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## DISCLAIMER

- CACEO is a statewide organization serving the needs of a diverse group. Some information may not apply to your agency at this time but will still serve you well during your career.
- The instructor is not an attorney and the information provided is not intended to serve as legal counsel. Review any actions with your organization's legal counsel before proceeding.
- Your agency policy is the authority under which you should act. Any information in conflict with your agency policy should be reviewed with your supervisor and management, and possibly your agency's legal counselor.

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## Training Goals

- Students will learn best practice skills when dealing with those experiencing homelessness and encampments, while understanding what it means to be homeless in California.
- Students will enhance their understanding, judgment, competence, physical safety, and the safety of others when responding to situations involving persons with mental illness, intellectual disabilities, and substance use disorders.

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Point In Time Count



A point-in-time count is an unduplicated count on a single night of the people in a community who are experiencing homelessness that includes both sheltered and unsheltered populations.

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 ~~97th Annual Point in Time Count~~

- Every year, during the last 10 days of January, over 3,000 cities and counties across the country organize tens of thousands of volunteers in a national effort to measure the scale of homelessness in the United States.
- These counts reveal the number of homeless persons in our shelters and on our streets at a single point-in-time. These one-night snapshot counts also provide local planners with data they need to understand the number and characteristics of persons who are homeless so they, in turn, can develop a thoughtful response.
- This effort allows communities to find out not just how many people are homeless, but who is homeless and more importantly, why they are homeless. Being able to answer these important questions is critical in our mission to end homelessness.

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 **Homeless in California**  
2018 PITC

**CALIFORNIA**

-1.2% change from 2017  
+5.3% change from 2016

Total Homeless, 2018 129,972

**33 in every 10,000 people were experiencing homelessness**



Category	Count
Unsheltered	95,543
Sheltered	40,429
Individuals	109,008
People in families with children	20,964
Unaccompanied homeless youth	12,396
Veterans	10,836
Chronically homeless individuals	32,668

**Estimates of Homelessness**

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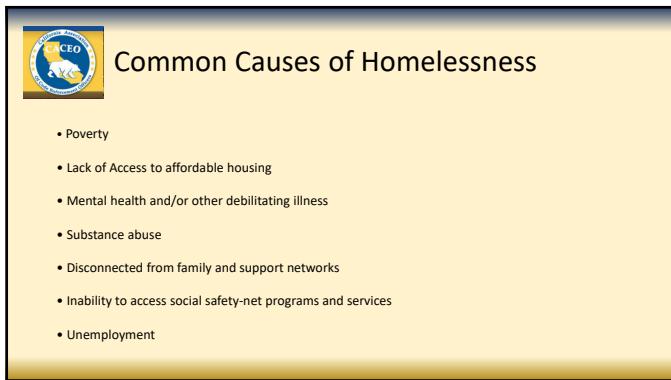
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## Why are people homeless?

- They don't have enough income
- They can't find affordable housing
- They don't have access to health care or social support services (drug, alcohol, mental health, counseling, and assistance with daily living)

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## Solution?

- Ensure they have enough income to pay for their basic needs
- Ensure there are enough affordable places available for people to live
- Ensure that people who need help managing their health and daily living needs have access to those services

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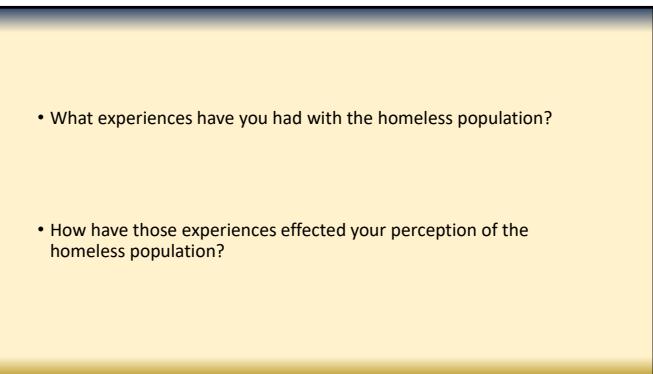
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- What experiences have you had with the homeless population?
- How have those experiences effected your perception of the homeless population?

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## Shelter Resistant

Shelter Resistant; Individuals that may need services provided but refuse them and prefer to maintain their current lifestyle.

Common reason's:

- *I do not need the help*
- *I don't want to go to a "shelter"*
- *I don't feel safe – negative experiences*
- *They won't take my dog or my animals*
- *I've tried, it didn't help*
- *I will not split up from my significant other or family*

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## Officer Safety Considerations

Man-made/caused:

Substance abuse  
Criminal offenders  
Mental health issues  
Weapons  
Bio-hazardous materials  
Multiple inhabitants




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## Mental Health/Illness

Two of the most likely types of mental illness among people experiencing homelessness are:



Depression



Substance Abuse

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## What is hoarding?

**Hoarding disorder** is a persistent difficulty discarding or parting with possessions because of a perceived need to save them.

A person with **hoarding** disorder experiences distress at the thought of getting rid of the items.

Excessive accumulation of items, regardless of actual value, occurs.

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## Questions?

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