The criminalization of homelessness was one of the key topics of discussion at the ABA Anti-Poverty Roundtable in February. Additional discussion topics included how roundtable participants’ programs work to address and resolve poverty, as well as the challenges they face in terms of capacity and service delivery. The conversation also addressed the barriers and issues facing people experiencing homelessness and poverty, as well as practical steps that can be taken to empower and better equip individuals to navigate the system and advocate for change.

The conversation addressed what the community stakeholders wanted their peer organizations, as well as the ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty, to understand about their specific programs and challenges in order to better inform their work and advocacy efforts. Local experts also discussed poverty’s impact when dealing with civil and criminal matters, focusing on the impact poverty has on interactions with the police and the courts, as well as what steps can be taken to remove legal and justice system-based barriers that create or perpetuate poverty.

The latter part of the conversation focused on collaborating to end poverty with community stakeholders discussing how those who are already addressing poverty in the community can work more collaboratively and in a cross-disciplinary fashion. The final segment of the roundtable discussion specifically addressed how the ABA and the larger legal community can support local efforts in San Diego.

BACKGROUND ON CURRENT LANDSCAPE OF POVERTY AND HOMELESSNESS IN SAN DIEGO

According to San Diego’s annual point-in-time count, more than 5,500 people who live in San Diego are without a home to call their own. Of that number, about half live on the streets.1 Unfortunately, the number of people experiencing homelessness in San Diego continues to grow. San Diego has the 4th largest homeless population in the country, up from 12th in 2007.2 Concentrated poverty, meaning an area with at least 20 percent of people living below the federal poverty line, has increased, particularly in the suburbs.3

There are many myths concerning homelessness in San Diego (and countless other communities), such as, “most homeless folks are mentally ill, they don’t want our help, they’re moving here in drones.”4 These statements aren’t entirely true and serve as crutches for those not willing to battle the real issues forcing people to live on the streets. The Regional Task Force on the Homeless estimates that just 14 percent of those unhoused in San Diego have mental illness, only 24 percent moved to San Diego from somewhere else, and nearly all face daily barriers to getting help. Experts cite the lack of affordable and permanent supportive housing programs to accommodate those without homes as a major reason for large number of people living on the streets.5 Additionally, the current income inequality throughout the county has also affected the housing crisis.

San Diego’s poverty rate is also continuing to grow. In 2010-2014, the poverty rate was 14.7 percent, compared to 10.8 percent at the beginning of the century. In San Diego, the real problem isn’t

4 http://www.voiceofsandiego.org/topics/nonprofits/three-big-myths-about-san-diegos-homeless-population/
people being laid off; rather it’s the unsustainable low-wage work in the county that is causing families to become impoverished. According to research conducted by the National University System Institute for Policy Research, improving public transit in poor areas could make a dent in concentrated poverty rates. 6 Even a $1 increase in the minimum wage for these low-income workers would result in $200 million economic impact in the county. 7

The local government has invested significant resources to address chronic street homelessness and veteran homelessness in particular. Since 2008, the Department of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Housing and Urban Development have issued about 1,485 housing vouchers to homeless veterans. Since last year, the city has given $7 million to grants for supportive services for veterans and their families. In the last month, the city announced a $12.5 million program to get 1,000 veterans off the streets by this December. 8 However, in preparation for the MLB All-Star Game in July 2016, the city has taken controversial steps to reduce downtown encampments through a variety of measures, including the decision to install sharp rocks below a freeway overpass to prevent homeless encampments. This has forced those living on the streets downtown to move their makeshift shelters to the suburbs.

Furthermore, there are numerous challenges in using the criminal justice system to “solve” homelessness. San Diego has eleven municipal codes that criminalize daily activities associated with homelessness. Four of those are codes that criminalize standing, sitting and resting in public places, five criminalize sleeping, camping and lodging in public areas, including in cars, and two codes criminalize begging and panhandling. The San Diego Free Press released an article entitled “Homelessness and Housing by the Numbers – A San Diego Shell Game” in which the author pleads for the government to stop treating homeless residents as criminals when their only crime is having no place to go. The article suggests, “With some guidance from local service providers, a person could be referred to homeless court where, if they can show they have a plan for not continuing to ‘illegally lodge’ they could be forgiven of their trespasses.” 9

SUMMARY OF ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION

Welcome and Introductions – Steve Binder and Commission Chair Ted Small

Fifteen years ago, Steve Binder (San Diego Office of the Public Defender) became involved with the ABA when the Commission on Homelessness & Poverty invited him to make a presentation on the Homeless Court Program at the ABA Midyear Meeting in February 2001. That presentation led to an invitation to serve on the Commission to foster the replication of the Homeless Court in communities across the country—among other Commission initiatives, such as the anti-poverty initiative which brings us here today. “Collaborate to Advocate: Lawyers and Advocates Working to End Poverty,” is a relatively new Commission initiative developed at the behest of Ted Small (Chair of the Commission), a solo practitioner from Deland, FL and a longtime ABA member. The initiative has grown significantly, bringing experts in combatting poverty together in cities around the country. Steve Binder challenged those in the room to ask: What can the ABA do for you?

Steve Berenson, served as moderator. Berenson is an Associate Professor of Law, Thomas Jefferson School of Law, heads the Veterans Legal Assistance Clinic (VLAC). Since 2001, VLAC and the San Diego

9 http://sandiegofreepress.org/2016/05/the-homeless-and-housing-by-the-numbers-a-san-diego-shell-game/
County Department of Child Support Services (SDDCSS) have been working to engage the homeless veteran population and encourage participation in resolving their child support cases. Berenson is Co-Founder of this program, the multi-agency collaboration in San Diego that the American Bar Association included the as one of its pilot cities.

Ted Small began by explaining that he realized the complexity and compounding factors related to poverty. He started the Anti-Poverty Roundtables in order to gather smart people with diverse backgrounds and big hearts to tackle the issue of poverty. Ted Small explained that our task today is to reason together about how we can do the “small things with great love” (Mother Teresa) collaboratively to further the missions of your organizations here in San Diego. Steve Binder spoke about how laws bring order to our communities but in helping bring that order, we sometimes create issues or barriers. He asked each attendee to consider what aspects of your programs work to address poverty and what compromises your ability/work and what would you want others to know about your work? He asked – what practical steps can be taken to address poverty?

**Poverty in San Diego**

Rick Gentry (President and CEO of [San Diego Housing Commission](#)) led the conversation by stating that there are 1.3 million people in San Diego and the city has counted approximately 8000 under HUD standards as homeless. San Diego has the fourth largest homeless population in the nation. The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) serves sixty-five to seventy thousand people every day. Additionally, he pointed out that there are 15,455 families on Section 8 vouchers, but approximately 60,000 families are wait-listed. SDHC provides affordable, safe, quality homes for low- and moderate income families and individuals. Housing First is SDHC’s three-year homeless action plan that involves $30 million in development funds, 1,500 federal rental housing vouchers, increased housing, and investing in federal funds to acquire property. Rick Gentry identified the “problem of information,” or the inability to connect those in need of services with available resources and facilitate coordination among providers, as a major obstacle to overcoming poverty.

Underscoring the importance of providing services to those on the streets, Jim Lovell (Executive Director of [Third Avenue Charitable Organization](#)) mentioned that the Third Avenue Charitable Organization (TACO), which is sponsored by the First Lutheran Church, offers meals, healing and care to those in need in San Diego. The organization offers “no questions asked” meals twice a week to anyone, averaging about 400 meals a week. TACO also offers several other services, in addition to serving food, including: mail services, providing replacement IDs and Birth Certificates, storing documents, providing transportation to medical appointments, on site food stamp appointments. TACO also provides medical clinics, servicing more than 300 people a week. Jim Lovell also noted that 25% of children in the area are food insecure. He identified a major obstacle for those experiencing homelessness as the lack of any “legal” place for them to take shelter.

Michael Hopkins (CEO of [Jewish Family Service of San Diego](#)) also works for a charity-based service organization and explained that the Jewish Family Service of San Diego (JFS) is a client-centered impact driving organization with 250 staff members and a $20 million budget. JFS provides services in three areas: (1) empowering individuals and families to move towards self-sufficiency, (2) supporting aging with dignity, (3) fostering community connection and engagement. Michael Hopkins spoke about the services offered by JFS including: case management, employment and career services, positive parenting tools and counseling services. He stated that 500,000 people took advantage of the food services last year. JFS also provides services specific to the aging populations in need, which is a growing population on the San Diego streets. These services include transportation, nutrition and financial aid. Michael Hopkins also identified stigmatization as a major obstacle to developing effective solutions. He
also shared one example of unaffordability of housing in the area. He had one client who was paying $600/month for a room above a garage which only left $200/month for all other needs. He expressed the importance of lawyers to collaborate with direct providers who are also interested in bringing about policy change. Hopkins also pointed to a need for providers and policymakers to focus on making available more programming for girls and women.

Nicole Loebach (Program Director of Community Research Foundation, Senior IMPACT) stated that, unlike Hopkins and Lovell’s religious-based service providing organizations, the Community Research Foundation (CRF) is a mental health program contracted by the County of San Diego. The program’s focus is to help those over 60 years of age with serious mental health issues and are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless due to mental health concerns. CRF is a multidisciplinary program that provides psychiatric treatment, medication management, support for obtaining/retaining affordable and safe housing, obtaining/maintaining financial and medical benefits, supportive employment/education, and assistance with healthcare. CRF Senior Impact encompasses the Assertive Community Treatment model, which uses a multidisciplinary treatment team (including nurses, case managers, housing specialists, etc.) and is mobile (transporting clients for appointments). The organization has a 10 staff to 1 individual ratio. Staff members meet at least weekly with each client and there is no time limit for how long someone can be a part of the program. Loebach identified unaddressed medical needs as a major cause for shorter life spans for those experiencing poverty. She acknowledged implementation of the Housing First as an important and big step forward, but indicated that it should not displace other needed social services.

Switching gears to a focus on youth, Walter Philips (CEO of San Diego Youth Services) began by saying that a holistic approach to aiding youth is important and that is why SDYS provides a wide array of services, not just housing. SDYS avoids the silo approach of dealing with youth only in their immediate needs as juveniles, criminally involved, foster care, or as homeless and instead endeavors to provide each young person with a continuum of services. SDYS has served San Diego’s vulnerable at-risk youth ages 0-25 for 45 years. SDYS offers emergency services, housing (shelters, group-homes, foster homes and community centers), professional/education help, case management, mental health and substance abuse counseling, and many other important services. Walter Philips closed by emphasizing that investment in prevention is a critical step to ending homelessness and poverty in San Diego. He views services to youth as a worthwhile “national investment”. Also working with vulnerable children, Robert Fellmeth (Executive Director of San Diego Law School Children’s Advocacy Institute) explained the Children’s Advocacy Institute’s mission is to educate law students in child rights and remedies, as well as to advocate for children in legislature, courts and agencies. He mentioned the importance of focusing on those exiting the foster care system to assure self-sufficiency (these youth suffer from disproportionate poverty, unemployment, arrest and prostitution). Fellmeth emphasized the need for classes to train better parents. He noted that when legislators pass laws related to budget neutrality on foster care, this actually results in a cut to foster care and other direct services because of the increased need for such services.

With the great number of homeless Veterans in need of services in San Diego, several organizations focus only on serving this critical population. Phil Landis (President and CEO of Veterans Village of San Diego) mentioned that the Veterans Village of San Diego (VVSD) has been serving veterans since 1981. The organization is recognized as one of the best models in serving homeless military veterans in the country. He pointed out that VVSD provides services to more than 2,000 military veterans each year at their five locations in San Diego. VVSD focuses on supporting homeless veterans who have substance abuse and mental health issues though: prevention, intervention, rehabilitation, aftercare, and employment services. They provide transitional housing and are in the process of building permanent housing. He closed by mentioning the substantial reductions in funding, specifically 80% of transitional housing funds are going away. Also serving the veteran community, Jessica Chamberlain
(Chief, Social Work Service at VA San Diego Healthcare System) explained that the VA provides transitional and permanent housing for homeless veterans, as well as comprehensive medical services, education programs, compensation and pension benefits, as well as resources for justice involved veterans. She noted a 16% decrease in the number of homeless veterans in San Diego since 2011. Jessica Chamberlain described one of the VA’s greatest successes as the $7 million grant that funds the prevention initiative and rapid-rehousing initiative through the Supported Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program. She described an innovative collaborative program where several providers and communities elect to “adopt” veterans (approximately 1100 thus far) with acute, highly complex profiles to provide them a continuum of services. Chamberlain noted the unaffordability of housing for veterans in the San Diego because most cannot afford rent merely on a VA Pension. She also described her efforts to engage justice involved veterans in the “Veterans Moving Forward” program, which consists of placing 64 veterans in special beds and programming while still incarcerated.

Julie DeDe (Director at Father Joe’s Villages) emphasized the importance of Father Joe’s Villages “CREED” (compassion, respect, empathy, empowerment, and dignity) in their everyday work. She went on to say that Father Joe’s Villages provides housing and supportive services to men and women of all ages, specific to the individual needs of each person or family. The housing services include interim housing, transitional housing, rapid housing, permanent supportive housing, affordable housing, and intensive case management and housing support. Supportive services include: employment and education services, health care, addiction treatment, therapeutic childcare, daily meals and wellness services, among others. DeDe characterized homelessness as an extreme form of poverty. She noted that the San Diego area lacks adequate affordable housing in both the city and county. DeDe urged collaboration to come up with creative ways, such as expanding voucher programs, in order to house those experiencing homelessness and shared housing. She also noted the need to impact the larger public’s negative view of people who are homeless.

Teresa Whitney (Director of The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center) spoke about the dangers of relapse and the importance of having supportive services. Whitney noted that the Center endeavors to collaborate across service providers with a focus on women and children (28 beds) versus men (100 beds). She emphasized that a person’s physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs must be addressed before real progress can be made. She mentioned that at her organization program participants receive a health screening, individual or group counseling, work therapy, job skills along other services. Norm Mackenzie (Intake Coordinator at The Salvation Army Adult Rehabilitation Center) shared his personal perspective of overcoming adversity, discussing how past drug addiction and related convictions present obstacles to being admitted to programs that provide housing. To overcome such obstacles, he urged the integration of legal assistance into other direct services for those experiencing homelessness. He described his work at the Salvation Army, underscoring the critical role assistance can play when it is readily available at the moment an individual battling addiction or mental health issues reaches out for help.

During open discussion, Ted Small (Chair of the Commission) thanked Mackenzie for his willingness to share his personal story as a way of humanizing poverty. He described a project being developed in his hometown of DeLand, Florida whereby a panels of 3-5 individuals who are experiencing or have experienced one or more of the 10 manifestation of poverty areas will present their personal stories during regularly scheduled meetings of Rotary Clubs, the Chamber of Commerce, church groups and local governments in order to bridge the communication divide between the haves and have nots. Small encouraged participants to consider developing and implementing similar public awareness programs as a long term method for building up community understanding and consensus for policy and funding changes. A full description of the Humanizing Poverty Panels program is available for download from the Anti-Poverty Quilt on the Commission’s antipoverty website.
Paul Freese (Commission Member) pointed out that 120-130,000 youth are exiting the foster care system each year without adequate support services and that 16.5 million youth between 18-23 years old are without regular employment and secure housing. He recommended to other participants a movie called *Short Term Level 12*. Jim Lovell (Executive Director of Third Avenue Charitable Organization), noted his agreement with earlier comments that *Housing First* should not be implemented as *Housing Only*. Tai Glenn (Commission Member, Chief Counsel at Inner City Law Center) questioned why providers are not funding legal services as a component of their overall continuum of support services.

Coming from the perspective of law enforcement, Officer David McGowan (Officer with the San Diego Police Department) stated that the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT) of the San Diego Police Department provides services and assistance to all San Diego Police Department Area Commands and other public agencies. He said that the HOT team works with people on an individual basis to identify their specific needs and unique barriers. The HOT team has found success in collaborating with police, county health and human services and psychiatric emergency response clinicians. He mentioned that the number one problem is the lack of affordable housing. He identified the barriers to housing that are encountered by sex offenders. He also told a story of “Tom” who was on the streets and unaware of the existence and how to access approximately $100,000.00 in benefits which had been escrowed because his whereabouts were unknown to program administrators. Officer McGowan emphasized the need to include financial management training in other supportive services being provided to those experiencing homelessness.

Monique Carter (Public Defender at the San Diego Public Defender’s Office) emphasized the importance of working collaboratively with law enforcement and service providers. She described the Public Defender’s Office’s role in bettering the lives of those experiencing poverty and/or homelessness. Monique pointed out the consequences of a criminal record, mentioning barriers to employment and housing. The Public Defender’s Office’s mission is to protect the rights, liberties and dignity of clients through legal analysis and advocacy. The office works to advocate for the clients so that they can gain employment and earn a living, acknowledging that fines, fees, jail time and time away from work and family can cause people to spiral into more problems. She emphasized the importance of rehabilitation and integration. She also mentioned the importance of expungement and its role in helping clients obtain gainful employment.

Also speaking on the topic of criminalization, Bardis Vakili (Senior Staff Attorney at ACLU of San Diego & Imperial Counties) said that the ACLU of San Diego and Imperial Counties fights for individual rights and fundamental freedoms through education, litigation and policy advocacy. The organization pursues impact litigation, policy advocacy and community education on issues involving criminalization of homelessness, housing fairness, etc. The ACLU specifically works on issues involving Section 8 voucher refusals. Bardis Vakili mentioned the voter’s rights work that the ACLU does and the work done on ID issues, piloting a project to get ID’s for those coming out of jail. He also mentioned cleaning felony records. He commented that the “ban the box” movement focuses on applications for jobs but should also consider similar prohibitions on applications to qualify for Section 8 voucher programs.

Gregory Knoll (CEO/Chief Counsel of Legal Aid Society of San Diego) mentioned the work that LASSD does to attack sub-standard unaffordable housing and homelessness, as well as the inadequate heath care in communities of poverty. He said that the affordable housing situation is the worst issue San Diego is dealing with. LASSD also works on fair housing issues, seeking to end unlawful housing discrimination. LASSD’s Fair Housing Program uses outreach education and strong enforcement of the Fair Housing Act via lawsuits and administrative complaints to combat discrimination. Knoll noted that we should not ignore the working poor who are just on the verge of poverty (up to 200% of Federal Poverty Guidelines). He also noted that collaboration is widespread in San Diego, but it is within substantive area silos and urges groups to come together and collaborate to draw down state and
federal funding for holistic wraparound services (e.g., housing need to talk with social services). The ABA can help us oppose state and federal policy on decriminalization of homelessness.

Ted Small (Chair of the Commission) went on to mention what the ABA can do to support these local service providers. The ABA can help at the national and state policy levels. The ABA can also help with the issue of litigation vs. policy – how to change the discussion at the government level to make sure the culture at the government level is to provide benefits for those in need. Lorena Slomanson (Commission Member, Staff Attorney at Legal Aid Society of San Diego) mentioned the availability of free legal clinics at the local court house that help with issues such as elder abuse, civil restraining orders, and evictions. She pointed out that the hopelessness she sees every day motivates her and reminds lawyers working with the homeless that you might be the only positive interaction with the court/system this person has ever had. Along those lines, Paul Freese (Commission Member) pointed out the critical role of lawyers as problem solvers and emphasized the importance of a legal/social response. Another participant mentioned the idea of designating “commons” for use by the poor as an innovating solution of using land trust to preserve ownership for use by those experiencing poverty who cannot afford to own and maintain their own property or housing. She noted also that revenue sharing could address need for utilities on commons land. In closing, an expert in legal aid services in Southern California, Renato Izquieta (Attorney with Legal Aid Society of Orange County) suggested that we should not have a major divide between the civil and criminal system, but rather the systems should work together for social justice.

Collaborating to End Poverty Discussion

Ted Small (Chair of the Commission) began this discussion by asking attendees: what do you believe is the most promising area for collaboration and improving the lives of those experiencing poverty in San Diego?

Robert Fellmeth (Executive Director of San Diego Law School Children’s Advocacy Institute) responded by emphasizing the importance of leveraging existing efforts and the importance of policy changes at a state and federal level. He said it is important to consider what you need most as a service provider and then figure out how to get it into the budget.

Walter Philips (CEO of San Diego Youth Services) agreed and added that there is a lot of progress and work to end poverty in San Diego and thus we do not need to reinvent the wheel, rather we need to leverage existing efforts. He described a collaboration between SDYS and those involved in juvenile, justice, early intervention (police, sheriff, probation, courts and school district) where all groups work collaboratively to provide placement in home or cool beds.

Tai Glenn (Commission Member, Chief Counsel at Inner City Law Center) noted that Los Angeles has approximately 44,000 individuals experiencing homelessness each night. With such tremendous need, she emphasized the importance of coordination between all service providers and mentioned the Coordinated Entry System by United Way in Los Angeles as a successful program model. Andrea Carter (Attorney, Law Office of Andrea Carter) tagged on to Tai’s comment by emphasizing the importance of addressing the root causes of homelessness and collaboratively working with people from different neighborhoods in San Diego.

Paul Freese, (VP of Public Counsel, Commission Liaison) Paul Freese discussed 2-1-1 as a useful mechanism to connect people in need of assistance to organizations best equipped to help, noting that collaboration with 2-1-1 to train them on basic legal issues and provide them with the appropriate legal services contacts can yield positive results. He noted the importance of this system in helping those experiencing poverty make rational choices even in irrational circumstances. He also noted the need for lawyers to help hold systems accountable to provide equal access and fair distribution of available resources. He also emphasized the importance of more collaboration between those providing health
supports and those providing supportive housing solutions. [Recognizing that San Diego’s 2-1-1 is considered a model—particularly when it comes to meeting the needs of veterans.] Jim Lovell (Executive Director of Third Avenue Charitable Organization) also mentioned the importance of educating volunteers, in addition to client, and equipping them to be advocates for the cause. Building on Lovell’s comment, Walter Phillips (CEO of San Diego Youth Services) discussed the importance of destigmatizing homelessness and poverty—and noted the power of advocacy (including op-eds) by individuals who aren’t considered “the usual suspects.”

Gregory Knoll (CEO/Chief Counsel of Legal Aid Society of San Diego) identified the need to focus on healthcare (providers and social security). He mentioned the Whole Person Care Pilot and the Health and Housing Workgroup. He said that housing providers do not know healthcare providers and that’s a problem. Knoll discussed ongoing efforts already underway in San Diego, including a coalition called the Health Consumer Alliance. The Health Consumer Alliance is a coalition and collaboration of all legal aid programs in the state of California. Legal Aid Society of San Diego administers and coordinates the activities of the Health Consumer Alliance and is the sole grantee for all health consumer assistance for the Department of Managed Health Care, the Department of Health Services, Covered California (California’s Health Benefit Exchange), Blue Shield, and The California Endowment. Knoll invited the local participants to contact him for information about their next meeting and encouraged them to join the coalition.

On a different note, Gregory Knoll (CEO/Chief Counsel of Legal Aid Society of San Diego) mentioned the importance of ensuring counsel in civil cases. He emphasized that attorneys for the poor shouldn’t be allowed to become “2nd class citizens” in the legal community. In response, Ted Small (Chair of the Commission) suggested a recent ABA resource on a civil right to counsel that includes a state-by-state review of laws governing appointment of counsel in civil cases found here. Ted Small advised the participants that the ABA is committed to supporting full funding for the Legal Services Corporation and through the ABA Standing Committee on Legal Aid and Indigent Defendants it has addressed LSC restrictions. He also noted ABA efforts related to Civil Gideon and information related to indigent defense and public defender systems found here.

Next Steps

How can the ABA be of assistance? Participants noted 3 ways in which the ABA can preliminarily be of assistance to local efforts:

(1) Advocate against the criminalization of homelessness on the national, state and local levels;
(2) Advocate for policies that support the Legal Services Corporation and the work of LSC-funded organizations; and
(3) Promote policy solutions to ensure the provision of benefits and services in an effort to prevent the need for litigation.

Both Evelyn Tomacewski (ABA Commission on Youth at Risk and AIDS Coordinating Committee) and Cyndi Nance (Member of the Commission) discussed the work of the ABA entities on which they serve, noting their interest in broadening coalitions and engaging new partners. Cyndi Nance invited participants to reach out to the ABA through the Commission with suggestions for new policy development in furtherance of advocacy at the federal level.

Ted Small encouraged participants to visit the Anti-Poverty Quilt on the ABA website, pointing out that it will serve as the home for reports coming out of the various community roundtables convened by the Commission in the coming years and welcoming contributions from San Diego. He also encouraged participants to use the Blueprints for Action as a resource on issues such as criminalization of homelessness, food inadequacy, inadequate healthcare etc.