

Homelessness and Housing

Avoid	Use
The homeless, homeless people, homeless person; bum, vagrant, transient, drifter, hobo	People experiencing homelessness, people without housing, unhoused people
Homeless camp; shantytown, tent city	Encampment, informal settlement, unsheltered community
Project housing, the projects; Section 8 person or family	Public housing, subsidized housing, the development's name; Housing Choice Voucher holder, family using a Housing Choice Voucher
Affordable housing (used vaguely)	Specify: deed-restricted affordable housing, LIHTC housing, workforce housing, or the AMI band (e.g., affordable to households up to 60% AMI)
Chose homelessness; chronically homeless (used loosely)	Long-term homelessness; experiencing chronic homelessness (HUD: 12+ months, or 4 episodes in 3 years with a disabling condition)