

# Homelessness in Southern Nevada

## Chronic Homelessness



On any given night it is estimated that 285 individuals are experiencing chronic homelessness in Southern Nevada. <sup>1</sup> Nationally, individuals who are chronically homeless represent almost 15 percent of the national homeless population. <sup>2</sup>

Individuals experiencing chronic homelessness have a diagnosed mental and/or physical disability in addition to being homeless for at least one year or having at least four episodes of homelessness within the past three years where those occasions cumulatively total at least 12 months. Occasions are defined by a break of at least *seven nights* not residing in an emergency shelter, safe haven, or residing in a place meant for human habitation. <sup>1</sup>

**Many chronically homeless individuals experience multiple and complex challenges to housing stability including physical and/or developmental disabilities, chronic health problems, and mental illness such as PTSD and depression.**

Nearly 34 percent of the chronically homeless surveyed in the 2016 Homeless Census reported they had four or more disabling conditions.

Chronically homeless individuals face specific challenges in securing affordable housing primarily because of having little to no income. Placing individuals in housing units where their rent burden is more than 30 percent of their monthly income places them at a higher risk for falling back into homelessness.

Chronic homelessness can significantly impact government and private sector resources, specifically emergency rooms, mental health services and police departments.

About 40 percent of the chronically homeless individuals surveyed in 2016 reported using hospital emergency rooms as their primary source of medical care.

**To learn more about homelessness in Southern Nevada, please view the additional information pages within the Help Hope Home Homeless Education Toolkit.**

### GET INVOLVED

Southern Nevada has a goal to end chronic homelessness by the end of 2017. Learn more about how you can get involved and become part of the solution!

**Partner with a homeless service agency to serve as an advocate, volunteer, and donor.**

Catholic Charities of Southern Nevada  
[www.catholiccharities.com/](http://www.catholiccharities.com/)

Help of Southern Nevada  
[www.helpsonv.org](http://www.helpsonv.org)

Las Vegas Rescue Mission  
[www.vegasrescue.org](http://www.vegasrescue.org)

Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
[dpbh@health.nv.org](mailto:dpbh@health.nv.org)

St. Jude's Ranch for Children  
<http://www.stjudesranch.org/>

The Salvation Army of Southern Nevada  
[www.salvationarmysouthernnevada.org](http://www.salvationarmysouthernnevada.org)

U.S.VETS-Las Vegas  
[www.usvetsinc.org/lasvegas](http://www.usvetsinc.org/lasvegas)

WestCare  
[www.westcare.com/page/where-we-serve\\_NV](http://www.westcare.com/page/where-we-serve_NV)

Women's Development Center  
[www.wdclv.org](http://www.wdclv.org)

Visit [www.HelpHopeHome.org](http://www.HelpHopeHome.org) and [www.NevadaHomelessAlliance.org](http://www.NevadaHomelessAlliance.org) to learn more about how to get involved and be a part of the solution.