BIBLIOGRAPHY

Empirical studies provide architects, designers and organizations the opportunity to let research findings positively influence the design or renovation of built environments. This bibliography is a living and evolving list of publications useful for researchers embarking on their own studies, or for architects and designers undertaking their programming tasks.

Revised January 2017

Subject to DRH CC Attribution license
Designresourcesforhomelessness.org

*This article reviews a study that sampled homeless adults over a period of six months to determine their preference for offered services. The study determined that the results were based on a variety of demographics. In general the most important services were affordable housing options, educations, safety, access to medical treatments, and job training.*

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Service


*This article addresses the issue of human crowding, specifically with regard to its impact on arousal and stress. The document reviews an experiment conducted at a Rutgers University residence hall to determine the effects of overcrowding. Ultimately the study found that crowding did in fact have a negative impact, noticeably more to women than men.*

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Stress, Arousal, Dormitory


*This article reviews a field study conducted to investigate different behavioral responses in two different built environments, one less crowded and one more crowded. The study concluded that four architectural variables impacted the perception of crowding: physical density, social density, partitioning and illumination.*

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Built Environment


*This article examines the various meanings of “street” for people experiencing chronic homelessness in Toronto. Its findings conclude that since the “street” can become a marker for a person’s identity it is important that shelter built environments promote empowerment for their residents.*

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Built Environment, Empowerment


*This article examines the public restroom. It specifically addresses its role in discrimination, health and safety issues as well as the potty parity legislation. It continues the discussion with an overview of organizations working to make changes in restroom policy, new emerging technologies that are impacting restrooms and design changes that can be made to eliminate the aforementioned concerns.*

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This article discusses the trauma children in the welfare system can experience in the relationship with their caregiver. When these traumatic situations occur they can lead emotional disorders. The article then discusses trauma-informed practices and treatments that can support healing.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Trauma


This paper reviews a study of the effects of short-term alterations in ward settings. Over two periods of two weeks each social furniture arrangements were slowly introduced to promote improvements in the overall psychosocial atmosphere. Overall the study suggests that modifications in the furniture arrangements can produce positive changes in ward environments.

Headings/Keywords: Mental Health, Interior Design


This thesis outlines a proposed healing environment in Santa Clarita Valley for veterans coping with Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder based on literature review and case study information. The author discusses psychological factors facing veterans coping with PTSD and recognizes that the addition of personal interviews would take the research and designs another step further.

Headings/Keywords: Architecture, Interior Design, Privacy, Theory, Veterans


This article addresses people’s exposure to trauma who are facing homelessness. Its research shows that it is safe to assume that individuals experiencing homeless have been exposed to trauma and that homelessness itself can be viewed as a traumatic experience that increases the risk of further victimization and retraumatization. It then addresses the importance of homeless services to offer Trauma-Informed Care as it can help with the long-term healing of these individuals.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Trauma


By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org
This study compared a group of female-headed families facing homelessness to a group of housed female-headed families, both of similar socioeconomic backgrounds. The study found that the mothers facing homelessness had frequently been abused as children, had a higher frequency of substance abuse and lacked a support system. Findings suggested that the homeless mothers were vulnerable because they did not have support in times of need and that having available affordable housing and assistance from social welfare agencies focused on rebuilding supportive relationships could help combat this issue.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Homelessness, Service


This paper discusses the diverse population of people facing homelessness. It states that while each group have some similar experience, they each face their own type of adversity and have specials needs that need to be met.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Diversity


This article reviews interviews with children in a family shelter in Massachusetts. The interviews shows that the children had developmental delays, severe depression and anxiety, and learning difficulties were common among the children. The author suggests that about half the children were in need of psychiatric evaluation.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Homelessness


This article studies human crowding as an experiential variable rather than just a reaction to high population density. The author reviews the suggestion that there is a conceptual distinction between the physical conditions of density with spatial restriction and the psychological experience of crowding.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Built Environment


This article reviews the effects that a built environment can have on the behavior and mood of its residents, particularly in the area of social interaction and crowding. This study is important as with this knowledge designers can create an environments that encourage health and productivity.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Interior Design, Crowding, Environmental Psychology, Mental Health, Architecture

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

*This article discusses the impact of customer service encounters. Study results indicated that customer satisfaction largely depends on individual encounters.*

Headings/Keywords: Service, Reception, Dignity


*This article discusses principles that define trauma-informed care and the importance of implementing this service for women.*

Headings/Keywords: Trauma, Women, Gender


*This article discusses human ecological variables and how these variables impact interaction with people’s environments, and specifically the creation, use and management of resources.*

Headings/Keywords: Theory, Built Environment


*This article addresses the importance of designing to empower human and their cultures. The paper specifically outlines a framework that offers a new way of thinking about the diversity of design, encompassing the entire spectrum of work from craft to high-tech applications. The goal of the paper is move design forward in this direction as well as discuss potential implications.*

Headings/Keywords: Dignity, Culture, Empowerment


*Though personal control is generally desired and seen to have positive reactions there can also be negative responses as well. This article presents research that addresses the circumstances in which these negative implications may occur and how they can be handled.*

Headings/Keywords: Dignity, Personal Control, Support

*By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org*

This article reports on a qualitative study of chronically homeless, alcoholic women to understand their perceptions of housing. Interviews found a consistent pattern of the women having experienced inadequate home life from an early age, and therefore policies of reestablishing the traditional home for these women must consider the life experiences in addition to their immediate need for shelter.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Homelessness, Substance Abuse, Mental Health


This article reviews the impact of smoking policy changes in homeless shelters. Studies indicate that homeless adults are exposed to more smokers and smoke in response to environmental cues more than other socioeconomically disadvantaged groups. This paper reviews a study that evaluated the actual effects of smoking bans in homeless shelters. The study found that sheltered homeless adults do support the creation of large outdoor smoke free zones while support for shelter-wide smoking bans is more limited. Overall findings indicate potential consequences of partial and shelter-wide smoking bans.

Headings/Keywords: Health, Homelessness, Built Environment, Substance Abuse


This article discusses homelessness as an economic and social issue. It challenges the conventional notion of homelessness in Western society by providing a better understanding of how it occurs.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness


This article reviews the growing need of homeless shelters to provide services for families with children and specifically highlights the need for homeless shelters to provide frontline services and trained professionals for families. The article also discusses ways that child-centered play therapy skills can be used to improve the quality of adult–child interactions between shelter providers and children staying at homeless shelters.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Homelessness


By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org
This article outlines five typical pathways into adult homelessness. The pathways include housing crisis, family breakdown, substance abuse, mental health and youth to adult. The authors then discuss each pathway in detail regarding why people on some pathways remain homeless for longer than others.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Children, Mental Health, Substance Abuse


This article addresses the impact interior design has on women in treatment and rehabilitation centers. Women in these settings generally do not have any control, so the authors conducted research to determine the effect a more purposeful interiors can have upon women’s success rate in these centers.

Headings/Keywords: Women, Rehabilitation, Treatment, Personal Control, Interior Design, Substance Abuse


This article, written by an architect, discusses importance of designing to promote dignity in hospitals. It states that dignity plays a significant role for not only the patients in hospitals, but also relatives and staff. The author also expresses the belief that the importance of designing to promote dignity extends far into the more fundamental aspects of human experience of healthcare systems, and ultimately into its therapeutic effectiveness, core quality and economic efficiency.

Headings/Keywords: Dignity


This article discusses the importance of the engagement phase of social services practice with mentally-ill people facing homelessness. The author states that people facing homelessness can be helped the most when they feel as though they are in control of the helping process, so an empowerment based plan is best. People are more likely to be engaged in the process when they feel as though they have some self-determination. This service approach has shown to be highly effective.

Headings/Keywords: Mental Health, Empowerment, Self-Determination, Service, Personal Control


This article reviews research on the effects of mental health centers architectural designs on users. Based on the findings the authors outline key themes and suggest that there is growing evidence for the benefits of therapeutic designs.

Headings/Keywords: Architecture, Built Environment, Mental Health

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This article discusses the importance of allowing children with disabilities opportunities for selfdetermination, which is a critical component of learning and development. It is especially important that these opportunities be present in the home environment. The article outlines design strategies to achieve these opportunities.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Disabilities, Self-Determination, Empowerment


This article reviews research that indicates that interior features and environmental amenities can have an empowering influence on people, elevating their sense of self-worth and contributing to their long-term physical and emotional wellness. To better enable designers to understand their role in affecting the safety, health, and well-being of occupants, this article describes emerging health concerns related to the indoor environment and offers design research that links these concerns to interior design decisions.

Headings/Keywords: Interior Design, Mental Health, Environment Psychology, Safety, Health, Empowerment


This article investigates the lack of privacy in homeless shelters, which prohibit the sense of home most residents require to become self-sufficient. The author reviews the interviews of women experiencing homelessness in emergency shelters in Arizona and their spatial behavior in the shelters.

Headings/Keywords: Design, Homelessness, Shelter


This article recognizes the benefits of outlining a curriculum to develop empathetic students. By establishing a service learning project for her students, the author analyzed the perception of poverty and community service prior to the project and at its completion.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Interior Design


This publication address the importance of design and everyday settings in a clinical setting. It identifies that the quality of an environment is an important factor psychological health through stimulation, engagement and generation of positive emotions. The researcher specifically focuses on implementation

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org
of salutogenic design, which is a design approach that aims to prevent illness and maintain human health through active and passive engagement.

Headings/Keywords: Environmental Psychology, Design, Salutogenics


This article explores the relationship between crowding and personal control. In the past, it was commonly believed that personal control is a very important to coping with crowding, however, this author feels that these studies were insufficiently thorough. This field study explored this relationship further and found that personal control-crowding relationships are dependent upon an individual’s crowding experience and the nature of personal control, which is defined as the belief that one’s response that can influence an event.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Personal Control


This article reports the results of a study of chronically homeless older men living in downtown Seattle. The study examined their experience and behavior, and found that both are intertwined with the participants’ perceptions of self as well as their use of alcohol. Additionally, the study found that for these men shelters temporarily provide safety, support and community.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Gender, Mental Health, Dignity, Substance Abuse


This paper examines the psychological effects of lighting on humans’ circadian rhythms. The authors introduce the study of red LED lighting on the nocturnal conditions of men experiencing homelessness. The study found that the time-varying light system benefited the residents’ health as well as the staff members’ health.

Headings/Keywords: Design, Homelessness, Men, Privacy, Safety, Self-Determination


This article discusses the impact of the built environment on mental health, both directly and indirectly based on assessments of documented evidence. The article then discusses the challenge of locating research on the relationship between the built environment and mental health as there are many challenges in gathering reliable information.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Stress, Mental Health, Helplessness

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This article explains a study conducted to investigate the impact of interior design on the negative relations ion between crowding and mental health. The study found that the more architectural depth (the amount of spaces one must pass through to get from one room to another) the less socially withdrawn residents would be. Residents in crowded space with little architectural depth were found to be more mentally distressed. Overall the study found that when architectural elements assist with helping residents be less socially withdrawn the relationship between crowding and mental distress is lessened.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Architecture, Architectural Elements, Architectural Depth, Stress


This article reviews the impact of built environments on health. People spend most of their lives within buildings, yet not much is known about how buildings affect our health. This article proposes specific interior architectural elements and how they may affect the health of humans. The goal of this article is to incite further thinking and research regarding this topic.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Architecture, Health


This paper reviews the occurrence and impact of trauma in people that are found within the human service systems. It identifies the importance of training human service professionals to deal with trauma, especially with regard to understanding the path of recovery for those that are in crisis. It also provides an overview of the steps that can be taken to transition professionals to become trauma-informed.

Headings/Keywords: Trauma


This article discusses the ability that participatory design has in public programming to restore the feeling of empowerment. Empowerment can be enhanced by giving people the opportunity to have control in the interior environment around them. The author believes that by focusing on the principles of empowerment to guide the design process it is possible to impact social justice.

Headings/Keywords: Empowerment


This article investigates the experiences of homeless women in order to make educated suggestions regarding social services to help this demographic. Studies found that in general these women experienced

*By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org*
Design Resources for Homelessness

BIBLIOGRAPHY

Revised January 2017

challenging circumstances as youths that left them unprepared to prevent and/or resolve homelessness in adulthood. The author found that highly valued services would include physical health and mental health care as well as child care assistance.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Trauma, Mental Health, Homelessness


This article reviews the decision influencers for families experiencing homelessness, particularly in regard to housing and utilization of services. Subsidized housing was the most desired intervention, while transitional housing made subjects the least comfortable and was the type participants were most likely to leave. Location was important as families preferred being near children’s schools, transportation and family. Program restrictions on eligibility constrained family choices and uncertainty in housing caused considerable anxiety. Ultimately, stability was important to all families.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Family, Children


This article analyzes crime rates in Denver, Colorado in relation to 14 supportive housing facilities. Along with this data, the authors conducted focus groups with Denver homeowners to understand concerns of crime and proximity of supportive housing facilities. The authors found no evidence that clientele of these supportive housing facilities were actually increasing crime rates in Denver.

Headings/Keywords: Disabilities, Environmental Psychology, Policy, Safety, Shelter


This article addresses the concept that personal control produces more favorable outcomes. The authors discuss their study regarding this concept and the surprising outcome they achieved, which ultimately leads them to believe this is a complicated issue.

Headings/Keywords: Personal Control


This article discusses homeless shelter design preferences from potential residents. The authors use these preferences to form four principles generic to developing housing for the homeless and a hypothetical housing model to illustrate how these principles can be implemented.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Interior Design, Built Environment

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This article reviews the coping strategies that homeless people develop to adapt to life in the shelters, a process referred to as “shelterization”. Shelterization is characterized by a decrease in interpersonal responsiveness, a neglect of personal hygiene, increasing passivity, and increasing dependency on others. The authors suggest that the shelterization process may be improved by helping homeless persons establish positive social networks and affiliations with social service and mental health providers through onsite psychosocial rehabilitation programs.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Mental Health, Safety


This toolkit assists shelters and agencies to ensure they are appropriately handling trauma treatment and provides a roadmap to becoming trauma-informed.

Headings/Keywords: Trauma


Studies have shown that women veterans are up to four times more likely to be homeless than non-veteran women. This paper discusses the reasons why women veterans experience homelessness, and offer some solutions for caring for this particular demographic.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Veterans, Homelessness, Trauma


This article analyzes the readiness to change of persons suffering from addiction. The authors recognize that, when the stages of recovery are measured correctly, there is a greater outcome of positive change for those experiencing homelessness and suffering from addiction.

Headings/Keywords: Empowerment, Homelessness, Mental Health


This article discusses permanent supportive housing (PSH) as an intervention to address longterm homelessness and discusses evidence that policy is shifting toward using PSH rather than shelters and transitional housing. Individuals that transition from homelessness to PSH experience a high burden of...
design and health disparities. The authors explore how PSH can be created to improve physical health outcomes and based on their research, conclude that permanent supportive housing can improve health.

Headings/Keywords: Health, Built Environment, Homelessness


This study reviews the effects of color and light on indoor wayfinding as well as the overall subjective judgements of the environment. The study also explores how problems with buildings that have complex floor plans and successive spaces can be addressed through the use of color and brightness.

Headings/Keywords: Interior Design, Built Environment


This article observes how service professional interact with people experiencing homelessness. Based on over 500 interviews the authors conclude that these experiences are generally negative and many times the person experiencing homelessness feels judged. Further, negative feelings may in fact not just be the opinion of the person, but in fact may be the result of unintentionally embedded feelings toward homelessness. The authors proposes that organizations use information such as these interviews to develop their policies and procedures.

Headings/Keywords: Dignity, Empowerment, Respect, Policy


This article describes the stressors and diminished sense of self that homeless school-aged children experience. The authors offer protocol advice for nurses assessing the coping behaviors.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Environmental Psychology, Stress


This article addresses perceived control and its importance as a variable in a consumer’s emotional and behavioral responses to the physical environment and their encounters with human services. The author presents a study that reviews how perceived control impacts two situational features in a service experience—, the number of consumers in a setting and consumer choice.

Headings/Keywords: Personal Control, Service, Crowding
Homelessness in Canada, Introduction. Toronto: Cities Centre, University of Toronto.

The introduction to this e-book discusses the meaning of the term “homelessness” in terms of origin and implications, what these mean for researchers.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness


This document provides an organizational self-assessment regarding trauma-informed care. It can assist with determining next steps, if any, that are needed to further this kind of treatment within an agency.

Headings/Keywords: Trauma


This article reports on a study that evaluated the effectiveness of providing independent housing to severely mentally ill persons who are homeless. The literature review indicates that these persons possess a strong desire for access to independent housing; however, little is known about the ability of mentally ill homeless persons to remain in independent housing successfully. Overall the study found that access to independent housing had very positive effects on residential stability.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Disabilities, Mental Health


This article discusses the serious health implications associated with homelessness. People experiencing homelessness are at an increased risk of dying prematurely or suffering from a wide array of health problems as they generally do not readily have access to health care. The author suggests that more research is needed to identify a better way to administer health care to this population.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Health


This article provides a “review tool” to act as a stepping stone in helping service providers understand a better care strategy for those experiencing trauma-informed disabilities. By addressing appropriate reflective questions, service providers may analyze their current program and establish areas for improvement.

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This paper investigates whether problematic substance use normally precedes or follows homelessness. Based on group interviews of homeless participants, the study found that onethird had substance abuse problems before they became homeless and two-thirds developed these problems after they became homeless. The study also found that young people were more at risk of developing substance abuse problems after becoming homeless than older people and that most people with substance abuse issues remain homeless for 12 months or longer.


This article analyzes the differences between family-based shelter and hostels as preferences for women in Bangalore, India. This article recognizes the cultural-based reasons of Indian women residing with extended family, yet explores the possibility of government and communal support for better housing options to “expand women’s personal, social, economic and political universes.”


This article examines the effects of floor height on the perception of room size and crowding as an important aspect of satisfaction with dormitory style living. The analysis was created through survey research and found that residents on the higher floors perceived their rooms to be larger, less crowded and were overall more satisfied.

This thesis investigates what it takes for crisis centers to create a comfortable environment for those experiencing homelessness as a result of domestic violence. The author recognizes that the residents need more than simple privacy and safety accommodations, but also a transitional environment to assist them in the future.

Headings/Keywords: Design, Environmental Psychology, Shelter, Women


The purpose of this article is to propose a Culturally Competent Community Care (CCCC) model, which can assist community health nurses to provide culturally competent care in all types of communities. The authors report this is essential for reducing racial and ethnic health disparities.

Headings/Keywords: Health, Service, Ethnicity, Culture


This article links substance use to place for women often suffering from post-traumatic stress disorder, anxiety and depression. The authors composed a study showing the differences in unstably housed women and stably housed women in relation to trauma and drug use.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Mental Health, Trauma, Women


This paper presents findings based on research conducted at a homeless shelter managed by Project H.O.M.E. in Philadelphia. The research examined the importance of territory, boundaries and personal safety. A team designed dorm stations based on the belief that the built environment can provide for social needs, impact behavior and support change.

Headings/Keywords: Boundaries, Territory, Safety, Dormitory, Built Environment, Homelessness, Urban Environment, Personal Control


This article reviews a study on the physical and psychological effects a room color has on participants. The study found that color does in fact has a strong impact on people, and outlines various reactions to color from the participants.

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This study reviews two groups of people facing homelessness, one group residing on the street and one group residing in shelters. The study found that people who chose a shelter were generally more educated, socially affiliated, have experienced greater venerability in the past and were female.


This article reviews a study that tested the effects of crowding in a field setting on complex cognitive and behavioral tasks. The outcome found that when a person was given information about the effects of crowding their cognitive control was increased. The subject not only felt more comfortable, behaved more effectively, experienced less interference from others, and felt less crowded when provided with such information but also performed complex cognitive tasks more effectively.


This study found that the main two differences between shelter-using and non-shelter-using homeless individuals is his or her tendency to consume alcohol or experience court-ordered psychiatric treatment. The authors’ data was recorded in Phoenix, Arizona and therefore is generalized towards similar settings in the southwestern United States.


This article reviews strategies for indoor wayfinding in relation to strategies for outdoor wayfinding. The author also explores the how these orientation strategies relate to spatial concepts and also how orientation strategies vary by gender.

This article examines gender differences in way-finding behavior in an unfamiliar indoor environment. Overall the study found there were several differences in the way men and women handle wayfinding efficiency.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Built Environment, Interior Design


This article reviews research that suggests plants reduce stress, promotes peace and assist in building self-esteem. The author further discusses the impact plants can have on combating the effects of institutionalization and improving an environment.

Headings/Keywords: Stress, Mental Health, Empowerment, Interior Design


This article focuses on defining the “how” and “why” of privacy, as one is often addressed without the other. These definitions are then applied to a study of privacy in the light of subject’s well-being. The results show the reaction of privacy in the digital and physical environments and the effects of psychological stresses of human’s well-being.

Headings/Keywords: Empowerment, Privacy


This study researches the need for children to have privacy during developmental ages, particularly in a preschool setting. The study suggests privacy can be achieved through the built environment, and then conducts studies to support this suggestion as well as explore different reactions to it based on gender.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Children, Built Environment, Gender, Environmental Psychology


This article identifies the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration between environmental psychologists and community planning. The authors research on place meanings are influenced by social, political, economic and physical domains.

Headings/Keywords: Environmental Psychology, Identity


*By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org*
This article discusses the displacement notions that those experiencing homelessness face. The author interviews the “new nomads,” or the frequent issue of mobility of those experiencing homelessness. These interviewees acknowledge the traumatic experiences of sleeping rough in southern England.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Identity, Policy, Trauma


This article reviews crowding factors related to negative psychological and physiological reactions to life in an institution. The study found that increased social disorganization caused increased stress and negative effects associated with crowded living conditions.

Headings/Keywords: Stress, Crowding


The article presents a study of dignity as critical to understanding the experience of homelessness and improving services and programs for the homeless. The authors conducted interviews with homeless men and women to identify environmental factors that validate dignity. The outcome suggests that dignity is an important factor to consider when understanding the experience of homelessness.

Headings/Keywords: Dignity, Homelessness


This thesis discusses eliminating the stereotypical homeless shelter and design for the more nomadic needs of persons experiencing homelessness. The author provides graphics showcasing his own designs for “nomadic architecture” in Minneapolis as well as graphics outlining research on case studies influencing his designs.

Headings/Keywords: Architecture, Design, Homelessness, Identity


This article discusses the process of making homeless shelters safe for transgender people by providing information about this population as well as their experiences with poverty and homelessness.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Homelessness


By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org.
This paper reviews qualitative data to consider the spatial needs of homeless drug users staying in hostels and night shelters. Analytical findings indicated that privacy, personal space, social interaction, and safe spaces were extremely important. In addition, a need for support, amenities and boundaries were identified, and lack of these amenities could result in residents returning to the street, increased drug use, unsafe injecting practices and ultimately, worsening health.

Headings/Keywords: Substance Abuse, Homelessness, Interior Design, Built Environment, Safety


This article reviews children’s ability to manage difficult circumstances such as homelessness through their resiliency. The author critically reviews literature about resiliency to understand how it helps children cope with adversity. Additionally, the author discusses implications for research on mental health prevention planning for homeless children.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Homelessness


This study examined the psychological integration of homeless women into a community. Results found that women with dependent children, living in higher quality housing, and having more positive contact with neighbors experienced higher levels of psychological integration. These finding reinforce the importance of providing women high quality, affordable housing in disadvantaged neighborhoods to facilitate psychological reintegration into the community.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Homelessness


This article highlights what it takes to design for a wide range of human needs. While designers are aware of universal design practices, they often misunderstand how to design for diverse users. The author proposes that appropriate design is inclusive of uncertainty, governing mentalities, diversity and other factors that go into successful design.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Design, Disabilities, Diversity


This article addresses the impact of interior design in service environments. Through both a field study and experiments, the author found that interior visual complexity reduces attractiveness in a service environment. Through these results the author comes to the conclusion that it is better for service environments to reduce their complexity and appear organized.

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This article discusses the importance of architectural design in homeless shelters that offer residents a sense of healing and refuge. A theory to action grid is used to apply Abraham Maslow’s self-actualization theory alongside crime prevention through environmental design principles and Alexander’s patterns to the design of an intake patio.

Headings/Keywords: Interior Design, Service


This article examines the growing segment of parents with children experiencing homelessness. Sources indicate that homeless shelter dormitory bedrooms are crowded and lack privacy, which often lead individuals to feel a lack of personal control. The case study reviewed in this document altered a homeless shelter bedroom by adding control features such as lighting, curtains and storage. The study then examined the effects of this change on the perceived personal control of the resident. Results found that the altered bedroom offered more perceived control such that parents felt they were able to parent more efficiently.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Personal Control, Children, Homelessness, Interior Design, Privacy


This article focuses on women experiencing homelessness. It reviews various reports outlining specific needs service providers should strive to meet specifically for women, which include more empowerment sensitivity, accountability, better integrations and fewer barriers to services. Women specifically like to be recognized for their particular skills and strengths.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Dignity, Family, Self-Determination, Empowerment


This article explores the variables and commonalities of families facing homelessness, particularly those with small children. The first few years of a child’s life are extremely important to their development of trust, security and bonds with their parents and this development may be impacted when homelessness is a factor. The article offers information to support families in this situation.

*This article reviews how public recreation services can have a positive effect on homeless youths by participating in recreation programs. The article suggests that outreach workers should receive training to deal with the special problems of these youths.*

Headings/Keywords: Children, Homelessness


*This article examines how children living in shelters understand their surrounding, specifically with regard to personal development. As the article’s literature review demonstrates that homeless shelters provide few such resources for children and youth to form healthy identities, the author studies how children in two particular shelters react to their situations and discusses the implications of identity formation for children living in shelters.*

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Children, Identity


*This article addresses the increasing rate of youth homelessness. It offers suggestions for identifying successful counting methods to gauge how many youths are experiencing homelessness while also exploring the prevalence of mental health issues among these adolescents.*

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Children, Mental Health


*This article reviews data from a group of homeless persons residing in a 24-hour donut shop that doubles nightly as a shelter. This article examines the role of ‘urban hybrid spaces’ – spaces that serve dual roles as legitimate business establishment and homeless habitation or hangout – in facilitating the construction and enactment of more dignified identities for the homeless. The data found that participants seek to maintain a verbal, symbolic and performative ‘patron identity’ so that they are understood as someone who is housed, employed, autonomous, associates with other such people and occupies the donut shop legitimately. The author argues that this identity is uniquely facilitated by the social and physical context provided by the donut shop.*

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Dignity, Self-Determination

This article defines hostile architecture as it exists on the fine line between private and public spaces. Reoccurring cases of spikes installed in entrances around buildings in London to prevent persons experiencing homelessness from residing in the spaces has caused controversy. The author outlines the ramifications of the spikes and the socio-political, governmental, ideological and socio-economic conditions that resulted in the need for hostile architecture.

Headings/Keywords: Architecture, Homelessness, Policy

Poirier, L.M. (1986). Maslow Interpreted for the Residential Environment. Retrieved from the University of Rhode Island DigitalCommons@URI.

This article discusses the application of Maslow’s Model of Needs as design criteria in an effort to understand the essentials of humans. This is particularly relevant in a residential environment as it could help a designer create a more satisfactory environment for its inhabitants.

Headings/Keywords: Environmental Psychology, Basic Needs


This article reviews the increasing use of residential hostels by women in India. Research has found that women tend to migrate to these types of shelters because they are typically single sex, collective residences and usually governed by strict rules. The article suggests recommendations to enable hostels to be more effective and empowering shelter alternatives for women.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Homelessness, Shelter, International


This document reviews the problems associated with a crowded environment that lacks privacy. It then provides suggestions for improving the perception of privacy and crowding in order to alleviate potential problems.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Privacy


This article discusses persons experiencing homelessness finding their sense of place in public spaces, which is defined as autoethnography. One author has experienced homelessness on several accounts and offers insight on opportunities for social change. Together, the authors propose ideas to accomplish sense of place in public spaces.

This article identifies the challenges persons experiencing homelessness face when resettle and begin the home-making process. For some the social, physical, environment, financial and practical factors lead them to become unsuccessful. This authors identify way to successfully resettle in this situation.

Headings/Keywords: Environmental Psychology, Rehabilitation


This article presents evidence regarding the value of perceived self-control. It discusses primary and secondary control in detail to demonstrate how the wide range of innate behaviors people have to help them maintain control.

Headings/Keywords: Personal Control


This article presents theoretical discussions that suggest when crowding is experienced, which include situational density that forces the blocking of goals, the interruption of behaviors or cognitive overload can occur. The authors then provide literature and research that suggests that crowding is a label applied to a setting when situational density results in a loss or lack of personal control.

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Personal Control


This article discusses the impact the aesthetic of an interior can have on individuals. The author surveys research to determine those environmental elements that can have the most positive impact on reducing stress, promoting healing and positivity.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Interior Design, Stress, Health, Mental Health, Environmental Psychology


This article provides insight on the benefits of quality accommodation for society’s dispossessed. The author analyzes case studies that determine quality accommodations benefit persons suffering from homelessness’ ability to recover.

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org
Siviter, B. (2013). Do you know what is meant by dignity and respect? *Nursing and Residential Care, 15*(10), 680-682.

_This article discusses the importance of professionals providing residents with non-judgmental care as a means to promoting autonomy. This author discusses the meaning and importance of building dignity within residents in a care giving situation._

Headings/Keywords: Service, Dignity


_This article reviews a range of factors that could influence the design, construction and use of an environmental setting for people with acquired brain injury. The authors evaluate and identify the role an environment can have in a person’s rehabilitation to support their protection while simultaneously promoting independence and learning._

Headings/Keywords: Environmental psychology, Interior Design, Mental Health, Healing, Health, Disabilities, Trauma


_This article identifies the social and economic factors that result in spatial challenges for people experiencing homelessness. The authors recognize that there is a direct link between survival strategies of persons experiencing homelessness and spatial and political constraints._

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Policy


_This paper reviews literature on the nature of homelessness. The author’s primary goal is to combat the diminishment of homeless people and emphasizes the need to understand homelessness as multidimensional occurrence. Lastly, the paper discusses the need to look at the whole life of a homeless person, rather than just at selected episodes._

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness


_This articles reviews studies that indicate specific regions of the human brain respond to enclosures. This reaction can be explained by the effects of enclosure on safety. Based on this information, an experiment was conducted to determine what variables of enclosure influences the feeling of safety._

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

This article explores how interior environments intersect with the self-making process, particularly in learning environments. The article reviews a study that followed high school students to determine how interiors impact their development and establishment of self in order to understand this dynamic.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Interior Design, Self Determination


This article reviews research about critical care built environments where it is important to maximize operational efficiency, address the reduction of errors, and create spaces that are supportive for patients, families, and staff. This article explores various solutions to addressing these issues from each perspective and compare their effectiveness.

Headings/Keywords: Built Environment, Environmental Psychology, Safety


This article discusses the key stressors in the lives of homeless families which often combine with barriers, such as unemployment, to lead to homelessness. The author then provides strategies for helping homeless families overcome these barriers.

Headings/Keywords: Homelessness, Family, Children, Stress


This article explores the complications and stressors of parenting while facing homelessness. Resources and strategies that may support parenting are offered.

Headings/Keywords: Children, Homelessness


This article links physical planning with diversity. The author identifies the steps taken to promote diversity in urban planning and recognizes the difference between “forced” diversity, and diversity in urban settings that is properly planned for.

Headings/Keywords: Diversity, Identity

This thesis is based on fieldwork conducted in Hawaii regarding how people handle homelessness. The author visited a family shelter and a men’s shelter to understand the difference of people in the two, most importantly how the resident uphold dignity while facing homelessness.

Headings/Keywords: Dignity, Family, Men


This article addresses the importance that interior design in health care centers go beyond simply achieving functionality. Design should also create environments that promote wellness and that are psychologically supportive.

Headings/Keywords: Interior Design, Mental Health


The guide discusses insight into factors that leads women veterans to homelessness. It gathered information through listening sessions and found that trauma greatly impacts women veterans' ability to readjust to normal life which often leads to homelessness. Lastly, the guide offers suggestions and resources for improving services for this population.

Headings/Keywords: Gender, Homelessness, Veterans, Trauma


This article discusses factors that affect women’s fear of harassment in public space and their willingness to use that space. The study springs from the premise that fear is a very important factor limiting women’s activities. The author reports how the design of public space has been suggested by others as the major influence on women’s sense of safety in that space.

Headings/Keywords: Safety, Built Environment, Gender


This article discusses the effect that the physical environment has upon stress, particularly in a work setting. The article reviews research regarding this topic and proposes a model for the effects of the relationship between the two phenomena.

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

*This article reviews research regarding perceptions of women facing homelessness. It analyzes data to gain understanding of how women perceive the home, which can help understand the needs of homeless women and how to help them build their futures.*

Headings/Keywords: Women, Homelessness


*This article examines the issues that could arise for mentally ill individuals facing homelessness when the transition from shelter living to permanent residences occurs. The article specifically discusses evolving consumer households (ECH) which are shared and staffed residences that are designed to help with the transition. The article discusses important factors in empowerment for homeless people with major mental illness, which include the organization of a space, social relations, and the management of economic resources in the ECHs.*

Headings/Keywords: Empowerment, Mental Health, Evolving Consumer Households


*This paper provides insight on the relationship between housing quality and psychological distress based on a study of 48 women. The authors provide an extra variable, social withdrawal as a mediating factor between housing quality and the psychological distress that follows.*

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Mental Health, Women


*This study examines the relationship between perceived environmental stress and family social climate according to stage in the life cycle for families living in multi-family dwellings. Various families were interviewed and concluded that early-stage families perceived less stress and that high cohesiveness and low conflict reduced stress.*

Headings/Keywords: Crowding, Built Environment, Stress, Children, Environmental Psychology
Use

You are licensed to use this work in accordance with the “Design Resources for Homelessness Creative Commons Attribution License” (the “License”), hereby incorporated by reference, and available at designresourcesforhomelessness.org

The following is a readable summary of (and not a substitution for) the License:

You are free to:
Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format for any purpose, even commercially. The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms. Under the following terms:

Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

No Derivatives — If you remix, transform, or build upon the material, you may not distribute the modified material.

No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

Notices:
You do not have to comply with the license for elements of the material in the public domain or where your use is permitted by an applicable exception or limitation. No warranties are given. The license may not give you all of the permissions necessary for your intended use. For example, other rights such as publicity, privacy, or moral rights may limit how you use the material.

By downloading or using this material for any purpose, you accept and agree to be bound by our Terms of Use, located at designresourcesforhomelessness.org