



MINIMUM SUGGESTED DONATION TWO DOLLARS.

STREET SHEET IS SOLD BY HOMELESS AND LOW-INCOME VENDORS WHO KEEP 100% OF THE PROCEEDS.

VENDORS RECEIVE UP TO 75 PAPERS PER DAY FOR FREE.

STREET SHEET IS READER SUPPORTED, ADVERTISING FREE, AND AIMS TO LIFT UP THE VOICES OF THOSE LIVING IN POVERTY IN SAN FRANCISCO.



STORIES OF DISPLACEMENT	2	JUST ASK HOLLIE HOMELESS	3	MYTHBUSTING OUR CITY OUR HOME	4	LINDSAY MCCOLLUM AND EDDIE TATE	6	HOMELESS PEOPLE MARCH ON CITY HALL	7
-------------------------	---	--------------------------	---	-------------------------------	---	---------------------------------	---	------------------------------------	---

OUR CITY, OUR HOME: IT'S A NO-BRAINER



JENNIFER FRIEDENBACH

Our City Our Home
It's a NO BRAINER

Many of our local policy makers, if they are not on board already, are considering support for Our City, Our Home.

This measure is fantastic and is being put forward at a magical moment. After decades of going further down the rabbit hole of human suffering caused by the federal divestment from housing its poorest citizens, we have wasted billions on the ripple effects of mass homelessness.

Up until now, we have neglected housing, we have neglected homeless people. Our city has left it for the feds, and the feds have failed. We only spend 3% of the city budget on this issue. Homeless people just get sicker and sicker, we spend more money on them, we don't

house them, we call the police on them, they move from block to block.

This is it. After years of struggling we have the opportunity to turn this crisis around.

The time is right. This is a rare and historic moment where conditions are in place to effect great change for thousands of San Franciscans and transform our neighborhoods.

San Francisco is deep in a housing crisis that exists within great untapped wealth and economic fuel. Property values and rents are skyrocketing while tents proliferate, leading residents more motivated than ever to see homelessness addressed. Raising revenue to address homelessness has been a great challenge given California's restrictive laws that require 2/3rds ap-

proval of voters for any special tax that is dedicated to a particular use.

We have a magical moment. The California Supreme Court ruled that special taxes put on the ballot by voter initiative are only required to have 50% plus 1 of the votes to pass. The Howard Jarvis Taxpayer Association was expected to go to the November ballot to overturn that decision, and they have dropped off the ballot. We have a window of opportunity now to garner revenue. At the same time, President Trump is giving massive tax breaks to corporations that are broadly opposed by San Francisco voters. Our measure would not bring tax burdens above the pre-Trump tax break era.

But we have a measure that can recuperate those cuts and use the money to house and treat thousands while keep-

ing thousands more in their homes.

We can and will win this measure.

We just need ALL our city leaders to get on board – from Mayor Breed on down.

This is a holistic measure that solves homelessness from all sides in a carefully crafted roadmap that the city cannot deviate from. Instead of the small thinking that has only led to increased homelessness, this initiative would create serious results, bringing in \$300,000,000 annually to house, shelter, treat and prevent homelessness for thousands of San Franciscans.

It is time for all of us to have secure housing in the city we love.

continued on page 4

SHELTER WAITLIST UPDATE:

As of August 1st there are **1,098 people** on the waitlist for shelter in San Francisco.

FREE SCHOOL

KNOWLEDGE IS POWER

Not ADA Accessible

468 Turk Street
10am — 1pm
(415) 346-3740
dandrews@cohsf.org

FRIED CHICKEN LUNCHES!!

JULY 19 — Community Organizing and Outreach 101

Training will go over the fundamentals of grassroots organizing including how to recruit and coordinate community members with a “bottom up” technique that has allowed the Coalition to mount several successful campaigns.

JULY 26 — Our City, Our Home Speakers Bureau Training

Will cover FAQs about measure, campaign strategy, target goals, and ally development.

AUGUST 2 — Electoral Campaign Strategy

Special focus given to campaign ground work including phone banking, canvassing, merchant walks, and voter outreach.

AUGUST 9 — Meeting Facilitation and Participation

Instruction will detail how to effectively plan and run a meeting including agenda preparation, meeting structure, role of facilitating, and emphasis on how to reach a group consensus.

AUGUST 16 — Tenant Rights

Class will cover tenant rights such as SRO’s, evictions, rent board, roommates, and habitability.

AUGUST 23 — Anti-Oppression in Organizing

Conversation covering actions to address oppressions within the context of organizing . Aim of the class will be to create a space to have difficult conversations for different individual and group identities in order to maintain a fresh dialogue of anti-oppression thought for future actions.

AUGUST 30 — De-escalation of Violence

Learn how to effectively de-escalate stressful crisis situations to reduce need for police interaction.

SEPTEMBER 6 — Immigration Rights

Course will layout basic rights of undocumented immigrants , and how to respond as a community to an ICE raid.

PARTIAL BIOGRAPHY OF AN SF FLAT

Fernando Marti

“To be a human being means to be on the earth as a mortal. It means to

dwell... Dwelling is not primarily inhabiting but taking care of and creating that space within which something comes into its own and flourishes.” – Heidegger

I wake early this morning, 5:30, alert. Summers, I usually wake up early, to the song of birds in the alley outside, but lately I’ve been waking earlier and earlier, ready for something, anything. I feel something in the pit of my stomach, like waiting for bad news to arrive, or the doctor’s prognosis. It’s like a hive of bees, waiting to emerge when I open my mouth.

On Thursday, another bunch of house buyers came. Each time there seem to be more, but maybe they keep coming because we’ve scared them off: our signs on all the windows with the Tenants Union logo, and the letter we hand each of them telling them they’re welcome to be the new landlords but we do not intend to leave, and we will fight their eviction if it comes to that. This time there were two guys with Irish accents and tape measures attached to their belts, contractors ready to tear out the house’s guts and rebuild a mansion, once they’ve evicted. Several uncomfortable families. One talker, opening doors and looking into rooms. When I hand him our letter, he mutters under his breath, “it’ll be expensive.” Our lives are only money to them, a buyout.

That night, after they leave, after sweeping the house and dusting the living room and burning sage, I place the chair I’ve just rebuilt in the corner under the bookcase with my favorite books, the one my mother made with her own arthritic hands from wood from the family farm in Ecuador, the last real thing I have of hers. I walk through each room, photographing the little altars we’ve made here, like an AirBnB host composing pictures to entice “guests” on their listing. A part of me thinks, aren’t we all guests here, passing through? What is there to hold on to? Another part thinks, we never leave anything untouched. Not even the Jains sweeping the ground ahead of their steps. We are called to dwell in beauty on this earth, but more than that: to leave beauty in the world as we walk, as we inhabit its contours. Being, or rather, becoming, requires dwelling, habitation, cultivation, beyond mere presence.

In the tiny sunroom in the front I made a nest for myself when I was single, and hung my wings above the bed. I prepared dinners for friends, and planted and cared for my potted herbs, built my altars and filled the walls with my artwork and that of my friends, not consistently but in bursts of planning and execution. I’ve watched a hundred sunrises from

continued on page 3

ASK US ANYTHING

HAVE A QUESTION YOU WANT US TO ANSWER ABOUT HOMELESSNESS OR HOUSING

IN THE BAY AREA? ASK US AT STREETSHEET@COHSF.ORG

OR (415) 346-3740 AND IT COULD BE ANSWERED IN THE NEXT ISSUE!

VOLUNTEER WITH US!

PHOTOGRAPHERS
VIDEOGRAPHERS
TRANSLATORS
COMIC ARTISTS
NEWSPAPER LAYOUT
WEBSITE
MAINTENANCE
GRAPHIC
DESIGNERS
INTERNS
WRITERS

DONATE EQUIPMENT!

LAPTOPS
DIGITAL CAMERAS
AUDIO RECORDERS
SOUND EQUIPMENT

CONTACT:

STREETSHEET@COHSF.ORG

COALITION ON HOMELESSNESS

The STREET SHEET is a project of the Coalition on Homelessness. The Coalition on Homelessness organizes poor and homeless people to create permanent solutions to poverty while protecting the civil and human rights of those forced to remain on the streets.

Our organizing is based on extensive peer outreach, and the information gathered directly drives the Coalition’s work. We do not bring our agenda to poor and homeless people: They bring their agenda to us.

STREET SHEET STAFF

The Street Sheet is a publication of the Coalition on Homelessness. Some stories are collectively written, and some stories have individual authors. But whoever sets fingers to keyboard, all stories are formed by the collective work of dozens of volunteers, and our outreach to hundreds of homeless people.

Editor, Quiver Watts

Assistant Editor, TJ Johnston

Vendor Coordinator, Emmett House

Our contributors include:

Jennifer Friedenbach, Sam Lew, Jason Law, Jesus Perez, Miguel Carrera, Vlad K., Mike Russo, Scott Nelson Julia D’Antonio, Chance Martin, Nicholas Kimura, Jim Beller Robert Gumpert, Art Hazelwood, the Ghostlines Collective, Leo Schwartz Dayton Andrews, Kelley Cutler, Raúl Fernández-Berriozabel, Jacquelyn Evans, Roni Diamant- Wilson, Julia Barzizza

WORKGROUP MEETINGS

AT 468 TURK STREET

HOUSING JUSTICE WORK GROUP

Every Tuesday at noon
The Housing Justice Workgroup is working toward a San Francisco in which every human being can have and maintain decent, habitable, safe, and secure housing. This meeting is in English and Spanish and open to everyone!

HUMAN RIGHTS WORK GROUP

Every Wednesday at 12:30 p.m.
The Human Rights Workgroup has been doing some serious heavy lifting on these issues: conducting direct research, outreach to people on the streets, running multiple campaigns, developing policy, staging direct actions, capturing media attention, and so much more. All those down for the cause are welcome to join!

EVERYONE IS INVITED TO OUR WORK GROUP MEETINGS. Unfortunately our space is not wheelchair accessible, but we will move our meeting location to accomodate people who cannot make it up the stairs. For access needs contact development@cohsf.org

To learn more about COH workgroup meetings, contact us at : 415-346-3740, or go at : www.cohsf.org

ASK HOLLIE HOMELESS

Hi Hollie,

When someone on the street asks me for change, I often give them \$5-\$20.

There are rumors on the internet of how giving cash to folks on the street can be anywhere from unhelpful to dangerous, but it's hard for me to not see the person I'm talking to as a responsible adult who genuinely needs money for essential services. Is that just fear-mongering, or is it really not helpful for me to give people cash?

I also donate to causes that are working on more robust solutions and programs (hey Street Sheet!) but it's hard for me to not give money to people who ask, since I have that privilege now (thanks to a lucky break that landed me a job in tech) and I hate capitalism.

Sincerely,
Bleeding Heart Anti-Capitalist
<3

Dear Bleeding Heart,

It's great that you donate to nonprofits (and also buy Street Sheet!). It's totally OK to give cash to homeless people without reservation. Ignore the fear-mongering you hear. One thing to keep

GOT A QUESTION ABOUT LIFE IN
SHELTER OR ON THE STREETS?
ASK HOLLIE, OUR BRAND NEW
ADVICE COLUMNIST!
SEND QUESTIONS TO
HOLLIEHOMELESS@
COHSF.ORG



in mind is that the \$5 or \$20 you give is helping that person meet an immediate need, whether it's a cheeseburger from McDonald's, bus/train fare or a pack of cigarettes. Also, even if the person might get SNAP benefits (aka, food stamps) on their EBT card, there are limitations on what they are allowed to buy. For example, a young mother can not buy diapers for the baby with their card, so they have to get cash. The amount from any public benefits is so paltry that it's understandable that they'd have to spare-change to augment it.

One more thing: I believe that once a person gives money to someone who asks on the street, it's no longer their business what is done with it. Any concerns of deserving/undeserving should be dispensed with.

Mark Horvath, the homeless advocate behind the Invisible TV video project, also validates free money-giving here: <https://bit.ly/2q1ESLA>.

Hollie

Here our child was born, in the quiet back room, two best friends and the midwives circling while we counted breaths till his new life emerged to his own breath out of water. I say quiet, because we shut out the sounds of the carpenters working across the alley, raising that building to add a garage, merging two units and adding a fourth floor to make a mansion after the new owners evicted everyone.

I built a loft for my child in the back room, and a treehouse that's not really a treehouse because we have no tree and almost no yard to speak of, but it does have a rope ladder and the adults have a hard time climbing into it. When I first moved in, I planted a little jasmine from the closing sale of the flower shop that used to be on 22nd and Bartlett, watched it grow huge over the back yard, rooted in a 3-inch strip of soil between our fence and the neighbor's driveway, cut fragrant wreaths for May dances, then watched it cut down when the neighbors built a new wall. Maybe that was the first sign.

We painted a yellow kitchen, and a blue bathroom, and red ceilings. I gathered lost books and gave them homes, gave each their special places: here Chris Alexander and William Morris seeking to make places filled with life against a system that denies the life of places; Bookchin here and Marx over there and in this corner a collection of utopias; the histories of Galeano and the futures of Le Guin and Delaney and Butler; and poetry in the bathroom, Lao Tzu and Diane di Prima and June Jordan.

In the front room is the cast of a pregnant belly prefiguring the child who fills this house with his energy, and a carved wooden box with the ashes of our cat. There's the ficus, and the terrarium our child and I planted, and glass jars filled with shells from Ecuador, my mother's collection of buttons, bones and dried snails and feathers and driftwood, next to my grandfather's magnifying glass. At the top of the stairs we've made an altar to our child's grandparents, to not forget where we come from. The art finds its places, old architectural models, nichos I've made from driftwood and candles, da Vinci's flying machine, Rene Mederos and the Zapatistas watching over the office, Xavier Viramontes and Juan Fuentes and Michael Rios, Emmy Lou Packard in the bedroom, and gifts my compañera has received from political prisoners, a quilt and a dream catcher, and a rug she purchased from a Navajo elder in the fight for Black Mesa. Is this what these people want from us?

In this apartment our cats lived out their full lives, and slept their final sleep in the sunny front room. We caught the mice that came after the cats died, and took them to the church yard down the alley, so God and the pastor would know what to do with them. I still go down to the basement and pull out the family pictures from Ecuador, pictures of other houses, back to 1911, the same year this house was built, and I find my sketchbooks from high school.

Every house needs its storehouse for memories.

Our child has observed the passing of years and of households on our street and down the alley by the passing of cats and dogs: waving to old Ramón Sender every day as he walked Rickie Ricardo, chasing Calvin and the other cats on the alley, wondering where they have all disappeared to.

We made dinners to the deep baying of Beowulf the husky across the alley, until he too was evicted. From our stoop my child and I waved to Linus across the street, 99 years old and still taking his walks every day, and said hi to Violeta from the bagel shop who lives down the street with her extended Filipina family. We ran out excited when Oscar and James in the other house across the street brought a lamb or a calf from their farm to care and feed from a bottle. We made promises to visit them when they finally moved, permanently, to their farm, and watched their home become a constantly changing techie dorm. In front of their house, the grand old tree, the only big one on the whole street, still reaches up to engulf the wires, but in the struggle between PG&E and nature, PG&E wins, and the tree is left as naked arms, clothed only in ivy.

In 20 years, the neighborhood laundromats disappeared (how were we to do our laundry?), the travel agency and the two greasy diners, and the video stores of course, and the four used bookstores, and the cheap grocery. But every corner storefront is now a realtor, decorated with vintage furniture and glowing with electronic signs advertising homes for four million dollars, and I think, we need Los Siete again up on Alvarado Street, to scare these vultures just a little.

The bees are gathering in my throat. I feel my jaws clench, holding them in. Today we have plans to leave town, camp at a Russian River music festival with friends. But the threat of eviction makes me want to stay home, make sure nothing happens while we're away, know that it's still ours. I imagine waiting on the steps with a shotgun across my knees. Instead we invite friends to come and glare at the strangers when they arrive to invade our home.

I was in the middle of cleaning the basement two weeks ago, piles of Salvation Army giveaways on the front porch, when the first bunch of buyers arrived. I could have left the trash there, tried to make the place as uninviting as possible. Instead I cleaned out the porch, swept the steps, brought some of my potted herbs out to the stoop.

Before we leave today, my child makes hand-drawn signs, "We won't go," on bright pink paper. We plant them in the pots with the lemon verbena, the geranium, and the rue. It's the least we can do, fortify our home. ■

Fernando Marti is co-director of the Council of Community Housing Organizations (CCHO) in San Francisco and faces possible eviction with his family.

continued from page 2

the curved bay windows leaning out to catch the first light down 23rd Street, watched the angle shift across the seasons: straight down the hill to the bay on equinoxes, north of the street axis in summer (when the fog wasn't thick), south in winter. We woke to the sparrows nesting under the eaves of the neighbor's house, or the scream of the parakeets making their way up from the Dolores Street palms, or the mockingbird doing his best to mimic a car alarm. We used to wake to the splashing of old Leonard next door washing down his stoop every morning, until the sound stopped coming and the ambulance came. Later we would wake to the voice of her owner call out in a deep accent, "Emma, Emma," following behind the Corgi, until they too went away. Now it's just the lone crow up on the steeple of the Noe Valley Ministry calling out to distant friends.

In this apartment we received a friend when she was deported from Mexico for associating with insurgents, snaked antennas to the roof to test her

radios to be sent back to said insurgents, received another friend and her fish after a marriage that didn't last, brought in another friend and his bicycle workshop, housed students and filmmakers and revolutionaries. We had the chance to give my Tía, the woman who helped raised me, a home for her months of chemotherapy. Stories and poems and plays have been written in this house, guitars played, palo santo burned and statues carved. If there a few million stories in this city, not a few have found shelter in this house. Here our beautiful compañero Eric DJed so many parties where revolutionaries and the artists and poets could dance together. Maybe it's time for those parties again, maybe on the evening of the next realtor's showing.

In this house I fell in love twice, once for good. We've slept, at some point, in every room of the house. I think at least four children have been conceived in this house since I moved here. We folded our laundry, mine carefully, yours haphazardly thrown into drawers, and it took me years to let go mine from yours.

MYTHBUSTING

Finn Collom &
Camila Vergara

Earlier this month, Our City Our Home qualified for the November ballot in San Francisco. If passed, the measure would develop 4,000 new permanent housing units for homeless and marginally housed people, expand homelessness prevention services, and develop new public mental health resources. Before turning in 28,000 petition signatures, roughly four times the amount required to make the ballot, the campaign hosted a rally on the steps of City Hall during which the coalition of homeless and formerly homeless people, service providers, small business owners, and political advocacy organizations spoke out on the importance of passing transformative legislation focused on tackling homelessness in the city. Jennifer Friedenbach, Executive Director of the Coalition on Homelessness, expressed excitement regarding the amount of support the measure had already received, but warned that with the SF Chamber of Commerce already expressing opposition to the measure, the next few months would be a political street fight, the grassroots facing off against powerful corporate interests.

In the months leading up to November, we are likely to see a lot of claims circulate about Our City Our Home and the measures' broad base of supporters. Here are data-informed responses to some of the most prevalent myths.

Myth: Proposition D was rejected by voters in June and was dealing with the same issues as Our City Our Home.

While both pieces of legislation seek to address the housing crisis in San Francisco, there are a number of substantial differences between Our City Our Home and the failed Proposition D. For one, while both propose a gross receipts tax increase, Prop. D would have levied the tax (a 1.7 percent increase) on leases of commercial properties, which would have produced \$70 million annually in new revenue. In contrast, Our City Our Home would levy a 0.5 percent gross receipts tax on businesses in the city making \$50 million or more. Because the gross revenue of these megacompanies vastly outweighs those of commercial landlords, it represents a far richer tax base — an estimated \$300 million annually. A number of differences arise between the measures in their proposed allocation of funding. Proposition D represented an effort by the measure's sponsors (Supervisors Safai, Sheehy, Tang, Cohen, and Farrell) to increase funding to build housing across income levels, with a portion of its resources allocated toward homeless folks in the city. As a result, only 45 percent of D's revenue was reserved for housing and services for homeless individuals and families, with the majority of funds going toward renovation of existing Single Room Occupancy units, renovation of rent-controlled units occupied by residents making, on average 80 percent of AMI (\$94,700 for a family of four,) and the creation and preservation of "affordable" middle-income housing, which would have serviced

those making up to 150 percent of AMI (\$177,600 for a family of four in SF.) Homeless people with an income often make nowhere near these amounts, and thus would have found themselves effectively barred from the majority of funds created by D. In contrast, after deducting \$9 million for administrative costs, 100 percent of the \$300 million created by Our City Our Home would go toward homeless people: \$150 million for the creation of permanent, supportive social housing, \$30 million for improvement of shelter and drop-in services, and over \$100 million for homeless prevention and mental/behavioral health services — all for homeless people and current SRO residents. The proponents of Prop. D sought to address homelessness, but it was clear that their primary concern was the creation and preservation of housing irrespective of income, which meant including units that many San Franciscans would not consider "affordable." Our City Our Home is a comprehensive approach that focuses on marginally housed people, with mental health, existing shelter resources, and permanent housing all being given necessary attention.

Myth: People who can't afford to find homes in SF should leave.

In recent years, many have been forced to leave their original residences in San Francisco to find cheaper places to live. While some leave prior to any official eviction, housing loss in San Francisco for many occurs through the legal eviction process. In 2012, the Eviction Defense Collaborative contacted 500 previous clients who had faced evictions in the year prior to ask where they ended up.

Three hundred and twenty clients who were evicted secured housing somewhere else in the city, disproportionately in Bayview-Hunters Point, Ingleside-Excelsior, and Tenderloin/Hayes Valley neighborhoods. Another 165 clients from the survey were forced to relocate outside of San Francisco, some remaining in the Bay Area So, many people are indeed leaving the city as it becomes progressively too expensive to live in. However, some families and individuals have pre-existing employment, access to needed personal support systems, and other responsibilities in San Francisco, making it difficult for them to leave for cheaper housing, even if in the greater Bay Area. Beyond the realities of displacement in San Francisco, consider the implicit moral argument made by the assertion that homeless people should leave the city if they can't afford rents here. It assumes that one's right to the city community is based on one's material capacity to buy or rent a home in the city. We believe housing is more than merely a commodity to be bought and sold. We believe that integral to the social concept of the city is a collective responsibility to see to it that others are housed and well.

Myth: We spend too much on homelessness already.

The City budget for 2017-18 totaled to \$10.21 billion, of which a little over \$250 million went toward addressing homelessness. Whilst this might sound steep, it amounts to roughly 2.4 percent of the budget, or about as much as was spent on the Parks Commission that same year. With the majority of San Francisco residents citing homelessness as their number-one concern and with SF's homeless

population continuing to grow, the amount we spend on the issue currently ceases to be so alarming. Nationwide, 94 percent of adults believe that stable, affordable housing is important to being able to achieve a secure middle-class lifestyle, yet nearly 70 percent think it is harder to secure such housing today than it was for previous generations. Significant majorities report that it is difficult to find affordable, quality housing (including 79 percent of young people just starting out in the workforce, 91 percent of families at or below the poverty line, and 64 percent of middle-income families.) Across the country, more than half the public continues to make significant tradeoffs or sacrifices to cover housing costs. We are all touched by the housing crisis and many of us feel increasingly unstable in our living situations. Thus, by enacting more dramatic solutions to homelessness and devoting more funds to homelessness prevention, we can all feel slightly more secure in our city. Again, what San Francisco spends on homelessness becomes, perhaps, more palatable when we acknowledge that this is an issue that threatens the majority of its people. Because homelessness continues to be extremely visible in San Francisco, one is tempted to assume that the money being spent on the issue is achieving very little, leading one to conclude that we "waste" resources on homelessness. In reality, the scope of our homelessness crisis is so large that the City's efforts only manage to add up to a slight increase in homelessness over time. Annually, the City places about 800 people into housing and, through other services and programs, assists a total of 2,500 households in exiting homelessness. This, however, is not enough when there are over 7,000 homeless people in San Francisco at any one time (41 percent of whom became homeless within the past year.) The City's money is not being "wasted" — it is simply not enough to make a significant dent. Our City Our Home is the dramatic push we need to actually make a difference in a morally outrageous crisis that has dragged on long enough. Even if we are not convinced by the moral imperative to act, the significant cost savings that occur when we invest in homelessness solutions show that we are not "wasting" too much money on this issue. Refusing to spend money on homelessness is costly, rendering the belief that austerity is somehow more economically wise false. Indeed, supporting social programs can reduce government spending in the long run, as the City incurs fewer costs related to law enforcement, health care services, and more. Thus, the "net cost" of homelessness services/the measure is lower than the \$240/\$300 million statistic. Consider, for instance, that the City spent \$20.6 million in 2015 on enforce-

quality of life violations committed by homeless people alone. Quality of life violations range from sitting on public sidewalks to building encampments — things that would not be tolerated if the person in question were housed. Meanwhile, enforcing these rules does nothing to significantly reduce homeless people's presence in public spaces and instead creates barriers to employment and exiting homelessness. If we were spending more on homelessness, we'd be spending a great deal more on our criminal justice system than we already are; we did more to address homelessness, those \$20.6 million could be put toward something far more fruitful and far less cruel.

People struggling with housing instability or homelessness also tend to have more health issues and increased health care utilization, driving up City spending on health care. The risk factors and lack of social support that come with being vulnerably housed affect one's ability to get continuous, coordinated care, so people repeatedly use emergency rooms for medical crises that could be prevented with proper, ongoing care. Additionally, homeless individuals are more likely to have infectious diseases, mental health problems, and chronic health conditions, and substandard housing leads to higher rates of issues like asthma. This all results in homeless people being admitted to hospitals at disproportionate rates: nationwide, homeless individuals are five times more likely than housed people to be admitted to inpatient hospital units. They also stay in the hospital up to 7 days longer, at a cost of \$2000 to \$3000 a day. For children under age 18, the cost of homelessness-related hospitalizations in the USA was more than \$238 million in 2015 alone. Putting aside our moral obligations to OCOH, we have the financial incentive to connect homeless people to housing and improve access to mental health services/substance abuse programs in order to minimize health care costs.

Currently, each year, San Francisco spends \$40.46 per capita on street cleaning — about 5 times as much as the median spending of other major cities. The high number of homeless people relative to the city's population contributes to this figure. One can only imagine how much greater this figure would be if we were spending less than we currently do on homelessness services, as devoted more funds toward these reduced number of encampments and need for so much street cleaning. Investing in permanent housing, homelessness prevention, and more sanitation stations through OCOH, the city could decrease spending on cleaning and sweeps and concurrently reduce the usage of hospitals, etc. ■

LET'S WIN THIS THING

continued from cover page...

This measure is about permanent solutions. At least 50% of the fund or \$150 million must go to housing. Homelessness ends with a home! This measure would pay for construction and operation of approximately 4,000 units of housing as well as rehabilitation and prevention services with a mandate that families and youth are served. Our goal is to house all those who are currently experiencing long term or chronic homelessness, are sick, or who are families with children or youth. It is critical that we create exits not just for those who are in the worst shape, but that we start early and make sure our children and youth don't become chronically homeless adults.

This measure will transform our severely underfunded mental health and substance abuse system. At least 25% or \$75 million will target this population. This is funding for public health to use on intensive wrap around services, street-based care, treatment, drop in services, residential facilities, and housing that targets our people suffering the most from mental illnesses and addiction.

This measure will close the entryway into preventable homelessness. At most 12% of the fund or \$40 million will be for preventing homelessness. This would ensure 7,000 households get legal assistance, permanent or temporary subsidies to stay in their housing, or other forms of help they need to stay housed, such as help with electrical or other bills.

This measure will eliminate the shelter waitlist and help keep our streets clean. At most 10% or \$30 million used for immediate needs. This measure will pay for 1,075 new shelter beds/navigation center beds as well as help keep our streets clean by funding dignified bathrooms and showers.

This money cannot be wasted. The measure limits the city to only 3% of the funds allowed for administration.

HOW THIS WILL BE PAID FOR? This would mandate fair share contributions of an average of .5% from earnings over \$50 million from SF businesses. Thus, a company making \$54 million will pay only on the \$4 million that is in excess of \$50 million. Companies with smaller profit rates, such as retail establishments, will contribute at a lower rate, and higher profit companies, such as financial titans, will contribute at a higher rate.

WILL MAYOR BREED SUPPORT IT? Federal divestment from housing created

this crisis – the only way Mayor Breed can make a visible difference on this issue and accomplish her stated goals is to replace the lost federal funding at the local level. Our current spending of 3% of the city's budget does a lot – it houses 7,000 formerly homeless people and creates temporary beds for 2,500, but we have more than twice that many souls still on the streets. There is not much play in the budget to move funds around. Sure, we can be mildly more efficient – but efficiencies won't house 4,000 people. Efficiencies won't eliminate our shelter wait list. The city budget is large, but she would need to massively cut police and fire, as well as DPW to pull together the funding to make a change that voters will notice.

Mayor Breed has been calling for loosening conservatorship laws. We have our issues with the proposed law, but no matter where you stand, it will not make a difference to lives of the hundreds of people with severe behavioral health impairments if they have no stable housing to heal. Our current system of dumping people from Psychiatric Emergency Services to the street will continue. According to a performance audit by the San Francisco Budget Legislative Office, last year we discharged 1,786 homeless people to the streets from Psychiatric Emergency Services without even a referral to outpatient treatment. This measure would provide \$75 million to completely rebuild the system to serve an additional 2,500 people and will also add 4,000 units of supportive housing. If the measure passes, which it almost certainly would with her support, Mayor Breed would be able to stabilize the entire population, give them care on the streets, and have that care follow them into housing.

Mayor Breed has also called for clean streets. When SF has 4,000 people living without sewage, garbage service or water, that is pretty difficult to achieve. Currently police respond to over 6,000 calls a month to complaints about the presence of homeless people, they give out over 10,000 tickets a year to folks and DPW is cleaning up feces 600 times a month. Why not just house people and save all the fuss?

Mayor Breed

would also like to open safe injection centers, this would give funding to open not just one but several.

Mayor Breed has made homelessness and addressing it center to her messaging.

This will solve homelessness and give her the opportunity to show folks she is independent, prove the doubters wrong, and give her the gift of a whole lot of ribbon cutting ceremonies and definite bragging rights.

It should be a no-brainer.

However, some big businesses are opposing it and pushing her hard to oppose it.

They are not saying that they would be paying more than they did before Trump dropped federal corporate tax down from 35% to 21%. They are complaining that they just got a tax break. They are worried about their bottom line, and they worry that this will set a precedent. However, really, we don't have a choice here. Too many people are dying out there. The costs to the city are too great in lost life, lost children, lost tourism revenue, lost health care resources. The companies have this wonderful opportunity to be a part of making history, and they can afford it. The city won't be able to address much of anything as long as this crisis goes unabated, because it will drag the resources of the city down with it. Homeless people have nowhere to go and they do not have magic powers to disappear. SF has a housing crisis and we see the results of that every day on our streets.

Our City, Our Home is a no-brainer.

Let's win this thing. ■

(not for reprint)



Do You Remember Me?

Carrie McCollum

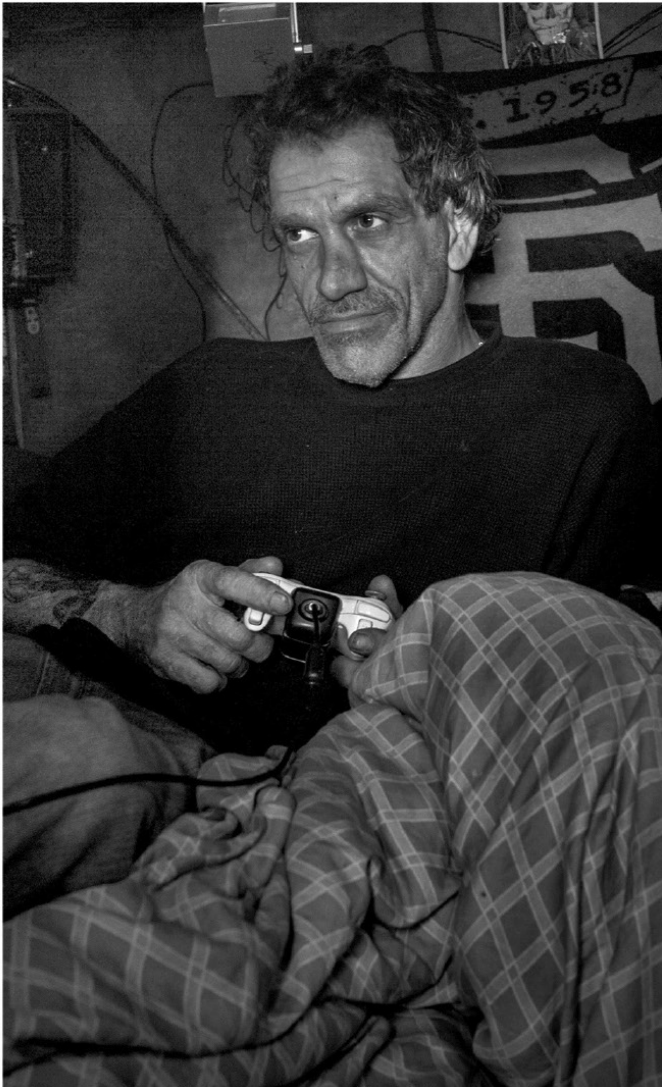
Lindsay McCollum and Tennessee (Eddie Tate) were murdered Dec 18, 2016, at 8:45 p.m. on 16th and Shotwell streets in the Mission District. Do you remember them? Tennessee was a kind man and could fix anything (I'm told) and actually had a generator in his tent. Tennessee has a family who loves him.

Do you remember my daughter Lindsay? Lindsay has a family who loves her and always prayed for her recovery from drug addiction. She was 27 years old when she was killed. She had a Pit bull named Lily who was with her when she died. She has a younger sister who has Lily now and Lily is very happy. I know everyone who met Lily fell in love with her. She is a very sweet and special doggy. It was a nice surprise to find out that Lindsay taught Lily to ride a skateboard. One day Lily just hopped on a skateboard and took off! Lindsay lived on the streets with some of you, off and on, for 3 years. Do you remember her and Lily? Do you have any information about this violent crime? Do you know someone who does?

Lindsay loved animals and preferred them to people. Animals never lie or let you down. Lindsay danced when she was young and was an expert pianist. Her favorite songs to play on the piano were Canon in D and the theme song from the movie Titanic, "My Heart Will Go On." Lindsay loved to read and could read a 300-page book in one day. She liked vampires and Janet Evanovich novels the best. Lindsay was intelligent and beautiful.

Titanic was her favorite movie as a teenager and Little Mermaid her favorite as a child. She used to sit on the couch and sing her lungs out just like Ariel. Lindsay

\$5000.00 Reward



Do you know who is responsible for the death of my child? **REWARD** for any information leading to the arrest and conviction of the person/persons responsible for the deaths of Lindsay McCollum and Tennessee (Eddie Tate). They were both shot December 18th, 2016 @8:45 PM near Mission and Shotwell.



loved to ride horses and her Grandma Diane even named one of her horses after Lindsay - "Lindsay's Kudra." Lindsay loved strawberry smoothies, popcorn with melted cheese, toast with avocados and tomatoes/cheese, candlelight, and sitting around a fire pit. She loved the San Francisco thrift shops and pretty clothes. Lindsay loved the city of San Francisco and the electric vibe there. She loved to ride dirt bikes and had the most beautiful green eyes I have ever seen.

Lindsay was too young to die. A parent shouldn't outlive their children. There is not a minute of my life that I'm not thinking of her. The world seems less without her in it.

Lindsay was a pain in the butt. She had a strong personality and at times could be fierce. Oh what I would give for another hug from her and yes, even another argument.

Stop at 16th and Shotwell and leave a flower, leave a note, or just stop and reflect on two lives taken, Lindsay and Tennessee. ■

Since 1989, the STREET SHEET has been an independent media organization that provides a powerful platform to homeless people to reclaim and shift narratives about homelessness in San Francisco. visit www.cohsf.org and click "Donate Now" to help keep it that way!

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT HOW TO GET INVOLVED, CONTACT QUIVER WATTS AT QWATTS@COHSF.ORG

STREET SHEET THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING US!

SOCIAL JUSTICE CALENDAR

AUG 2	AUG 2	AUG 6	AUG 7
OUR CITY OUR HOME KICKOFF FUNDRAISER! WHERE: SLATE BAR, 2925 16TH ST @6:30-9PM We gathered and turned in over 28,000 signatures to City Hall to qualify Our City Our Home for the November ballot! After all that work, it's time to have fun and start raising the funds we'll need to WIN! ACCESS: Contact Sam Lew: slew@cohsf.org	THE 9TH ANNUAL GLIDE LEGACY GALA WHERE: AUGUST HALL, 420 MASON ST @7-12PM Hosted by the GLIDE Legacy Committee, join Karen Hanrahan, Rev. Cecil Williams, Janice Mirikitani and the GLIDE family to celebrate one of San Francisco's most beloved and iconic organizations. ACCESS: \$60-500. The venue is wheelchair accessible and has binary bathrooms.	CURB DROP LWOP RALLY/ LOBBY DAY IN SAC WHERE: CALIFORNIANS UNITED FOR A RESPONSIBLE BUDGET (CURB) 1322 WEBSTER ST @9AM-3PM Join CURB members and California Coalition for Women Prisoners as we visit the capitol to present Governor Brown with our request for him to commute every Life Without Parole Sentence in the state of California. ACCESS:	NIGHT OUT FOR SAFETY AND LIBERATION WHERE: SAN ANTONIO PARK, 1701 E. 19TH ST. OAKLAND @5-8PM Turn up with us for Night Out for Safety and Liberation to redefine what safety means to us to start a different conversation about public safety beyond policing; focusing on how we can build equity, power, and opportunity in our communities. Gather in San Antonio Park for an evening of food, music, poetry, face painting, games, health & wellness services, educational resources and more.
AUG 10	AUG 11	AUG 14	AUG 21
DEADLINE TO SUBMIT ARTWORK FOR ARTAUCTION18! VISIT HTTP://ARTAUCTION18.TUMBLR.COM/ FOR MORE INFORMATION.	DANZA FOR RESILIENCE WHERE: EL RIO, 3158 MISSION ST @3-8PM Join the Dreamer Fund in celebration of the resilience of undocumented and immigrant communities, through the dance narratives of cultures from across the globe. This event will include performances along with brief conversations about some of the obstacles faced by each of these cultures.	TRADIN' FLAVOR: A RESOURCE AND SUPPORT SPACE WHERE: STRUT, 470 CASTRO ST @6-8:30PM Drop-in services for rentboys, escorts, massage workers, strippers, porn performers, gogo dancers, gay for pay, cam guys, and hustlers on the masculine spectrum ACCESS: Elevator located to the left of the entrance with access to three floors. Unisex restrooms on 2nd & 3rd floor. In a clinical setting we ask all participants to help maintain a scent-free environment.	NATIONWIDE PRISON STRIKE

HOMELESS RESIDENTS TAKE ACTION AT CITY HALL

Jack Rice

On July 19, Sean Kayode came into the Coalition on Homelessness and told me: "Nine o'clock tomorrow morning. We're marching down to City Hall from the shelter. We're gonna tell the mayor that she might talk about 'helping the homeless' on the news and stuff, but we want to see real changes now. We want to talk to the mayor and tell her that things need to change."

I gave Sean some large sheets of paper and some thick marker pens. He drew slogans in big, bold letters on the paper, rolled up his new protest signs, put them under his arm, and left.

Sean stays at Next Door shelter, which is run by Episcopal Community Services. For the past three months I have been helping Sean access food stamps, general assistance, medical care, and a stable bed that won't expire every month. He expresses frustration with the system, with the hoops he has to jump through to hold on to even the most basic stability.

Sean has been homeless for over ten years now. In that time, he has been a student at CCSF, where he ran a successful radio show. He was also part of the Occupy movement. Recently, NPR interviewed him about his pending lawsuit—his car was towed last year, when he was driving for Uber.

Now that he has a stable bed, Sean is excited to work on his myriad projects.

He is fine-tuning his stand-up comedy act (and looking for venues!) as well as putting together a YouTube show about being homeless in San Francisco.

That next morning, at nine o'clock, I met up with Sean outside of City Hall, where Sean and four of his fellow Next Door residents were holding signs and marching in a circle. Chants like: "HOMELESSNESS IS NOT A DISEASE / IT IS AN ECONOMIC CONDITION," "I AM A HOMELESS VICTIM OF A VIOLENT CRIME," "I AM A HOMELESS IMMIGRANT," and "I AM HUMAN JUST LIKE YOU" were repeated by members of the group. These homeless protesters demanded respect, empathy, and systemic change.

One of the protesters I talked to, Louis, told me how he became chronically homeless after being repeatedly beaten up and hospitalized during a temporary stint on the streets, and how all of his personal belongings were stolen. He spoke of the trauma he suffers now, and he spoke of missing his children. He showed me the newspaper article about the incident as well as the police report he filed at the time. He is still seeking justice.

Interactions between the five protesters and other members of the public were positive. Horns were supportively honked, people gave high-fives, smiles, affirming words, their solidarity, their

condolences, held constructive conversations, and shared photos and videos of the protest with their friends and family.

One of my colleagues turned up and showed the protesters inside City Hall to the Mayor's Office. Two protesters stayed outside to watch over the signs, as protest signs are not permitted inside City Hall.

We took the elevator up, walked to Mayor Breed's office, and exchanged words with her staff, in an attempt to meet with the Mayor. We were told by staff that she is a busy woman, and were directed to a scheduling email address. On our way out

of the building, Louis spoke with delight; it had been a beautiful and empowering morning.

These homeless San Franciscans are invigorated by their successful mobilization. For an hour or two, that morning, they were seen, they were heard, they were powerful.

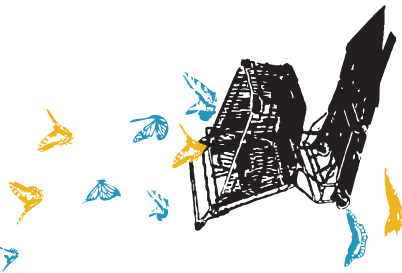
Sean and Louis remain committed to speaking with Mayor Breed. We have emailed "scheduling" but have not yet received a response. ■

Three shelter residents hold signs in front of SF City Hall demanding homes and justice



Coalition On Homelessness
468 Turk Street
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-346.3740
www.cohsf.org
streetsheetsf@cohsf.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



**Coalition on
Homelessness
San Francisco**

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 3481
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94188



FREE THINKER

YIN YIN WU, CCSF Grad
LEED Cert. Mechanical Engineer,
Energeia Solutions

CITY COLLEGE
OF SAN FRANCISCO

FREECity

What will you do with free tuition?

The good people of San Francisco believe in free expression, free speech and now free college for its residents. Don't miss this remarkable opportunity.


Register today. [CCSF.edu/FreeCity](https://ccsf.edu/FreeCity) | (415) 452-7774

Free City is a partnership between City College and the City & County of San Francisco, backed by the voters of San Francisco.

MY BODY MY JOY

**A support group
for women and
femme survivors
of sexual violence
with disabilities.**

**DROP IN GROUP
FREE & CONFIDENTIAL
ACCESS SUPPORTED
STARTS AUGUST 2, 2018**





San Francisco Women Against Rape (SFWAR) and Sins Invalid are collaborating to provide MY BODY, MY JOY, a drop in support group to disability communities in the SF Bay Area.

SFWAR & Sins Invalid define disability broadly to include people with physical impairments, people who belong to a sensory minority people with emotional disabilities, people with cognitive challenges and those with chronic pain and illnesses

MY BODY, MY JOY is a 12 week Drop In Group, offered every Thursday from 6p - 8p beginning Aug 2nd through Oct 18th. The group is available to attend in person or online.

We will have weekly activities, ranging from discussing our experiences to dance/body movement as well as visual art creation and writing. Come one week or all 12 weeks, whatever you feel able to participate. We encourage people of color to attend.

For more information, please call 415-861-2024 ext 317 or email DDSSA@sftwar.org.

Image description: An Asian American woman in a wheelchair sits with her arms crossed, wearing an oxygen mask. Text on the left: "MY BODY, MY JOY: A support group for women and femme" survivors of sexual violence with disabilities. Drop in group. Access Supported**. Free and Confidential. Starts August 2nd 2018. Two logos at the bottom. Circle logo for San Francisco Women Against Rape. Square logo for Sins Invalid.

* We understand "femme-of-center" to include people who do not identify as female /male but identify as feminine