

University of Northern Iowa

UNI ScholarWorks

INSPIRE Student Research and Engagement
Conference

2024 INSPIRE Student Research and
Engagement Conference

Apr 9th, 11:00 AM - 11:50 AM

Breaking the Patterns of Homelessness

Jaylynn Easterly

University of Northern Iowa

Yaqueline Trinidad

University of Northern Iowa

See next page for additional authors

Let us know how access to this document benefits you

Copyright ©2024 Jaylynn Easterly, Yaqueline Trinidad, Mya Snitker, & Araely Hanson

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.uni.edu/csbsresearchconf>

Recommended Citation

Easterly, Jaylynn; Trinidad, Yaqueline; Snitker, Mya; and Hanson, Araely, "Breaking the Patterns of Homelessness" (2024). *INSPIRE Student Research and Engagement Conference*. 71.

<https://scholarworks.uni.edu/csbsresearchconf/2024/all/71>

This Open Access Poster Presentation is brought to you for free and open access by the CSBS Conferences/Events at UNI ScholarWorks. It has been accepted for inclusion in INSPIRE Student Research and Engagement Conference by an authorized administrator of UNI ScholarWorks. For more information, please contact scholarworks@uni.edu.

Offensive Materials Statement: Materials located in UNI ScholarWorks come from a broad range of sources and time periods. Some of these materials may contain offensive stereotypes, ideas, visuals, or language.

Author

Jaylynn Easterly, Yaqueline Trinidad, Mya Snitker, and Araely Hanson

Abstract

Homelessness is a global issue that affects people living in all kinds of different environments. The impacts of homelessness are relatively similar when it comes to developed and undeveloped countries. The uncertainty and stress of homelessness can lead to mental health problems including depression, anxiety and many others. When it comes to physical health, not having a stable living environment can make it more difficult to have access to basic needs such as clean water, safe shelter and nutritious foods. The lack of basic necessities often leads to malnutrition, exposure to harmful weather conditions and a higher sensitivity to diseases and illness. In the US, two of the leading causes of homelessness is lack of affordable housing and mental health/substance abuse. While in an underdeveloped country like Syria, the main cause of homelessness is the collapsing of infrastructure caused by natural disaster. Due to these conditions, people can be exposed to diseases and without health care or if not that, they may not have a place to store which makes it harder to treat. The goal of this study is to find the underlying causes of homelessness in countries of different economic status' in order to identify ways to break the cycle of homelessness.

Introduction

In our research on breaking the pattern of homelessness, we looked into developed and underdeveloped countries to get a better understanding on the causes of homelessness in these countries.

- The goal of this study is:
 - Causes
 - Prevention strategies
 - Ways for social workers to help
 - Recommendations

Causes:

In developed and underdeveloped countries there are a multitude of reasons for an individual or family to become homeless.

- War
- Natural Disasters
- Health issues
 - physical
 - mental
- healthcare issues
- discrimination
- poverty
- child welfare
- lack of resources



Social Work Role:

Social workers have many different roles and ways they can contribute to assist and support individuals struggling with homelessness as well as address the issue at hand.

- Educating struggling individuals on resources
- Providing assistance on accessing tools and programs in place that are there to help them
 - Food assistance
 - Housing
 - Healthcare

It is also vital for a social worker to connect and maintain a relationship with the individual especially when working with families or young adults either with them being homeless or moving from the foster care system

- Social workers can help move young adults into more secure housing and independent housing.

Prevention Strategies

There are many prevention activities that are used in This can include treatments for issues such as mental health or substance abuse

- Therapy
 - Support groups
- Provide those dealing with homelessness with links to resources
- Homeless shelters
 - Food banks
 - Permanent housing
- Educate
- Job training programs
 - Skill development
 - Literacy
 - Basic adult education

References



Recommendations

Since FY2012, the United States has provided about \$17.2 billion for humanitarian aid in Syria and in bordering states that are home to Syrian refugees, making it the largest donor of aid to the Syrian crisis. One of the worst humanitarian crises of the 21st century has arisen in Syria as a result of the terrible violence that has torn apart Syrian society since 2011. Many Syrians decided to risk their lives during the hostilities in order to find safety and opportunities in Europe.

- Early in February 2023, a terrible earthquake rocked northern Syria, hurting an enormous number of vulnerable individuals who had fled the fighting and relocated there.
 - More than 1,000 International Rescue Committee (IRC) employees are working in Syria to give communities they serve specialized
 - support
 - projections
 - life-saving medical care
 - In reaction to the tragic earthquake, the IRC employees are initiating a coordinated effort to deliver critical assistance to affected populations.