

# THE IMPORTANCE OF UNDERSTANDING HOMELESSNESS

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According to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, 580, 466 People were counted as Homeless during the 2020 Point - in - Time Count



The National Alliance to End Homelessness finds that African Americans make up 13 percent of the general population, but more than 40 percent of the homeless population

**48%**

The U.S. Government Accountability Office found that in 2017, 48% of renter households were cost burdened, paying more than 30% of their household income on rent

## THE BELIEF THAT HOMELESSNESS FALLS ON THE INDIVIDUAL

**Myth:** The Homeless are to blame for their situation due to one or more causes such as laziness, alcoholism, addiction, etc.

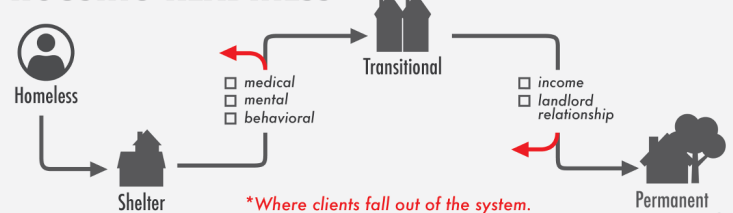
## HOMELESSNESS IS A SOCIO - ECONOMIC PROBLEM

**Fact:** The cost of housing is beyond the means of a growing number of households. This "affordability gap" is the underlying cause of homelessness

## WE MUST ACKNOWLEDGE THESE FACTS WHEN USING LANGUAGE TO DISCUSS THE HOMELESS POPULATION

EVERYONE DESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADEQUATE HOUSING  
THE SOLUTION TO HOMELESSNESS IS A HOME

### HOUSING READINESS



### HOUSING FIRST



### Sources

- Homelessness: Causes and Solutions
- Homelessness in Marin
- National Alliance to End Homelessness
- National Low Income Housing Coalition
- Public Health Agency of Government of Canada