RACIAL EQUITY





What Is Racial Equity?

Racial equity means that **everyone—no matter their race or ethnicity—has a fair and equal chance to live a healthy, successful life.** It's **not** just about treating everyone the same, but about **making sure people who've been held back have the support they need to catch up and thrive**.

Why People of Color Are More Likely to Experience Homelessness

For a long time, communities of color in the U.S. have faced unfair treatment—like being denied loans (redlining) and being left out of investments. These unfair practices have built a system where racism is built into everyday life, especially in big systems like schools, housing, and health care. Because of this, people of color often face more challenges and fewer opportunities, which keeps racial inequality going.

Sources

- Race Forward: Website: https://www.raceforward.org/
- Government Alliance on Race and Equity Website: https://bit.ly/4j5rHDQ
- National Coalition for the Homeless Website: https://bit.ly/43Qnqzt

Key Points to Know: Racial Equity and Homelessness

- **Homelessness affects people of color more:** Black, Indigenous, and Latino people are at higher risk due to unfair systems.
- **Racism plays a big role:** Past and present racism (housing, jobs, education) keeps people of color at a disadvantage.
- **Racial equity fixes unfair systems:** It's about creating fair opportunities for everyone, not special treatment.
- **Different solutions are needed:** Programs should be tailored to the unique needs of different communities
- **Listen to lived experience:** People who've been homeless, especially people of color, should help shape solutions.

What Can We Do?

- Learn about racial history and how it affects people today.
- Listen to people of color and their lived experiences.
- Support policies that close racial gaps in health, income, and education.
- Speak up when you see unfair treatment.
- Change systems by working with organizations and leaders to make rules more just.