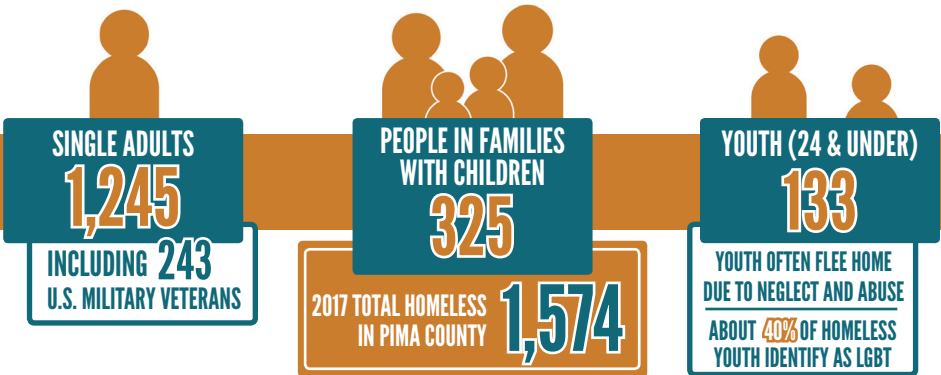


# WHO IS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN TUCSON/PIMA COUNTY?



## TUCSON/PIMA COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE

The Tucson/Pima County Continuum of Care is one of Arizona's three Continua of Care and is managed by the Tucson Pima Collaboration to End Homelessness (TPCH), which is a coalition of community and faith-based organizations, government entities, businesses, and individuals, including formerly homeless persons, committed to the mission of ending homelessness and addressing the issues related to homelessness in our community.

The Continuum of Care (CoC) process, which also includes the Maricopa Regional Continuum of Care as well as the Arizona Balance of State Continuum of Care, was established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to enable localities to apply to the federal government for McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act competitive grant programs while developing local solutions to end homelessness.

*For more information regarding the Tucson/Pima County CoC and work being done to prevent and end homelessness in Tucson, please visit: [WWW.TPCH.NET](http://WWW.TPCH.NET)*

## HOW DO WE KNOW THESE NUMBERS?

Each January, communities across the country utilize homeless service workers and hundreds of volunteers to count the individuals experiencing homelessness, both in shelters and on the streets, in what is called a Point-In-Time (PIT) Count. This data is used at the local level to help inform and fund a variety of housing programs and supportive services to aid in each person or family's housing stability.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

YOU can volunteer for the next PIT Count!

Watch for more info as 2018 nears

PLEASE VISIT [WWW.TPCH.NET](http://WWW.TPCH.NET)



## WHAT ARE THESE INDIVIDUALS EXPERIENCING?

- ➔ At least 39% of those experiencing homelessness in 2016 in Tucson/Pima County REPORT HAVING AN INCOME. But the 2017 fair market rate for a one-bedroom apartment in Pima County is \$652, still making stable housing unattainable for many low-income residents.
- ➔ Over 24% of those experiencing homelessness in January 2017 in Tucson/Pima County attributed their homelessness to DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, requiring individuals to engage and interact with multiple services and systems of care to attain and maintain safe, affordable housing.
- ➔ Exactly 50% of those experiencing homelessness in Tucson/Pima County are also dealing with a SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS or SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER, necessitating complex case management and supportive services in order to attain and maintain stable housing.

# WHERE CAN I REFER THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

In order to better utilize community resources and create equal opportunity access to a vast array of services, anyone experiencing homelessness in Tucson/Pima County can access a wide range of service providers and supportive services by calling or visiting the following locations:



## LA FRONTERA • RAPP

1101 E. Broadway Boulevard, Suite 130, Tucson, AZ 85719

OPEN: M-F; 8AM to 4PM



## LA FRONTERA ARIZONA • SONORA HOUSE

2940 N. Flowing Wells Road, Tucson, AZ 85705

OPEN: M-F; 8AM to 5PM



## OLD PUEBLO COMMUNITY SERVICES

MAIN OFFICE: 4501 E. 5th Street, Tucson, AZ 85711

OPEN: M-F; 8AM to 5PM



PRIMAVERA

## OUR FAMILY SERVICES

2590 N. Alvernon Way, Tucson, AZ 85712

OPEN: Tues. 10AM to 1PM; Wed. 1PM to 4PM; Thurs. 10AM to 1PM

BY APPOINTMENT: Call (520) 323-1708, ext. 295, M-F between 10AM and 1PM



## PRIMAVERA FOUNDATION

702 S. 6th Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85701

OPEN: Mon, Wed, Thurs, & Fri; 9AM to 12PM



## SALVATION ARMY

1002 N. Main Avenue, Tucson, AZ 85705

OPEN: Tues. & Thurs.; 2PM to 5PM

## SULLIVAN JACKSON EMPLOYMENT CENTER (PIMA COUNTY)

400 E. 26th Street, Tucson, AZ 85713

OPEN: M-F; 8AM to 5PM



## YOUTH AGES 18-24: 24/7 SHELTER ACCESS & SAFETY

CALL SAFE PLACE: (520) 320-5122

## WHAT IF SOMEONE IS IN CRISIS?

CALL NurseWise  
24/7 CRISIS LINE

**(866) 495-6735**

(Managed by Cenpatco Integrated Care)

## ADDITIONAL 24/7 MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS LINES

CODAC Community-Wide Crisis Line: (520) 622-6000

Cenpatco Crisis Intervention Peer-Operated Warm Line: (888) 404-5530

## 24/7 HOTLINE FOR ALCOHOL & SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Community Bridges, Inc. (CBI) Access Point & Transition: (877) 931-9142

## 24/7 HOTLINE FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Immediate danger? Call 911! • National Domestic Violence Hotline: (800) 799-7233

## 24/7 HOTLINE FOR SEX & HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Immediate danger? Call 911! • National Human Trafficking Hotline: (888) 373-7888

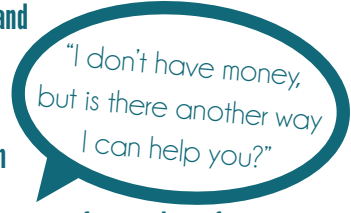
# HOW CAN I BEST ENGAGE WITH THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS?

The only difference between you and the individual experiencing homelessness is that you have a safe place to call home and they currently do not. So why not treat them as you are treated and as you treat others?

- First and foremost, **BE HUMAN AND TREAT OTHERS LIKE HUMANS!**
- Smile, be courteous, respect boundaries, have a conversation -- it really IS that simple!
- **SAFETY IS TOP PRIORITY!** Never offer rides in your car to someone you don't know, and never stand with anyone in a poorly lit or deserted area. If you feel unsafe, don't worry about being rude. Just leave the situation. **YOUR SAFETY IS TOP PRIORITY ALWAYS!**
- **RESPECTFULLY OFFER WHATEVER YOU'RE COMFORTABLE GIVING** -- the ways in which you can help can and will vary as each individual,

their situation, and their needs are unique.

Many are comfortable with giving money, while many more are not for a variety of reasons. No matter, there are still ways to help:



- "I don't have money, but is there another way I can help you?" (Tips on page 4.)
- Be aware of housing and homeless services in Phoenix and where to refer (See page 2.)
- Be the kind face that brightens their day.

## THINGS TO REMEMBER WHEN ENGAGING WITH THOSE WITH SERIOUS MENTAL ILLNESS

### BE RESPECTFUL TO THE PERSON

When someone feels respected and heard, they are more likely to not only return respect, but more open to considering what you have to say and taking the suggested or desired action.

### ACKNOWLEDGE THEIR EXPERIENCE WITH HALLUCINATIONS OR DELUSIONS

If they are experiencing events like hallucinations, be aware that the hallucinations or the delusions they experience are their reality. You will not be able to talk them out of their reality. They experience the hallucinations or delusional thoughts as real and are motivated by them. Communicate that you understand that they experience those events. Do not pretend that you also experience them.

### PARANOIA MAY BE PROMINENT, AND THAT'S OKAY

Some people with paranoia may be frightened, so be aware that they may need more body space than you to feel safe and comfortable.

### AVOID MAKING DAMAGING ASSUMPTIONS

Do not assume they are not smart and will believe anything you tell them. Mental illness has nothing to do with level of intelligence.

### DO NOT LIE OR MISLEAD

Do not lie to them, as it will usually break any rapport you might want to establish. If needed, set limits with the person as you would others. For example, "I only have five minutes to talk with you."

## PANHANDLING ≠ HOMELESSNESS

There is often a perception that when someone is panhandling, that means they are homeless, though this is not always the case. Unfortunately, "professional" panhandling by those who have a home far too often further perpetuates many of the negative stereotypes of begging and homelessness. For this reason, we highly encourage substantive engagement and service referrals (See pg. 2), as well as non-monetary ways to assist those experiencing homelessness, such as toiletries, socks & underwear, water bottles, non-perishable snack items, etc. (See page 4 for more tips).



# WHAT ASSISTANCE CAN I OFFER BEYOND MONEY?

To end homelessness, we as a society must work together to resolve the complex issues which contribute to the root causes of homelessness -- behavioral and mental health; substance use and abuse; cycles of poverty; unaffordable, unsafe housing; criminalizing of activities rather than access to critical services. For maximum impact, we suggest meaningful engagement and service referral (see pages 2-3), as well as the following:

## IN-KIND DONATION OPTIONS FOR INDIVIDUALS AND/OR LOCAL SHELTERS

Emergency shelters often rely on in-kind donations to provide basic hygiene products to those experiencing homelessness. Here are some other in-kind donations you can consider for shelters and those on the streets:

**DID YOU KNOW?**  
Socks & underwear are often the most needed items

### YEAR-ROUND

Socks & underwear  
Toiletries (toothbrush & paste, deodorant, shampoo & conditioner, razors & shave creme/gel)  
Feminine hygiene products  
Non-perishable snack items  
Public transit passes

### SPRING & SUMMER

WATER, WATER, & MORE WATER  
Reusable water bottles  
Gatorade/Powerade  
Chapstick & moisturizer  
Sun protection (hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, compact umbrella)

### FALL & WINTER

All-weather coats & jackets  
Waterproof outer gear  
Warming gear (hats, gloves & scarves, hand warmers, etc.)  
Wool socks & thermals  
Blankets & sleeping bags  
Hot food gift cards

## GET TO KNOW THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS THROUGH VOLUNTEERING

It goes without saying that the best thing you can give is your time, attention, and talents. Learn more about the obstacles faced in obtaining housing stability by volunteering at a local shelter or service agency. Visit [AZCEH.ORG/MEMBERS](http://AZCEH.ORG/MEMBERS) for a list of local agencies, or start here:

### UNITED WAY OF TUCSON & SOUTHERN AZ

Working with and serving nearly all agencies working to end hunger and homelessness, VSUW is a leader in volunteer coordination in the Valley.

[VOLUNTEER.UNITEDWAYTUCSON.ORG](http://VOLUNTEER.UNITEDWAYTUCSON.ORG)

### VOLUNTEER MATCH

Acting as another volunteer recruitment platform, VolunteerMatch lists a number of opportunities with local agencies.

[VOLUNTEERMATCH.ORG](http://VOLUNTEERMATCH.ORG)



## BE AN ADVOCATE FOR THOSE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

If you are passionate about ending homelessness, share that passion with your family, friends, and most importantly, your elected officials. If you have a favorite local nonprofit working to end poverty, hunger and homelessness, share their social media pages with your social networks, and don't be shy about letting that nonprofit know how you feel about their work. The power of human connection is what truly brings about lasting change.

Learn more and get involved by subscribing to AZCEH updates at [AZCEH.ORG/SUBSCRIBE](http://AZCEH.ORG/SUBSCRIBE).

## THIS INFORMATION BROUGHT TO YOU BY:



141 E. Palm Lane, #105 • Phoenix, AZ 85004  
(602) 340-9393 • [AZCEH.ORG](http://AZCEH.ORG)