

# What impacts Homelessness?

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- Jobs
- Wages
- Housing
- Healthcare
- Childcare
- Abuse/Violence
- Mental Health
- Substance Abuse

# How would you describe the City's efforts?

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- **Balanced - we care about ALL Alamosa residents**
- **Prevent homelessness & support those who need a path out of homelessness**
- **Discussions with service providers to ensure we are not an attraction for those not from the Valley**

# What does homelessness look like?

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In 2019, 899 individuals accessing La Puente services identified as homeless.

- 19% under the age of 18
- 11% senior citizens
- 27% disabled
- 13% college educated
- 8% Veterans
- 16% families with children
- 24% reported co-occurring disorder
- 76% reported a regular income
- 39% reported homelessness was due to abuse or violence
- 85% are from the Valley

# Items the City Legally Cannot Control

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- Who comes to our community
- Services offered by private entities
- Loitering
- *Camping on public property (unless there is a designated location)*

# What can the City do then?

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- Increase community outreach to have the community identify priorities for homelessness
- Improve relationships with private providers
- Housing Assessment and Plan
- Economic Development
- Enforcement where legally possible
  - Additional CSO
  - Bus tickets
- Oppose legislation that ties the City's hands

# St. Benedict Campsite

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- Why was it created?
- Why this location?
- Why provide services?
  - Fence
  - Water
  - Portajohns
  - Dumpster
  - Electricity
  - Wifi
  - Camera
- What was the cost?
  - Used grants and CARES funding
  - City spent \$49,693 (\$28,875 for the fence)
  - Comparison: over \$500,000 in business support, \$17,000 for utility assistance, and \$66,000 in PPE/Facility needs
- What else is going on at the campsite?
  - Rules
  - Monthly clean up
  - Huts