



Homeless

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Mental disorders prevent people from carrying out essential aspects of daily life, such as self-care, household management and interpersonal relationships. Homeless people with mental disorders tend to remain homeless for longer periods of time and have less contact with family and friends.

A 2003 report from the National Resource and Training Center on Homelessness and Mental Illness stated that 16 percent of the homeless population suffers from a severe or persistent mental illness.

Beyond those suffering from mental illness, poor families across America can also fall victim to homelessness. In 2007, a survey performed by the U.S. Conference of Mayors found that 17.4 percent of homeless adults in families were employed while 13 percent of homeless single adults or unaccompanied youth were employed.

Through career training, housing assistance and mental health services, many people who have found themselves on the streets can find and maintain long-term housing. Homelessness drains local resources and breaks apart families.