

HOMELESSNESS	
MYTH	FACT
It is their choice	NO--- 75% of homeless people in Sacramento are homeless due to economic reasons – lost job; lost income. 98% of homeless people want to return a home Homelessness is due to a broken housing market – for every \$100 increase in rent – homelessness increases 15%
They aren't from Sacramento – they are from somewhere else	NO --- 85% of homeless people in our community are from the Sacramento region
Well... they are just lazy	NO --- 40% of homeless people work either full or part time – hard to safe first and last and deposit when you are struggling to survive
They are all mentally ill and/or drug addicts	NO --- 57% report a mental health issue while 56% report a substance use issue – many of these issues related to PTSD [Post Traumatic Stress Disorder]
There is enough shelter for everyone	NO--- not even close- 56% of homeless people are outside due to lack of shelter
Homelessness is an intractable social issue – we can never end it	NO!--- the USA has had 4 periods of homelessness – due either to war or depression. This is the longest period of sustained homelessness in our history – 50 years of failed public policies. We can end homelessness with the political will matched with the resources to the scale of the crisis.