

(16) a) Resources are those things we use to achieve our goals. These include tangible and non-tangible resources, including time, energy, money/finances, housing, as well as community services such as shops. Resources that have a location are tangible, and in this case, the goal to be achieved is employment.

A work environment that is located a long way away from home can affect employment as travelling time is great. If the workplace is a long way from home, it is also difficult, possible even impossible to get to.

If the ~~star~~ employee is a parent, the location of childcare resources can also affect employment, because it may be imperative a child care centre is close and convenient to work.



b) A social definition of a homeless person is those people without access to an adequate housing.

A legal definition is those people without access to a permanent, safe home environment.

Health - This is a very difficult need to meet without access to a permanent, safe home environment. Homeless people usually have a low income which makes it difficult to purchase medication. Also, hygiene is difficult to maintain with the inability to wash and clean frequently due to a lack of bathroom. Poor hygiene leads to poor health.

Homeless people have difficulty obtaining a health card or medicare card as they have no permanent address.

~~They~~ While there are some initiatives to assist homeless people ^{to remain} ~~maintain~~ healthy, such as NSW Health sending nurses out on the streets, there is a lack of health services for the type of care homeless people need. Homeless people suffer from



lack of sleep and depression due to a lack of self-esteem. Homeless people are also often substance abusers as a result of their depression. They have poor ~~hygiene~~ diets & their nutritional needs are not met.

Financial support - Homeless people have low income and finances, which is often the reason why they are homeless. It is difficult to obtain employment for homeless people when they don't have a permanent address or access to a shower.

It is also difficult for homeless people to receive Centrelink payments as they have no address to send it to.

These people need financial support in order to get them out of the vicious cycle of homelessness.

They also often waste income on substance abuse due to depression.

Sense of Identity - Homeless people find it difficult to achieve a sense of identity in fact, near impossible, as their physiological, safety, & love

and belonging needs are not met. Their physiological needs are not met as they don't have shelter, clean clothing, adequate food etc. Their safety needs are not met as they don't have ~~have~~ a secure home environment. They have difficulty meeting love and belonging needs as they don't stay in the one place long enough to form sustainable relationships. A breakdown in family relationships is often the reason homeless people left home in the first place.

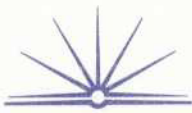
Homeless people cannot find a sense of identity without employment, housing, and a family or friend relationship. These are very difficult to achieve in this situation.



c) ~~The Aged have difficulty receiving equity~~

The Homeless have difficulty receiving equity in society as they don't have fair chance for employment. This is because they have no home for them to shower in, they can often not afford presentable attire, and have no permanent address. They also experience difficulty in receiving equity in other areas such as centrelink payments and medicare cards as they have no permanent address. They can also not access health care equally to others, as they can't afford it, and cannot receive a healthcare card or a medicare card.

The government is addressing these equity issues through initiatives such as Supported Accommodation ~~Program~~ (SAAP) Assistance Program (SAAP) and Crisis Accommodation Program (CAP). Both these programs are government funded. SAAP provides funding to organisations providing services for homeless people, while CAP provides funding for buying and maintaining properties for homeless.



These two programs support the Department of Housing to provide shelter for homeless people. However, there is not sufficient public housing and the waiting lists are long. This housing is also often of poor quality, and crisis accommodation is only temporary. This means that when a family can no longer stay in crisis accommodation, they have nowhere else to go.

Health issues for the homeless are also being addressed by the government. eg NSW Health sends nurses out on the streets to provide medical care. While this helps the problem, it has not cured it. There is not adequate health care for the specific needs of homeless people. These needs include, treatment for depression, alcohol and substance abuse counselling.

The government attempts to provide financial support for homeless people by ~~to~~ doing their best to give them access to Centrelink pensions, but with no home address this is very

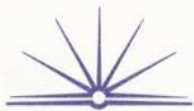


difficult.

The government also fully supports voluntary organisations, such as the Red Cross and the Salvation Army, who provide some temporary shelter, food, baths and counselling to homeless people. However, there is not enough funding for these organisations to assist all the homeless people of Australia.

These government initiatives assist, but do not fully create equity for homeless people in terms of employment, access to services such as Centerlink and healthcare.

The Aged is another group that has equity issues. Due to disabilities such as frailty, loss of mobility, loss of sight, that come with age, this group has difficulty accessing services equally to other people, and ~~also~~ satisfying their needs in the same way younger people can. eg lack of mobility means



the age have less ability to socialise. Over half of people 65yr and over still living at home require some form of government support. The aged are often unable to work and this means they have less income to satisfy their needs, leading to reduced equity.

The Government is addressing these equity issues through many initiatives. These include Home and Care Community Care. This is a program which provides funding for services helping the aged to remain at home longer. This is an initiative by the government implemented to combat the problem of an aging population and not sufficient nursing homes to accommodate them.

Centrelink provides a payment of \$386.90 per fortnight to single aged people. The Govt. also publishes a pamphlet called "What's age got to do with it". This helps the aged to know what services are available to them.