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 keeps many trans and gender non-conforming people in situations that are vulnerable and unequal.

**Barriers to Education**
- Drop out due to harassment, violence, and/or discrimination at school; lack of supportive GED programs
- Can’t apply for school or access higher education due to lack of I.D. or because their I.D. doesn't reflect their correct name or gender; school records often hard to update and correct

**Homelessness or at Risk for Homelessness**
- 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, are denied access to affirming clothing and support
- Temporary housing is inaccessible due to frequent rejection from gender-segregated shelters, being placed into the wrong shelter, or facing harassment and abuse from other clients or untrained staff

**Low Income or No Income**
- Low income or no income
- Homelessness or at risk for homelessness

**Inadequate or No Healthcare**
- Bias, discrimination, and ignorance in medicine: inappropriate and harmful treatment, including institutionalization, damaging, incompetent medical procedures, and common disregard of trans people's complaints
- Inadequate or no healthcare

**Discrimination in hiring and workplace**
- Discrimination in hiring and workplace because few laws prohibit employment discrimination on the basis of gender identity; it's hard to find trans-aware legal assistance and it is difficult to prove discrimination

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

**Persistent and severe medical problems:**
- Transphobic violence leads to increased mental health and medical problems

**Can’t apply for jobs or access good employment**
- Due to lack of I.D. or because their I.D. doesn’t reflect their correct name or gender

**No access to healthcare:**
- Trans people are often denied all treatment or are afraid to seek care due to past mistreatment

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