SYSTEMS OF INEQUALITY: POVERTY & HOMELESSNESS

Transgender and gender non-conforming people are much more likely to be poor or homeless than the average person. This diagram shows how various factors combine into an interlocking system that keep many trans and gender non-conforming people in situations that are vulnerable and unequal.

Can’t apply for school or access higher education due to lack of I.D. or because their I.D. doesn’t match the name or gender they live as

Drop out due to harassment, violence and/or discrimination at school

Barriers to education

Low income or no income

Can’t apply for jobs or access good employment due to lack of I.D. or because their I.D. doesn’t match the name or gender they live as

Unequal access to benefits because benefit applications require I.D. which may show an incorrect name or gender; if cut off from welfare illegally, it’s hard to find trans-aware legal assistance

Persistent and severe medical problems: transphobic violence leads to increased mental health and medical problems.

No access to health care: trans people are often denied all treatment or are afraid to seek care due to past mistreatment

Trans-specific physical and mental health care needs are often not provided or covered even if insured; shortage of knowledgeable health care professionals who can provide trans-specific care

Kicked out of home because of abuse from parents and foster parents; trans youth are not allowed to express their gender identity in gender-segregated group homes

Temporary housing inaccessible often rejected from gender-segregated shelters or experience harassment and abuse at shelters

Inadequate or no health care

Bias, discrimination and ignorance in medicine: inappropriate and harmful treatment, including institutionalization and damaging, incompetent medical procedures

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