



## UNIT 2

# What Causes Homelessness?

- Who is currently experiencing homelessness?*
- What are the root causes of homelessness?*
- Who or what is responsible for homelessness?*

## Middle School

# UNIT 2: Perception & Reality

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### Essential Questions

1. Who is currently experiencing homelessness?
2. What are the root causes of homelessness?
3. Who or what is responsible for homelessness?

### Overview

- Students will explore the reasons that people experience homelessness and the way we think about those people, building an understanding that homelessness can happen to anyone and does not define who you are as a person.
- Students will also begin to build an understanding of the programs and services that can help people exit homelessness.

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### Materials

- Six-sided dice (10)
- Printed activity worksheets for each student (Resident, Service Provider, or Life Event)
- Impact Statistics Graphic Sets (printed or projected)
- Video: [Meet Angelica](#), Everyone In
- Activity Definitions sheet (printed or projected)

### Prep

Read through the lesson to ensure you understand the rules of the activity and have determined how you will divide students into Residents, Service Providers, and Life Events and where the Service Provider and Life Event stations will be in the classroom.

Print out a double-sided worksheet for each student and either print Impact Statistics Graphic Sets and Activity Definitions sheet or plan to project them where all students can see and analyze them as needed during the lesson.

There are additional videos in the “Supplementary Materials” section at the bottom of this lesson that can be used for discussion at the beginning or end of the lesson.

## UNIT 2: Perception & Reality

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### Procedure

1. Distribute or project Impact Statistics Graphic Sets for students. Give them time to analyze the data and write down 5 observations or questions that they have about it. This will provide an introduction to some key stats about homelessness in L.A. County as well as valuable practice interpreting and analyzing data. You may need to start the lesson with a quick refresher on the basic types and components of charts.
2. Give students a chance to share out some of their observations and questions or discuss them with a partner. The impact statistics that they will be analyzing are listed below:

*What are the root causes of homelessness?*

- a. Out of the 3,306,109 households in L.A. 555,105 are severely **rent-burdened**.
- b. 720,000 L.A. households spend more than 50% of their household income on rent
- c. Out of the 58,936 people experiencing homelessness in L.A. County in 2019
  - 53% report economic hardship as the leading cause
  - 29% report serious mental illness as a leading cause
  - 5% are actively fleeing domestic violence
- d. Out of the people newly experiencing homelessness in 2020 in L.A. County.
  - 59% cite economic hardship as the main cause
  - 39% cite a weakened social network as the main cause
  - 24% cite a disabling health condition as the main cause
  - 11% cite system discharge as the main cause
  - 8% cite violence as the main cause
- e. L.A. needs 516,946 new affordable housing units to meet the needs of low-income renters. We've built 8,874 so far.
- f. 35% of unsheltered adults 18+ have a history of domestic, intimate partner, and other sexual violence. 60% of unsheltered transgender people have experienced domestic violence.
- g. Out of the 58,936 people experiencing Homelessness in 2019 in L.A. County 92% report a fragile social network as one of the main reasons for their homelessness.
- h. Average rent in the city of Los Angeles has ballooned to \$2,527, a whopping 65% increase since 2010. L.A.'s median household income has only grown by 36%.
- i. Wages haven't kept pace with rising rent. An L.A renter earning minimum wage (\$13.25/hr) would need to work 79 hours a week to afford rent on a 1-bedroom apartment.
- j. 40% of Americans are one paycheck away from homelessness.

## UNIT 2: Perception & Reality

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### Procedure (cont'd)

3. Show your students [Angelica's](#) story, allow students to share any reflections or parallels between the data they analyzed and what Angelica shared about her reasons for experiencing homelessness and housing insecurity.
4. After familiarizing themselves with some of the reasons people experience homelessness in L.A. County, students will complete an interactive activity that will illustrate both factors leading to homelessness and the services that help people regain stable housing. See **Activity Instructions** at end of the unit.
5. After completing at least one round of the activity and answering the discussion questions, allow students time to share out their answers with the class or a partner.

#### **Discussion Questions: Residents**

1. *What are 3 changes you noticed between your situation at the beginning of the activity and your situation after visiting all of the Service Provider and Life Event stations? (these could be changes in housing situation, finances, health, employment, etc.)*
2. *What are 3 services or programs that positively impacted your ability to get or maintain stable housing?*
3. *What are 3 life events or circumstances (including things listed in your initial situation) that positively or negatively impacted your ability to maintain stable housing?*
4. *For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?*

#### **Discussion Questions: Service Providers and Life Events**

1. *What are 3 services or life events/circumstances that positively impacted Residents' ability to get or maintain stable housing?*
2. *What are 3 life events or circumstances that negatively impacted Residents' ability to maintain stable housing?*
3. *For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?*

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### Procedure (cont'd)

6. Ask students to share out their answers to the final question (it is the same for all students) and write their answers on the board. Some answers might include:
  - a. Not enough funding
  - b. Not enough supportive and affordable housing available
  - c. Not enough community support to build supportive and affordable housing in certain neighborhoods of L.A.
  - d. People don't want the help (this is almost never the case)
  - e. People living outside don't know about the services available to them
  - f. People living outside may have pets that are their family and certain immediate housing facilities do not allow pets
  - g. People need certain types of support (mental health care, physical health care, counseling) before they are ready to move into stable housing
  
7. Tell your students that in the next lesson they'll be learning about real people working to end homelessness throughout L.A. County, why they are motivated to do that work, the impact they are making, and how each one of your students can do something to help people experiencing homelessness as well.

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### Supplementary Materials

- Videos:
  - a. [Yvette](#) (Everyone In)
  - b. [Zondre's Story](#) (Everyone In)
  
- Books
  - *The Family Under the Bridge* by Natalie Savage Carlson
  - *Crenshaw* by Katherine Applegate

### Sources

- [Youth Homelessness](#) (My Friend's Place)
- [L.A. rent rose 65% in the last decade](#) (Los Angeles Times)
- [State of Homelessness: 2020 Edition](#) (National Alliance to End Homelessness)
- [Millions of Americans are one missed paycheck away from poverty report says](#) (Forbes)
- [2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count](#) (Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority)

## UNIT 2: Statistics

### Households in L.A. County



Key:

 = 100,000 households

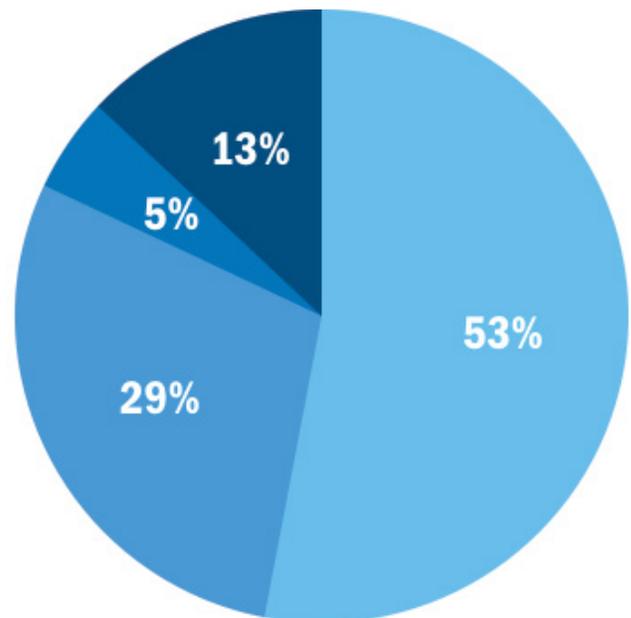
 = Rent-burdened

720,000 L.A. households spend more than 50% of their household income on rent



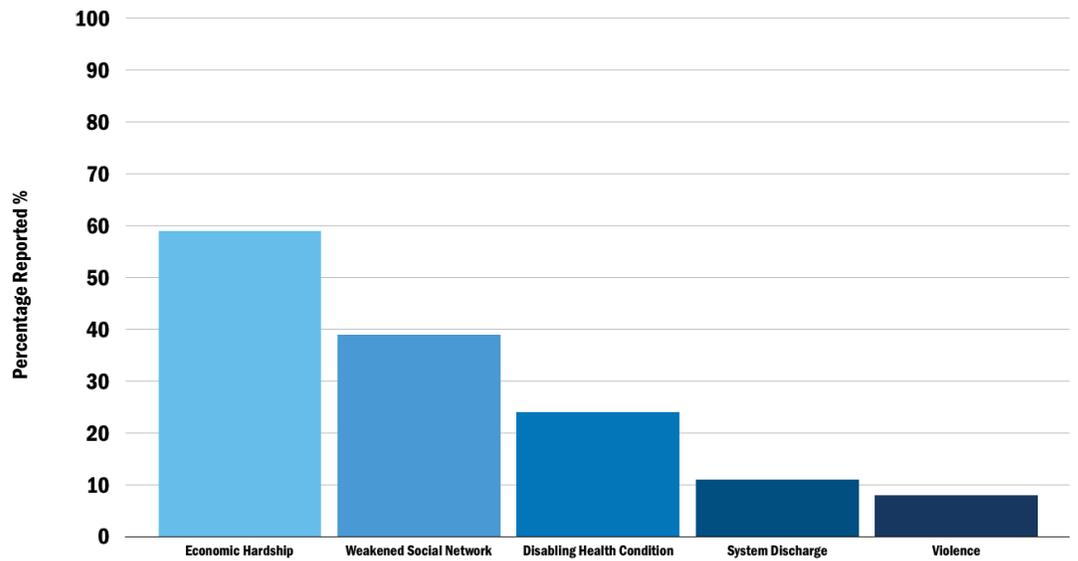
### Reported Leading Causes of Homelessness (2019)

 Economic hardship       Serious mental illness  
 Fleeing domestic violence       Other

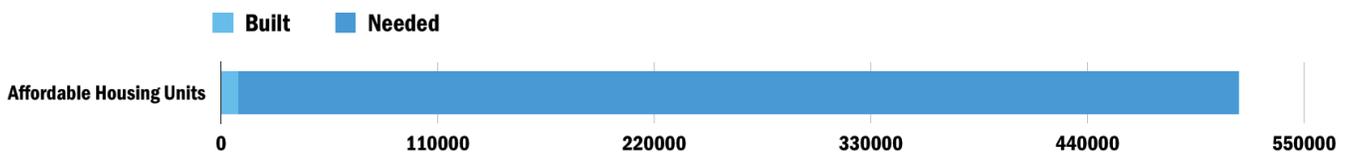


## UNIT 2: Statistics

### Main Causes of People Newly Experiencing Homelessness (2020)



### Affordable housing units to meet the needs of low-income renters

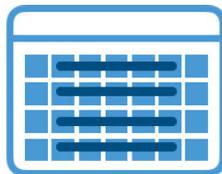


### Wages haven't kept pace with rising rent.



\$13.25/hour

x



79 hours/week

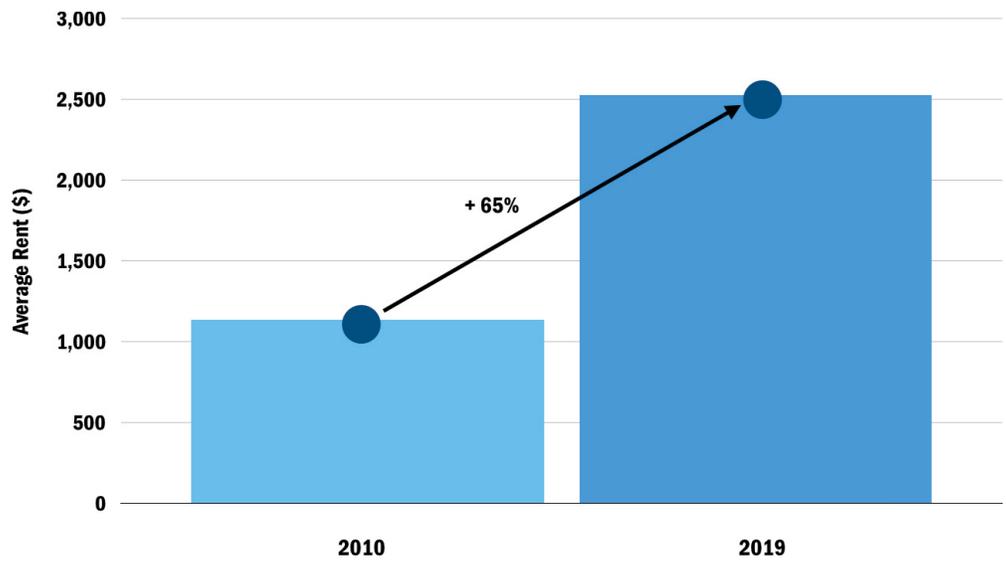
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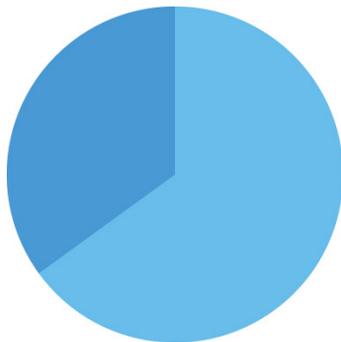
1 bedroom apartment

# UNIT 2: Statistics

Average Rent in the City of Los Angeles

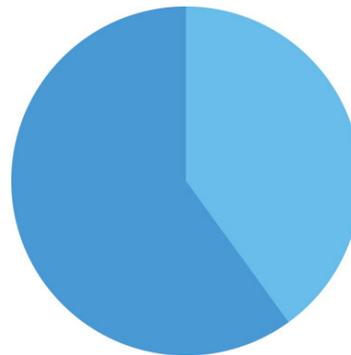


Unsheltered Adults



■ Have a history of domestic, intimate partner, & other sexual violence

Transgender People



■ Have experienced domestic violence

Percentage of Americans who are one paycheck away from homelessness.



## UNIT 2: Perception & Reality

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### Activity Instructions

In this activity, you'll learn about a few of the hardships and services that can impact the lives of people who are living outside or are at risk of experiencing homelessness. Some students will navigate the activity as residents, visiting other students who are acting as service providers or life events, illustrating how easy it can be to experience homelessness and what services and life events impact a person's ability to stay housed or regain housing after losing it. Make sure to display the **Activity Definitions** page so students can see it.

#### Role Selection

- Divide students up into three roughly equal groups- residents, service providers, and life events. Those participating as service providers and life events will be stationed around the room, while residents will move around the classroom to complete the activity.
- Each student will get a worksheet based on which group they are in, and each service provider and life event will also receive a 6-sided die.

#### Activity Procedure

- This activity will be more powerful if students can see it through the lens of story, so once roles are assigned and before you begin, ask your students to write one page answering these questions given their role:
  - RESIDENTS - What are the specific circumstances that lead up to you becoming housing vulnerable or homeless? Include things like work, life changes, family dynamics, events, etc.
  - SERVICE PROVIDERS - Pretend that you are an adult, and have chosen the job to which you have been assigned. What are the specifics that led to you choosing this job? This could include things like past experiences with homelessness, why you chose a certain degree path in school, the prospect of job stability, wanting to make a difference, etc.
  - LIFE EVENT - For each of the six (6) possible 'life events', create a short narrative that caused the event, as follows:

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### Activity Instructions (cont'd)

- i. Roll 1- Work is having to downsize. What has happened to create the need for work to downsize?
  - ii. Roll 2- Your child/sibling gets sick. What kind of sickness does the child have? Is it a cold? Is it the flu? Is it something more serious?
  - iii. Roll 3- Prestigious extracurricular program. What is the program, and what kinds of materials will the child need? Is there a due date for getting prepared for the program?
  - iv. Roll 4- Raised rent/Parking ticket (unfair extra expense)- Raised rent- What are the circumstances that led to the raised rent? What justification does the landlord give? Ticket- What was the parking offense?
  - v. Roll 5- Wage raise! What is the reason for the raise?
  - vi. Roll 6- Inside scoop on rent controlled apartment. How did they hear about the inside scoop? A friend? A service provider? Is there competition for the apartment?
- The object of the activity is for each resident to visit service provider and life event stations, rolling a die at each station to determine how their situation will change.
  - Begin by having residents read through the situation section at the top of their worksheet, and having the students act as service providers and life events familiarize themselves with the keys they will use to let residents know the result of each die roll when their stations are visited.
  - Let students know that once the timer begins, residents will have 15-20 minutes to visit each station, rolling a die each time and marking down the changes to their situation based on a service provider or a life event. They should follow the sequence of life events and service providers on their worksheet, but are free to choose which life event or service provider they go to in which order.
  - Once residents have visited all stations, students can return to their seats and complete the discussion questions on the back of their worksheets.
  - Once all students have had some time to complete the discussion questions, you will discuss them as a class.
  - Optional Extension: in order to give each student the chance to be a resident, you can swap out rolls and complete the activity a second time.

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### Activity Instructions (cont'd)

#### Residents

- Each student designated as a resident during this activity will receive a worksheet detailing their situation at the top—things outlined will include costs, expenses, housing set-up and other things that could influence their ability to maintain their housing status. Some students will receive a situation indicating that they are experiencing homelessness and why.

#### Service Providers and Life Events

- The object of the activity is for each resident to visit service provider and life event stations. The services presented by service providers in this activity will represent actual services that are helping to end homelessness in L.A. County.
- The life events that students will roll the die for at the life event stations will be normal life events that can happen to anyone, things that can cause someone to lose their home or be put at risk of losing their home.
- Service Provider roles:
  - a. Supportive Housing Navigator
  - b. Affordable Housing Navigator
  - c. Employment Navigators
  - d. Outreach Worker
  - e. Community Homeless Service Provider

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### Activity Definitions

**Resident: Experiencing homelessness** - A person experiences homelessness when they are lacking proper housing and therefore live in a place not meant for human habitation (e.g. tents, cars, parks), in emergency shelter, or in transitional housing.

**Resident: Housing vulnerable** - A person who spends enough of their income on rent each month to be at risk of losing their housing.

**Service Provider: Supportive Housing Navigator** - Supportive housing combines affordable housing with on-site services such as mental health treatment, substance abuse counseling, job training, and support groups. Supportive housing can be permanent and is designed to help the most vulnerable people in a community. Supportive housing has great success as a long term solution to homelessness.

**Service Provider: Affordable Housing Navigator** - Affordable housing units rent for less than the market rate and are reserved for people who earn less than the average income. Around  $\frac{1}{4}$  of their tenants need long term assistance, while  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the tenants only need affordable housing for a short term. Rent stabilized housing or rent controlled housing is one form of affordable housing in which the amount your rent can be raised each year is limited. Affordable housing is often reserved for households that make less than 80% of the median income for the area.

**Service Provider: Employment Navigator** - Employment Navigators work with local employers to help place people experiencing homelessness in suitable jobs. They can also help put people in touch with training services and nonprofits, and support them as they become more financially stable.

**Service Provider: Outreach Worker** - Outreach workers help provide basic services to those experiencing homelessness or those who are housing vulnerable. Outreach workers go to their clients and seek out people who they can assist. They also put clients into contact with more comprehensive services.

**Service Provider: Community Homeless Service Provider** - Community Homeless Service Providers can be many things: A food bank, A free laundry or health service, legal aid, and so many other things. This station represents the organizations that exist to support the community of people living on the street.

**Life Events** - Life is full of ups and downs no matter your circumstances but for people who are homeless or housing vulnerable small events can impact them in big ways.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Resident: Experiencing homelessness

- You have a part-time minimum wage job.
- You are sleeping in your car.
- You are looking after your younger sibling.
- You and your sibling fled an abusive household.

### Stations

Visit stations in any order based on categories listed, write the same of each station as you visit as well as the number you roll and the result of the roll (given to you by the classmate at that station).

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_  
Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_  
Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

### Discussion Questions

- What are 3 changes you noticed between your situation at the beginning of the activity and your situation after visiting all of the Service Provider and Live Event stations? (these could be changes in housing situation, finances, health, employment, etc.)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 services or programs that positively impacted your ability to get or maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 life events or circumstances (including things listed in your initial situation) that **positively or negatively** impacted your ability to maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Resident: Housing vulnerable

- You have a full-time minimum wage job.
- You spend 90% of your income on rent.
- You don't own a car.
- You have 1 child.

### Stations

Visit stations in any order based on categories listed, write the same of each station as you visit as well as the number you roll and the result of the roll (given to you by the classmate at that station).

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Service Provider:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_

Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_  
Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

**Life Event:** \_\_\_\_\_ Number rolled: \_\_\_\_\_  
Outcome: \_\_\_\_\_

### Discussion Questions

- What are 3 changes you noticed between your situation at the beginning of the activity and your situation after visiting all of the Service Provider and Live Event stations? (these could be changes in housing situation, finances, health, employment, etc.)

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 services or programs that positively impacted your ability to get or maintain stable housing?

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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 life events or circumstances (including things listed in your initial situation) that **positively or negatively** impacted your ability to maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Service Provider: Supportive Housing Navigator

<p><b>Explanation of Service</b></p>	
<p><i>Supportive housing combines affordable housing with on-site services such as mental health treatment, substance abuse counseling, job training, and support groups. Supportive housing can be permanent and is designed to help the most vulnerable people in a community. Supportive housing has great success as a long term solution to homelessness.</i></p>	
<p><b>Key</b></p>	
<p><b>Situation: Housing vulnerable</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - Supportive housing is underfunded in your community and there isn't an open room.</p> <p>2 - Your service provider needs to go over your file again. You won't be getting the apartment today.</p> <p>3 - A room will be opening up in a month's time. Good thing because your current landlord just raised the rent and you wouldn't have been able to afford it.</p> <p>4 - A room is available! It's perfect timing. The onsite childcare means that you'll be able to feel secure about your child while you are at work.</p> <p>5 - A room is available! You have a job but have panic attacks and your boss is concerned. The onsite mental health care provider will help give you the tools to manage your panic attacks. Your boss will be very happy and so will you.</p> <p>6 - A room is available! You use the services provided to get trained and are placed in a job that pays much better. Not only has your life turned around but the life of your family</p>	<p><b>Situation: Experiencing homelessness</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - Supportive housing is underfunded in your community and there isn't an open room.</p> <p>2 - Your service provider needs to go over your file again. You won't be getting the apartment today.</p> <p>3 - A room will be opening up in a month's time. Good thing because your current landlord just raised the rent and you wouldn't have been able to afford it.</p> <p>4 - A room is available! It's perfect timing. The onsite childcare means that you'll be able to feel secure about your child while you are at work.</p> <p>5 - A room is available! You have a job but have panic attacks and your boss is concerned. The onsite mental health care provider will help give you the tools to manage your panic attacks. Your boss will be very happy and so will you.</p> <p>6 - A room is available! You use the services provided to get trained and are placed in a job that pays much better. Not only has your life turned around but the life of your family</p>

## Discussion Questions

- What are 3 services or life events/circumstances that positively impacted Residents' ability to get or maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 life events or circumstances that negatively impacted Residents' ability to maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Service Provider: Employment Navigator

<b>Explanation of Service</b>	
<i>Employment Navigators work with local employers to help place people experiencing homelessness in suitable jobs. They can also help put people in touch with training services and nonprofits, and support them as they become more financially stable.</i>	
<b>Key</b>	
<p><b>Situation: Housing vulnerable</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - Employment Services are underfunded. There isn't a navigator in your area.</p> <p>2- There isn't enough support from local businesses and nonprofits in your area. The navigator informs you that there isn't a job opening right now.</p> <p>3 - Plenty of local businesses and nonprofits support the employment services in the area but rent is high in the city and a lot of people need to work multiple jobs. The navigator will need more time to place you in a job.</p> <p>4 - A local business is looking for employees but they need to be trained. Training is a month. It will be a hard month but you can find ways to make it through. You are looking forward to having a stable job even if it's minimum wage.</p> <p>5 - You found a job! You can start right away. It's a bit of a commute but you'll be able to afford rent and put food on the table.</p> <p>6 - You found a job! There is training involved but they'll pay you for the training and the navigator tells you there is room for future promotions. You feel so proud to have a job that could turn into a career.</p>	<p><b>Situation: Experiencing homelessness</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - Employment Services are underfunded. There isn't a navigator in your area.</p> <p>2- There isn't enough support from local businesses and nonprofits in your area. The navigator informs you that there isn't a job opening right now.</p> <p>3 - Plenty of local businesses and nonprofits support the employment services in the area but rent is high in the city and a lot of people need to work multiple jobs. The navigator will need more time to place you in a job.</p> <p>4 - A local business is looking for employees but they need to be trained. Training is a month. It will be a hard month but you can find ways to make it through. You are looking forward to having a stable job even if it's minimum wage.</p> <p>5 - You found a job! You can start right away. It's a bit of a commute but you'll be able to save for a place and put food on the table.</p> <p>6 - You found a job! There is training involved but they'll pay you for the training and the navigator tells you there is room for future promotions. You feel so proud to have a job that could turn into a career.</p>

## Discussion Questions

- What are 3 services or life events/circumstances that positively impacted Residents' ability to get or maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 life events or circumstances that negatively impacted Residents' ability to maintain stable housing?

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- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

## Service Provider: Outreach Worker

<p><b>Explanation of Service</b></p> <p><i>Outreach workers help provide basic services to those experiencing homelessness or those who are housing vulnerable. Outreach workers go to their clients and seek out people who they can assist. They also put clients into contact with more comprehensive services.</i></p>	
<p><b>Key</b></p>	
<p><b>Situation: Housing vulnerable</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 or 2 - There aren't enough outreach workers in your community so you don't encounter one.</p> <p>3 - You meet with an outreach worker who helps provide affordable health care. This is the first time you feel cared for in a long time.</p> <p>4 - You meet with an outreach worker who identifies you as at risk of losing your home. They put you in contact with community homeless service providers. You can receive aid in the form of health care, legal aid, or a food bank.</p> <p>5 - You meet with an outreach worker who helps you get in touch with employment services. Take another trip to the employment navigator.</p> <p>6 - You meet with an outreach worker who helps you get in touch with housing services. Take another trip to the affordable housing navigator.</p>	<p><b>Situation: Experiencing homelessness</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - There aren't enough outreach workers in your community so you don't encounter one.</p> <p>2 - You meet with an outreach worker. You aren't sure of what services are out there, so the two of you get to know each other and the outreach worker gets a better idea of what kind of help you might need.</p> <p>3 - You meet with an outreach worker who helps provide affordable health care. This is the first time you feel cared for in a long time.</p> <p>4 - You meet with an outreach worker who puts you in contact with community homeless service providers. You can receive aid in the form of health care, legal aid, or a food bank.</p> <p>5 - You meet with an outreach worker who helps you get in touch with employment services. Take another trip to the employment navigator.</p> <p>6 - You meet with an outreach worker who helps you get in touch with housing services. Take another trip to the affordable housing navigator.</p>

## Discussion Questions

- What are 3 services or life events/circumstances that positively impacted Residents' ability to get or maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- What are 3 life events or circumstances that negatively impacted Residents' ability to maintain stable housing?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_
- \_\_\_\_\_

- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

- \_\_\_\_\_
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## Service Provider: Community Homeless Service Provider

<p><b>Explanation of Service</b></p>	
<p><i>Community Homeless Service Providers can be many things: A food bank, a free laundry or health service, legal aid, and so many other things. This station represents the organizations that exist to support the community of people living on the street.</i></p>	
<p><b>Key</b></p>	
<p><b>Situation: Housing vulnerable</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - You are surprised by The Laundry Truck, a free laundry service that drives around low-income areas. You feel clean and hopeful. This could help you in a job interview.</p> <p>2 - You run into a representative of United Way. They help you with rental assistance.</p> <p>3 - You meet someone from Ground Game L.A.. They help provide you with legal resources.</p> <p>4 - You meet someone from Imagine L.A. They help you and your family get connected with services and provide mentors to help end family homelessness.</p> <p>5 - You find a weekly food bank that provides a meal and a few groceries to help you through the week.</p> <p>6 - You meet someone from St. Joseph Center. They bring you a food drive where you can eat and tell you about their many services, such as job training.</p>	<p><b>Situation: Experiencing homelessness</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - You are surprised by The Laundry Truck, a free laundry service that drives around low-income areas. You feel clean and hopeful. This could help you in a job interview.</p> <p>2 - You run into a representative of PATH (People Assisting The Homeless). You are given another chance to roll for the supportive housing navigator.</p> <p>3 - You meet someone from Ground Game L.A.. They help provide you with legal resources.</p> <p>4 - You meet someone from Imagine L.A. They help you and your family get connected with services and provide mentors to help end family homelessness.</p> <p>5 - You find a weekly food bank that provides a meal and a few groceries to help you through the week.</p> <p>6 - You meet someone from St. Joseph Center. They bring you a food drive where you can eat and tell you about their many services, such as job training and community support.</p>

## Discussion Questions

- What are 3 services or life events/circumstances that positively impacted Residents' ability to get or maintain stable housing?

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- What are 3 life events or circumstances that negatively impacted Residents' ability to maintain stable housing?

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- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

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## Life Events

<b>Explanation</b>	
<i>Life is full of ups and downs no matter your circumstances but for people who are homeless or housing vulnerable small events can impact them in big ways.</i>	
<b>Key</b>	
<p><b>Situation: Housing vulnerable</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - Your work is having to downsize. Your work hours have been cut down and so has your income. You'll need to cut costs or find another job.</p> <p>2 - Your child gets sick and you need to take them to the doctor. You'll have to miss a day of work and pay for the doctor. You are going to have to be late with rent this month.</p> <p>3 - Your child has just gotten into the prestigious extra curricular program but the materials are expensive. You are happy for them but need help paying for this opportunity.</p> <p>4 - Unless you are in supportive or affordable housing, your rent is raised but the apartment is in shambles. You need legal help to dispute this.</p> <p>5 - You get a raise at work! You've been putting in long hours and it feels like it's finally paying off.</p> <p>6 - You get the inside scoop on a rent controlled apartment opening up. You can afford it and it's close to work.</p>	<p><b>Situation: Experiencing homelessness</b></p> <p>Resident rolls a 6 sided die.</p> <p>1 - Your work is having to downsize. Your work hours have been cut down and so has your income. You'll need to cut costs or find another job.</p> <p>2 - Your sibling gets sick and you need to take them to the doctor. You'll have to miss a day of work and pay for the doctor. You are going to have to be late with rent this month.</p> <p>3 - Your sibling has just gotten into the prestigious extra curricular program but the materials are expensive. You are happy for them but need help paying for this opportunity.</p> <p>4 - You got a parking ticket but you are sure that you didn't park illegally. You need legal help to dispute this.</p> <p>5 - You get a raise at work! You've been putting in long hours and it feels like it's finally paying off.</p> <p>6 - You get the inside scoop on a rent controlled apartment opening up. You can afford it and it's close to work.</p>

## Discussion Questions

- What are 3 services or life events/circumstances that positively impacted Residents' ability to get or maintain stable housing?

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- What are 3 life events or circumstances that negatively impacted Residents' ability to maintain stable housing?

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- For services and programs that help people keep their housing or exit homelessness, what are 3 barriers that you think might prevent those services and programs from reaching more people in L.A. County?

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