



Healthcare & Homelessness

Homelessness is a public health issue.

Poor health is a major cause of homelessness. Homelessness creates new health problems and exacerbates existing ones, creating a vicious cycle.

HEALTH ISSUES

Poor health can lead to **employment problems** which can lead to **financial difficulties, stress, and housing issues.**



Homelessness can lead to health issues from **increased exposure to elements, diseases, violence, unsanitary conditions, malnutrition, stress, and addictive substances.** ¹

HOMELESSNESS

HEALTH DISPARITIES

Those unhoused suffer higher rates of illness and die an average of **12 years** sooner than the housed U.S. population. ¹

Housed
9%
29%
17%
1%
1%
16%

VS.

Diabetes
Hypertension
HIV
Hepatitis C
Depression
Substance Abuse

Unhoused
18%
50%
35%
20%
36%
50% ¹

Nearly **half** of Michigan's homeless population has a diagnosed disability. **44%** have long term disabilities: ²

66%	39%	12%	24%	29%
Mental Illness	Physical	Developmental	Chronic	Substance Use Disorder

VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

RUNAWAY YOUTH
LGBTQ YOUTH
PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS
VETERANS
VICTIMS OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

ELDERLY
PEOPLE RELEASED FROM PRISON
PEOPLE WITH SUBSTANCE USE
DISORDERS
VICTIMS OF NATURAL DISASTERS

2

COMMON BARRIERS TO HEALTHCARE



Competing
priorities



Financial costs &
lack of insurance



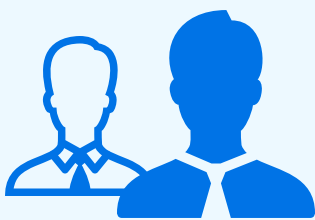
Transportation



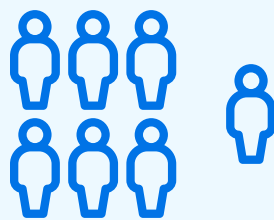
Identification



Lack of Awareness of
resources



Lack of trust in
system



Discrimination &
stigma

3

STRATEGIES

ADEQUATE INSURANCE

Healthcare plans for unhoused people include Medicare, Medicaid, and Children's Health Insurance Program.

ACCESSIBLE MEDICARE

Shelter-affiliated free clinics, targeted street-based outreach, qualified health centers, are a few ways to make care accessible to vulnerable populations.

HOUSING

Long and short term housing assistance are critical to treating and preventing health issues.

2



RESOURCES



Whether you long or short term care, regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation, these are some of the resources near you that offer healthcare and housing .

- [Detroit Wayne Integrated Health Network](#)
- [Neighborhood Service Organization](#)
- [Malta Medical & Dental Clinic](#)
- [Pope Francis Center](#)
- [Cass Free Medical Clinic](#)
- [Central City Health](#)
- [US Dept. of Veteran Affairs](#)
- [Ruth Ellis Center](#)
- [Wayne Metro Community Action Agency](#)
- [NOAH's Florence and Paul Marback Wellness Center](#)
- [Coalition on Temporary Shelter](#)

SOURCES

1. "Homelessness & Health: What's the Connection?," NHCIC
2. "Addressing Health Disparities in the Homeless Population," Coalition Against Homelessness, 2018
3. "Health Care and Homelessness," National Coalition for the Homeless, 2009