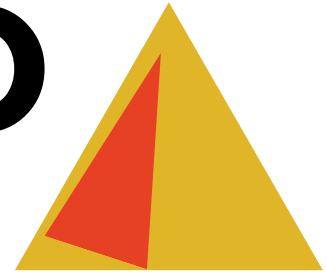


WHAT TO DO



If you encounter someone experiencing unsheltered homelessness*

People experiencing homelessness face a wide range of stereotypes and stigma that do not always reflect reality.

- **Do not assume the person:**
 - **has somewhere safe to go:** nobody chooses to live without shelter, unless their other options seem even less safe to them
 - **is dangerous:** people experiencing homelessness are far more likely to be victims of violence than to perpetrate it
 - **is intoxicated:** behaviour you might identify as intoxication could be a symptom of a physical or mental health crisis
- **If a person is in danger due to a medical or safety crisis, call 911.** Do not call 911 unless it is an emergency.
- **If the person is awake, say hi. Ask if they need anything.** Let them know if you can call outreach workers to pay a visit.
- **Call Main Street Project's Outreach team to do a wellbeing check: 204-232-5217**
- **Giving things like food, water, socks or money is OK** if you feel comfortable and the person accepts an offer.
- **Inviting the person to your home (as with any stranger) is discouraged,** for your safety and theirs.
- **To offer info on other resources:** check 211, HelpSeeker or the Winnipeg Outreach Network Resource Guide.
- **Be safe, be kind, be well**

*"Unsheltered" means without a home and not using an emergency shelter, instead staying in places like parks, bus shelters, entryways or vacant lots



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