

What does Health Care Look Like for Someone Experiencing Homelessness

Community Chats- October 2021

We recognize that our community's health is interconnected with all aspects of life, and we hope Community Chats help to provide a look at the bigger picture and how all of our work is connected. Prior to each chat we've sent out resources for attendees to review.

Topic Resources:

- [The Types of Homelessness](#)
 - This article breaks down and defines the four 'types' of homelessness- chronic, episodic, transitional, and hidden.
- [Why does prosperous King County have a homelessness crisis?](#)
 - A careful analysis reveals a primary driver of homelessness in Seattle and King County and a costly, multifaceted solution to the problem.
- ['Heartbreaking': Seattle's homeless are getting sicker and shelters are struggling to keep up](#)
 - The first story in David Kroman's three-part series that helped to expose the benefit's gap experienced by an aging homeless population here in Seattle. This article follows Hugh Daniel's after a surgery to remove a tumor from his colon and living in a shelter with an ostomy bag.
- [How the Pandemic Has Hurt the Health of People Experiencing Homelessness](#)
 - From closed soup kitchens to a lack of access to telehealth, the effects of the pandemic have hit the United States' homeless population especially hard. This article examines services in San Francisco and looks at the indirect effects of the pandemic, the ground level impact and how organizations have pivoted.
- [Connecting health and homelessness](#)
 - An interview with local professor Josephine Ensign about her new book *Skid Row: The Frontier of Health and Homelessness in an American City*. Ensign discusses the struggles that people experiencing homelessness face including refrigeration of medication to potentially losing it in sweeps.
- [Why Some Homeless Choose The Streets Over Shelters](#)
 - A 2012 NPR podcast that starts with an interview with someone who was at the time homeless (unsure if he is now) and why he avoided shelters and the conditions he saw firsthand or heard about. Then why he chose to go to a shelter.