaining a constant level of misery and discomfort to keep people moving until they give up and uproot themselves all together.

Over all these years, the people who are living unhoused in local communities have changed, the homeless programs have changed, and the intake systems have changed. All other elements of the crisis have changed form or been redefined, apart from the basic concept of sweeps.

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50 Feet from Home

By Joe Smith

As part of the COVID-19 crisis response, people must shelter in place. They must stay at home to protect their health and the health of the population.

What do you do when you don't have a home? What do you do when you don't have a tent? When you only have a bicycle and your bedroll?

I am the Advocacy Director at Loaves & Fishes, but I wear many hats – as we all do. Yesterday I was an advocate, an investigator, a counselor, and a delivery man.

One of our Guests, a homeless man named Richard, was taken by ambulance to the hospital with COVID-19 like symptoms. He was tested and released from the ER to the streets. He was very sick.

Richard is an author and an artist. He has published several short stories and, with the help of a local photographer, sold several copies.

I found where he was camping and went that morning to see him. At 6:30 AM on March 30th, I found him in a doorway in front of the Wells Fargo Pavilion. He was in pretty bad shape.

Next to him, about 10 feet away, was Anthony, a good man with a big heart. He was camping nearby out of concern. I've known him for many years. I left with the promise to return with food and water. I would also make some calls on Richard's behalf.

After some calls, the City of Sacramento told me they would try to have a navigator come and see him. I've heard these things before, but after dropping them off some food, I found out what had happened. A navigator from Sacramento Steps Forward appeared and put Richard in a motel room for a week with the option for a second. A victory – something we all needed at that moment, especially Richard. He is now fully recovered.

But what about Anthony? Richard's friend who camped nearby? He is left wondering what became of his friend—wondering

whether he was going to get sick as well.

While sitting in front of the Wells Fargo Pavilion, Anthony pointed across the street to the vacated building that used to be part of the Holiday Inn Express. He said to me, "I'm only 50 feet away from a place to call home".

Anthony and his friend were sleeping outside directly across the street from shelter. A vacated motel building that offers protection from the cold, safety from the virus, and access to a bathroom.

Sacramento is a county with over 11,000

people predicted to experience homelessness during the year 2020 and a vacancy rate of about 3%. The tourism business has come to a halt due to COVID-19.

With so many vacant motel rooms, how can there be a housing crisis? How can so many individuals be sleeping outside during a global pandemic? Of course, it is critical to provide for our most vulnerable. But what about everyone else? COVID-19 has taught us that everyone is equal. That everyone is susceptible. That everyone deserves a place to call home.



Complete the 2020 Census Today!



Taking just a few minutes to answer the **9 simple questions** helps determine dollars that fund important programs for the next 10 years.

The Census provides billions of dollars to help support key community services, including:



HEALTHCARE FACILITIES & EMERGENCY SERVICES



CHILDREN'S NUTRITIONAL PROGRAMS



HOUSING AND EDUCATION PROGRAMS



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND JOBS CREATION

Californians can help achieve a complete count by participating in one of three ways:



**Online at
my2020census.gov**



**By Phone at
844-330-2020**



By Mail
Complete and return your Census form!

All communities deserve the opportunity to thrive and provide for their families.

Your 2020 Census data is safe, protected and confidential.

CaliforniaCensus.org

@CACensus 

House Keys Not Sweeps - continued from page 1

At its core, homelessness is the product of racism and gross neglect by the federal government, exacerbated over four decades by local responses that continue to treat homelessness as though it were a temporary emergency that can be addressed by emergency shelter programs.

For thirty-seven years, the government has responded to this systemic, nation-wide crisis as though it were an earthquake, flood, or fire: an unpredictable and unstoppable act of nature. Homelessness is not an emergency or unforeseen crisis -- it is the inevitable result of political policies and funding decisions that devastate minority and low-income community members.

Since the federal government is the primary source for funding of homeless programs, under their control HUD, state, and local governments have for decades put out bells and whistles and non-solution "programs". Funded through a competitive yearly grant process with all manner of slogans and catchphrases, point-in-time head counts, homeless management information systems, and the routine flurry of reports pronouncing how effective and accountable these "programs" are.

Of course, access to these programs and the priorities for who they serve are completely predetermined by the funding source, HUD, which also then decides who gets the funding. That funding source is the federal government that created this stuff in the first place.

The people who don't fit into these predetermined homeless programs are labeled either "service resistant," not worthy of assistance, or else they're flat-out outliers, even though these outliers far outnumber the people who fit within the program rules. Federal callousness and local unwillingness to force a federal response to address the root cause behind homelessness has concretely pathologized homeless people as the "problem."

People need a concrete opportunity to get housing. The fact that the programs available are wholly inadequate has perversely translated into a narrative built on language of disease and dehumanization. The problem is always explained away as drug addiction, mental illness, abuse, service resistance, fear, danger, voluntary lifestyles, or people who have come from somewhere else.

This language is persistently ingrained into the collective narrative, from government, business associations, neighborhood groups,

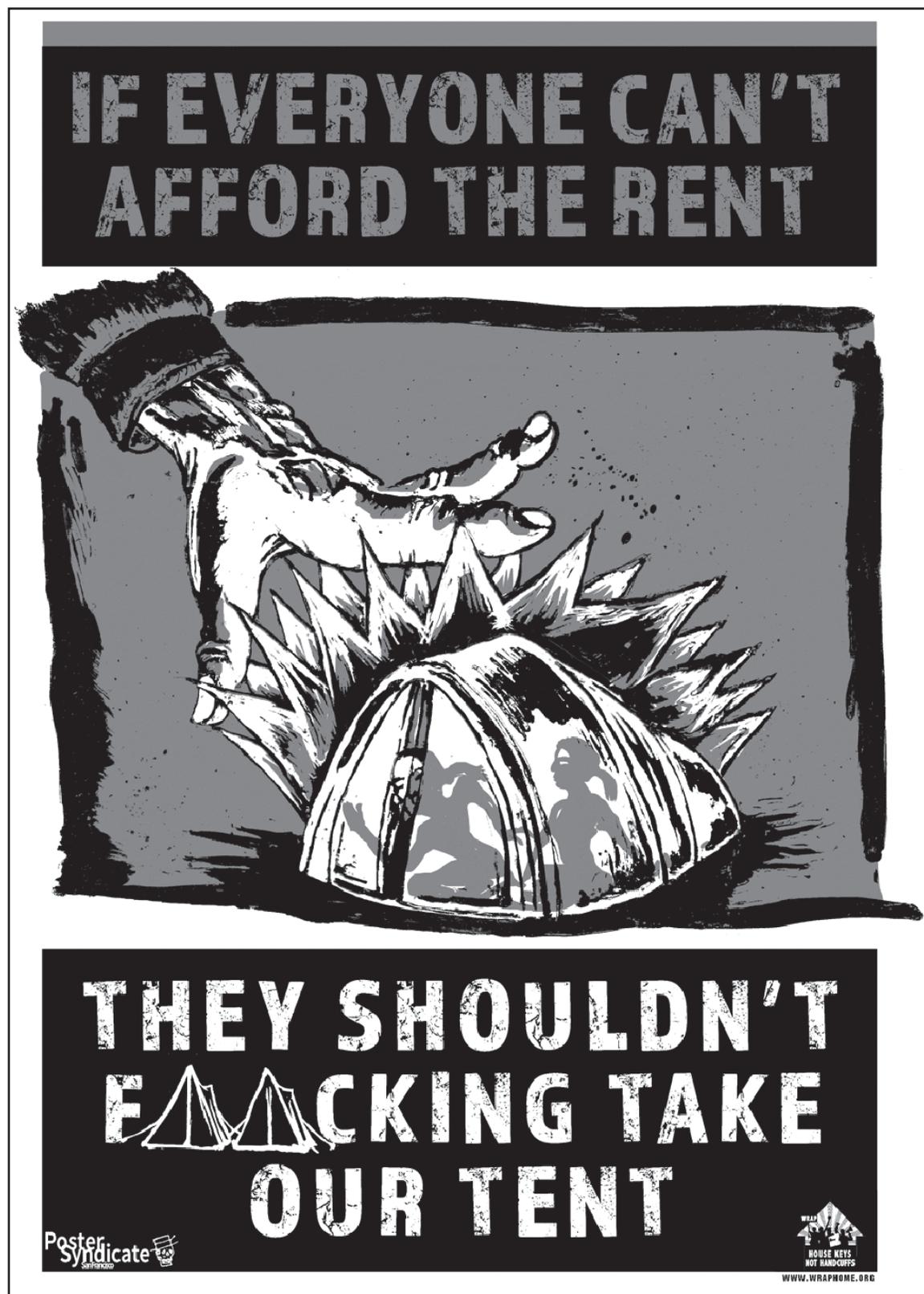
news media and television shows. We hear stories about people who are homeless by choice, and read newspaper articles about neighborhoods stricken with drug users, urine, feces, and filth.

It's as if life before 1982 never existed. When people had a choice between sleeping inside and sleeping outside, they obviously chose to sleep inside! It wasn't always good housing, and the publicly funded units overwhelmingly benefited white people, but it existed. We didn't have homeless programs back then, and no one was clamoring for them, because no one needed them.

The people who live outside, who are trying to protect themselves from the elements, trying to build community with their neighbors and community members where they live, are seen as, treated as, and acted upon as though they are dangerous. They are whatever fear mongering name the neighborhood association or business improvement district has labeled them as on any given day. And they're always from somewhere else.

The organizers and community members who have joined forces through WRAP on

Continued Page 6



The Power of Action, The Power of the Vote

By Cathleen Williams

There's no going back. Twenty six million of our people – Black and every other ethnicity, young and old, urban and suburban -- have spoken in the streets and asserted that, *yes, yes, yes*, Black Lives Do Matter.

The ranks of the movement have been flooded with working people who are unemployed, underemployed, low-paid, and indebted for life because of education loans or medical costs. Their very survival is at risk from uncontrolled COVID 19, especially those who have been designated as “essential workers” in fields, food processing plants, and low-paid services. Federal income support has been reduced to nearly nothing. The threat of eviction and homelessness stare many in the face, only temporarily blocked by moratoriums as in California this week.

Here in Sacramento, the skies are still sullen with smoke as the state burns. Meanwhile, the propellers of police helicopters thud overhead.

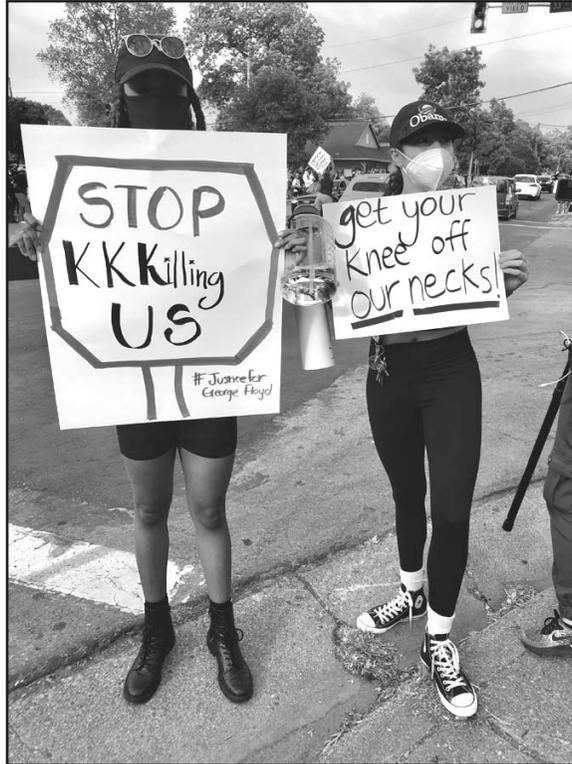
Again the blood of an African American, Jacob Blake of Kenosha, Wisconsin, runs in the streets of the country, again we mobilize, march, and demand an end to the brutal, racist injustice of the system.

Yet this energy is flowing not only into demonstrations but also toward the mighty fortresses – the state capitals, the city halls, the county seats and school boards – that shelter the “powers that be.” Justice, Equality, and Human Rights are not just slogans – they are urgent policy demands that are being expressed in electoral work even as the right to vote is under attack.

The importance of electoral work was expressed at the historic convention of the Movement for Black Lives that was held Friday, August 28 — a virtual Black National Convention that addressed many interlocked issues, including climate change, economic empowerment and the need for electoral justice. At the convention, Bree Newsom Bass, organizer and activist, stated that, while elections cannot themselves achieve justice in a unjust system that must undergo fundamental transformation, “I do think voting and recognizing what an election should be is a way to...exercise that muscle.”

On Sunday, August 30, hundreds of thousands of people from all walks of life joined yet another historic convention - the “People’s Convention” launched by the Movement for a People’s Party. At the conclusion of the program, 99 percent of viewers cast the historic vote to form a major new political party in America in 2021.

Former Ohio State Senator Nina Turner galvanized the Convention as she denounced the “racist, bigoted system” that oppresses Blacks, the poor, the working poor, and the increasing



Demostrators Against Police Violence.
Photo Courtesy Cat Williams

rates of near-poor.” Saying we need to “slay the dragons of neofascism and neoliberalism,” she called this a “revolutionary time” for which the Movement for a People’s Party is answering the call. She closed her powerful address with, “We gonna get to work on a people’s party with these hands. We are on the move.”

Meanwhile, the “Poor People’s Campaign, A National Call for Moral Revival,” nationally

and statewide, has launched a voter registration campaigns and multiple convocations to reorder governmental priorities around the theme that “Everyone Has a Right to Live.”

Locally, on August 31, the Sacramento Area Black Caucus launched “The Voter Education Project: Black Voters Matter Project” to support, educate, and encourage Black voters. “It seeks to provide information and resources to help voters understand the past, vote in the present, and ensure our future.”

And on September 1, the newly organized “People’s Budget Sacramento” and allied groups, including Decarcerate Sacramento, made a powerful presentation to the Board of Supervisors outlining the results of a survey which showed overwhelming support for re-allocating funds from the Sheriff’s Department – whose funding now claims 37% of the budget – to community based services.

Many people realize – especially because of the pandemic – that this system doesn’t value their lives either. They’ve spoken through the a myriad of organizations – advancing *new* candidates, building *new* grass-roots coalitions, creating *new* infra-structures like Black Lives Matter and the Movement for Black Lives, preparing *new* people’s parties and assemblies. In their electoral work, they are fighting for democracy itself, because democracy in the hands of informed voters today means survival in practical terms -- housing, healthcare, education, freedom from police violence and climate catastrophe.



National Guard at Sacramento City Hall. Photo courtesy Cat Williams

Vote in the 2020 Election in Sacramento

Important Election Dates:

October 5 – Mailing of election materials begins
 October 19 – Deadline to register to vote if you want to receive ballot in the mail. After that deadline you can register up until election day at a Vote Center
 October 24 – Some Vote Centers open
 October 31 – All Vote Centers open
 November 3 – Election Day

All Vote Centers are open from 7am to 8pm on election day.
 Ballots returned by mail must be postmarked by November 3, 2020
 Ballots returned at a secure ballot drop must be deposited by 8pm on November 3, 2020

Registering to Vote:

Qualifications – You must be a US citizen. You cannot be in prison or on parole for a felony conviction. You have to be 18 on or before Election Day to vote in this election. You can't be determined mentally incompetent by a judge.

Voters who are homeless may register to vote at a shelter where they receive services or spend their time, or provide cross-streets or landmarks of where they sleep at night usually for the physical address. They need to know your location to determine which voting precinct you are allowed to vote in. You do need to have a separate mailing address, though.

All voters must provide a mailing address. This can be a shelter, a PO Box, a business, General Delivery, friend/family's house. The ballot will not be forwarded to another address. If you move you should re-register.

You can register online but if you do not have a CA Drivers License or ID, you should register using a paper registration form. An alternative is to print out the online form so it can be signed but a printer is necessary that way. [Registertovote.ca.gov](http://registertovote.ca.gov). You can request a form be sent to you by calling (916) 875-6451.

If you miss the deadline to register 15 days before the election, you should register at a

Vote Center for a provisional ballot.

Check your registration at registertovote.ca.gov or call (800) 762-8019

Voting:

All registered voters will automatically receive their ballot in the mail. Fill out all the questions applicable. If you include your phone number they can call you if there is a question about your form. You can either return your ballot by mail (postage

is free) or drop it off at any Ballot Drop Box or Vote Center. There will still be in person voting as an option and you can even register to vote the same day for a provisional ballot. Voters are encouraged to vote early and not wait for Election Day, to avoid long lines and for safety reasons.

References: Sacramento County Registrar of Voters, RocktheVote.org, and Secretary of State website

The Strength To End Homelessness



Lies in the Power of Your
VOTE!

Artist: Tammy deGruchy
pneuma_art@yahoo.com

"You Don't Need a Home to Vote"
 is a national homeless voter rights/non-partisan
 registration/education/get-out-the-vote campaign.
 Sponsored by the National Coalition for the Homeless
 1012 14th Street NW, Suite 600
 Washington, DC 20005-3471
 phone: 202-737-6444 fax: 202-737-6445
info@nationalhomeless.org www.nationalhomeless.org

House Keys Not Sweeps - continued from page 3

the Stop The Sweeps campaign are organizing to address the true issues of homelessness - not in a pronouncement, but in a concrete and systematic way. First and foremost, we protect and organize alongside the people who are homeless. If you say you care or that your organization wants to end homelessness, and yet you aren't outraged when people are arrested for being homeless, then you need to check your morals. Your organizational compass is off.

Among us, we have housed and unhoused organizers, artists, advocates, researchers, lawyers, students, writers, a strong social media presence and a diversity of skill sets, all operating with the same commitment: in order to get real about addressing homelessness in America, we need to get real about how we have demonized, dehumanized, and criminalized the presence of unhoused people in our local community.

We need to use our organizing to support meaningful legislation to restore federal funding of affordable housing (such as Rep. Ilhan Omar's H.R. 5244: Homes for All Act of 2019) at the federal level, and the Right to Rest Act at the state or local level to stop the criminalization of community members that local governments have a history of targeting with patterns of discriminatory laws and discriminatory police enforcement.

This campaign fights in solidarity with and stands alongside BLM and all the anti-racist, anti-fascist warriors demanding true systemic change and that society start treating human beings as though every human life has value and worth. The beauty of it is that this is not a lock-step campaign. We don't need to have the same name, bylaws, and operational procedures. We are not a corporation. We are communities united by a firm commitment to being in it with housed and unhoused people, meeting people where they're at, with a fearless stance in prioritizing and standing arm in arm with the people most villainized and attacked in our society.

Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee is a member of Western Regional Advocacy Project - wraphome.org - and the House Keys Not Sweeps Campaign

A Special Thanks to Our Homeward Underwriters:

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Earl Withycombe II**

**Organize Sacramento
Uptown Studios Inc.
Safe Ground
Sacramento
Mercy Pedalers
Los Rios College
Federation of Teachers**

Announcing SHOC partnership with Self-Development of People

Sacramento Homeless Organizing Committee is pleased to announce our partnership with the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People. We are looking forward to our work together in the upcoming year and hope to advance significant work in our community and beyond. They work with and fund grass roots groups around the country, groups that work towards solutions to the issues they themselves face.

Visit Self-Development of People on facebook:
[@SelfDevelopmentOfPeoplesdop](https://www.facebook.com/SelfDevelopmentOfPeoplesdop)



Under the Burden of 2020 Housing Insecurity

By **Bobbie Ramey-Clark**

Welcome to my world--one where existence occurs day by day, month to month. Nothing special really.

Up until three years ago I never felt housing insecure until my family got kicked out, run out of a duplex we'd lived in for almost three years. We did everything right, kept year up, paid our rent on time every single month, kept property in good condition. Unfortunately little do we know how much power market rate rental housing owners truly have!

Yeah, we fool ourselves into a passing momentary feeling that, oh well, I'm in permanent housing, this is "my place". Nothing could be further from the truth! Ahh, then it's easy to lull ourselves in to thinking, well at least we're not homeless. Yeah right, when actually you are just one document from falling into the numbers of the homeless. Permanent housing in the various types of rentals available, from apartment types, condominiums, single family homes, town homes and lease purchase housing are primarily all market rate housing.

Permanent housing is sought by the huge number of over 5,570 homeless as recorded in Sacramento County 2019 Point in Time (PIT) Count. Actually due to the difficulties of obtaining market rate housing requirements equally having two and a half to three times rent in income, plus having a good credit score, and God forbid if you need to pass two background checks, then this throws the real invisible count up to close to 11,000 almost twice the 2019 point in time count. Other factors that complicate housing security are the additional check points in lease or rental agreements, like standards of habitation, e.g., you must keep PG&E, SMUD utilities on or you will be subject to eviction.

What does all this come to--private property, nothing is permanent when society promotes and thrives off greed and capitalism. There is definitely a corporate corrupt to the core shell game involved in "all" housing types whether its market rate or program housing which most extremely low income to low income folks need as a leg up. Why, when income is too low to meet standards, not to mention other required monthly needs of survival,

and emergencies that occur every month, it presents a new trial, another struggle to have an iron clad residence that you know is yours--it isn't!

Thankfully there are programs like HEAP, Salvation Army and others that help keep us in housing. These programs require one to really be on top of their game to get these underfunded agencies to pay exactly when you need it.

So what's the answer? There was a great program called Shelter Plus Care that was designed to help low income. There's many other options available outside of market rate, such as SRO's (Single Room Occupancy), tax credit properties, Veteran or VASH, Public Housing, Housing Choice Voucher, Project Based Subsidy, shared living facilities, also make up permanent housing placement for many who are at the poverty level and are very low income. Even

with all these programs the need is still great! Thankfully landlords are under rent control ordinance that keeps them from excessive raises in rent and gives some eviction protections.

With all the above its still not enough the current minimum wage of \$12.50 needs to be raised. We need stronger rent control, lower rents (the average rent based on 2017 states is between \$1,246 to \$1,273).

So you see we must not be cavalier because we are housed, because as poor people without adequate money or resources we are, by the Grace of God, housed at the choice and the whim of owners, especially in regard to market rate housing owners. So the struggle continues housed or unhoused until everybody gets better, stronger rights!

Bobbie Butterfly



Demonstration for Eviction Relief at the Sacramento Capitol - a movement of tenants and supporters.
Photo by Cat Williams from *Power of Action Story*

I want to help HOMEWARD continue in Sacramento.

Enclosed find my donation of:

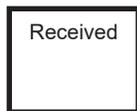
\$20 for a one year subscription \$100 for one year as an Underwriter

Please mail my copies to:

Name: _____
 Street & Apt: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____

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

24.4
Office Use Only



clip & mail coupon

Resources List

These resources are not complete. Call services first to be sure their information is current.

Sacramento Loaves & Fishes
1351 North C Street

-www.sacloaves.org - (916) 446-0874
-limited services-

Friendship Park is open to provide breakfasts, supply survival items, and lunch tickets. Open until 2:30pm on weekdays for specific usage but not for congregation.

The Dining Room will remain open to distribute "to-go" or bag lunches for guests from 11:30am to 1:00pm weekdays, and 11:00am to 12:30pm on weekends

Maryhouse, daytime hospitality shelter for women, will limit traffic inside, but continue services and dispense survival supplies.

The Washhouse will minimize congestion inside, but remain open.

Mustard Seed School will run a limited half-day program on campus from 8:15-11:30 am for unsheltered children living in cars or outside and the front office will stay open until noon for intakes.

The Warehouse will remain open until noon to receive donations.

Genesis Program - Free mental health counseling, resources, and referral services. They will meet guest outdoors or phone conferences. (916) 669-1536

Mercy Clinic - health services and information clinic. 8am to noon, weekdays. (916) 874-2811

Food

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

Miscellaneous

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 have been 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
- @PilgrimageSac on facebook for the calendar.

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

Tommy Clinkenbeard Legal Clinic provides free legal services to homeless people relating infractions and misdemeanors in Sacramento County. Also manages court-ordered community service sentences for homeless people to pay fines in lieu of incarceration. (916) 446-0368

Legal Services of Northern California: Handles 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 Homeless Organizing Committee



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

SHOC holds open meetings on Tuesdays at 10 am in the Delany Center Conference Room, at the Loaves & Fishes Complex near Ahern and 12th Street, to discuss current issues and activities that concern homeless persons.

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.

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).

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>

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

Department of Human Assistance (welfare) is closed but can be accessed online or by phone:

Appointments - over the phone.
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
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 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

Sacramento Steps Forward:
sacramentostepsforward.org/
covid-19-resources/