

# Resources

## **The Coalition on Homelessness San Francisco**

<http://cohsf.org>

COHSF organizes homeless people and front line service providers to create permanent solutions to homelessness, while working to protect the human rights of those forced to remain on the streets.

## **National Alliance on Mental Illness San Francisco**

<http://namisf.org/>

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots organization dedicated to improving the lives of persons living with serious mental illness and their families. The Alliance provides guidance and volunteer opportunities for allies who want to get involved and make a difference.

# Who to call instead

## **415-355-7555**

Mobile Crisis Treatment Team  
M-F 8:30 to 11PM Saturday and Holidays  
12-8PM  
Mobile Crisis Treatment Team provides psychiatric crisis intervention services.

## **415-970-4000**

SF Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)  
M-F 8:30 to 11PM Saturday and Holidays  
12-8PM  
A joint project of DPH, HSA, and SFPL, SF HOT provides care management for homeless individuals.

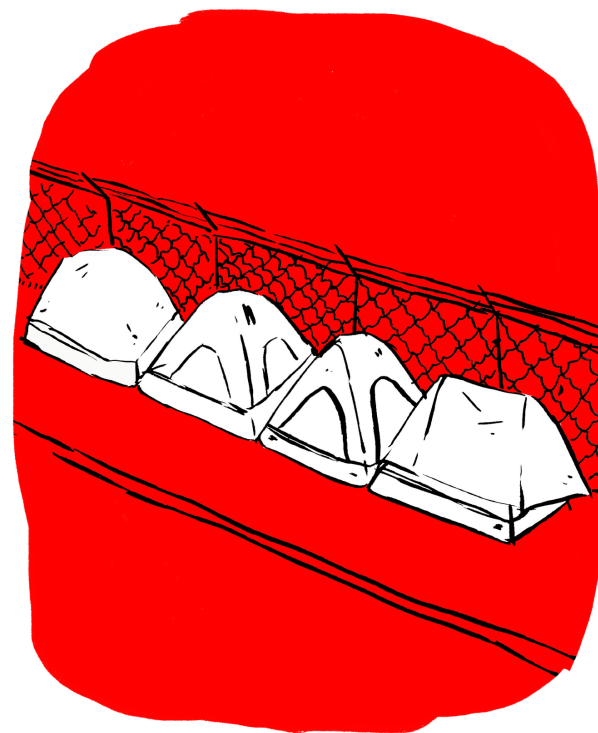
ONLY if it's a medical emergency, call 911 and state "I am not qualified to say anything more than someone is having a medical emergency. They need the paramedics and ONLY the paramedics".



**San Francisco Democratic  
Socialists of America**  
[dsasf.org](http://dsasf.org)

DSA is the largest socialist organization in the United States. We're not a political party, we're a volunteer organizing committee. Join one of our working groups (including our Homelessness subcommittee) to find out how you can help.

# The Good Neighbor Guide to Encampment Sweeps



**San Francisco Democratic  
Socialists of America**  
[dsasf.org](http://dsasf.org)

## What is a **sweep**?

When a homeless encampment is forcibly displaced by the San Francisco Police Department, the Department of Public Works, private security and others, it's called a "sweep".

## Why do sweeps **happen**?

Neighbors report homeless encampments to the DPW by calling 911 or 311 to complain. Since the city has limited resources and we are in the middle of a housing crisis, they temporarily displace encampments to give the illusion that they are addressing the problem, often under the guise of protecting public safety.

## Why is this a **problem**?

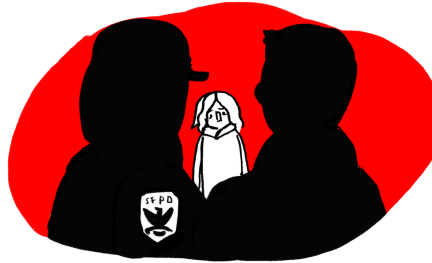
Homeless people have no choice but to live on the streets. Most people who are homeless had housing in San Francisco within the last 3 years. Rent averages over \$3,500 per month for a one bedroom, while a full-time minimum wage salary comes to only \$2,253 before taxes. Living on the street is the only option for thousands of SF residents.

Currently, there are 1,300 shelter beds and at least 6,686 (and possibly 3x this amount) homeless people. Today, there are over 1,000 adults and 200 families on the waitlist for shelter beds.

## What happens in a **sweep**.



Ana wakes up 4AM to the sounds of shouting, sirens, and heavy machinery. She is sleep-deprived, dehydrated, and disoriented.



Ana's home is suddenly filled with police officers. She is nervous because she can't afford to pay a citation or miss a court date.



Still groggy, Ana must pack up and move all her belongings in the dark. If she is not quick, she could lose her identification, medication, survival supplies, and important documents.

## Get involved.



We, the residents of San Francisco, must advocate for our homeless neighbors by demanding that homelessness is decriminalized. People who are without a home are inherently criminalized by society for simply existing.

## How you can start **today**.

- Personally commit to never report encampments to 311 or 911
- Attend a sweeps monitoring training with the Coalition on Homelessness ([cohssf.org](http://cohssf.org))
- Educate your friends and family on the reality of homelessness.