

Walk a mile in my shoes:

Understanding the impact of homelessness on patient care

National Center for Homeless Education

- Acts as the U.S. Department of Education's technical assistance & information center
- NCHE provides:
 - A comprehensive website: <https://nche.ed.gov/index.php>
 - A helpline at 800-308-2145 or homeless@serve.org
 - A listserv: visit <https://nche.ed.gov/listserv.php> to join
 - Free resources at <https://nche.ed.gov/products.php>

Statistics for the Domino Effect

- Great Recession: 8.7 million jobs lost
 - Indianapolis: 850,000 people
 - More than 10x the people in Indy lost jobs
- How many months income should you have in savings: 6
 - Shouldn't spend more than 30% of income on housing
 - Indiana's current cost of living: \$14.84
 - \$16,000 saved to be safe

Statistics for the Domino Effect

- Most people don't have \$16,000 saved
 - Most people have \$4,400 saved on average
 - 38 million households, or 45x the population of Indy, live paycheck to paycheck
 - Instead, have about \$17,000 in high interest credit card debt
- 1.3 million children were homeless in School Year 15-16
- 1.1 million adults used shelters
 - Not all adults- just the ones in shelters

Statistics for the Domino Effect

- Going into the health professions is smart
 - Median salary, excluding doctors, is \$58,000 a year
 - Works out to \$28/hr, or about twice the cost of living in Indiana



Unmet Needs

- Focused on 5 types of needs
- 73% of the respondents reported at least one unmet health need,
- Inability to obtain
 - Needed medical or surgical care: 32%
 - Prescription medications: 36%
 - Mental health care: 21%
 - Eyeglasses: 41%
 - Dental care: 41%



Experiences in Health Care System

1. Felt talked down to by doctors and nurses.
2. Health providers were perceived as rude.
3. Feelings of being treated awfully.
4. Patient requests were not acknowledged.
5. Confidentiality of the health care encounters lacking.

Resources

National Healthcare for the Homeless Council

- <https://www.nhchc.org/>
- On their website:
 - Policy and advocacy info, including toolkit
 - Publications and research
 - Clinical standards and health center program requirements
 - Info on local programs and option to ask questions

Resources

National Low Income Housing Coalition: <http://nlihc.org/>

- Out of Reach: <http://nlihc.org/oor>
- Provides information on cost of living in each state and metro area

National Center for Homeless Education

- <https://nche.ed.gov/index.php>
- Data and statistics:
https://nche.ed.gov/ibt/aw_statistics.php

Contact Information

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