

# **Developing Diamonds Community (DDC)**

The Transformational Home for the

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**Neurodivergent/Chronic Homeless**

A Project of the 501C(3)

Building Community Thru'Healing  
Homelessness

# Is my life worth anything? Is there a place and purpose for me?



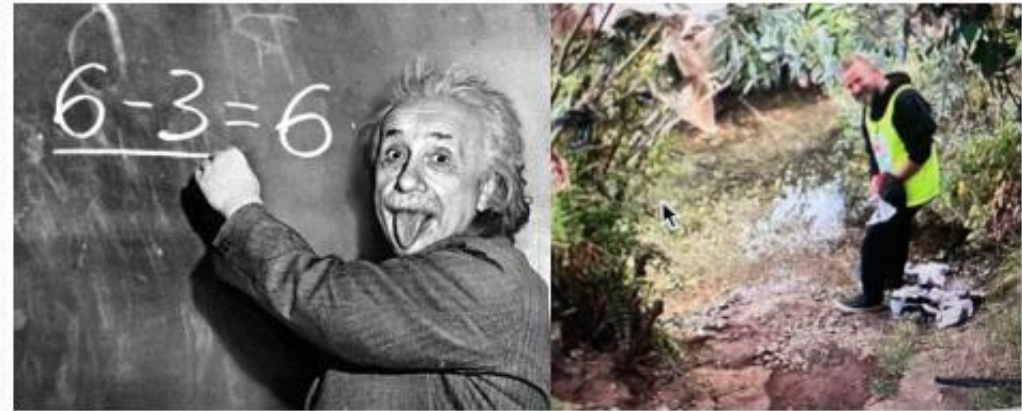
- There is a population within the Chronic Homeless who have
  - \* **told they are worthless & incorrigible** ...by **parents/authority figures** lived their lives being:
  - \* **laughed at** .....by **peers**,
  - \* **avoided**.....looked through but not **at**,
  - \* **talked at**..... but not **with**
  - \* **Called a “blight”**.....on society, **by society**
  - \* **Abandoned**..... **dysfunctional parents**...overwhelmed..  
escape stress of parenting... left to survive by their “wits”/any means
  - \* **Personality**.....”**disorder**”.....that couldn’t be “**fixed**”
  - \* **Challenges**.....more visible than Special **Capacities**...
  - \* **Mental illness & Triggers** ..... built on decades & generations of **emotional trauma & low self concept**



- These are those on the “Autistic Spectrum”/ **who have difficulty holding jobs:**

\***Questions** .....  
question authority directives... **Why?**  
\* **information overloaded**.....  
too many directions at once  
\* **Social awkwardness** .....  
triggered by intense social demands or crowding  
\* **Adapts slowly to change**.....habitual responses :  
not enough time to shift gears”  
\* **Habitual response to triggers**.....  
”Walking away” doesn’t work with employers

- They are the **Neuro- (Neurologically) Divergent (Different from the “Norm”)**.



Less than **5%** of the general public...Close to **80%** of the Chronic Homeless

# National Security Needs Neurodiversity



- (1) National security organizations are increasingly recognizing the potential benefits of neurodiversity.
- (2) Neurodivergent individuals may excel in areas such as:
  - \***Cybersecurity:** Detecting anomalies, analyzing complex patterns, and managing repetitive tasks.
  - \* **Intelligence Analysis:** Pattern recognition, information processing, and attention to detail.
- (3) **STEM Fields:** Problem-solving, innovation, and focused work.
  - The rise of artificial intelligence and automation in national security further highlights the importance of human cognitive diversity. By embracing neurodiversity, national security organizations can tap into a wider pool of talent, foster innovation, and enhance their ability to address complex challenges. “





**A Diamond is a  
chunk of coal  
that did well  
under pressure.**  
Henry Kissinger

REFINING a **RADIANT** COMMUNITY



In the **Right Hands**  
innate grooves  
indiscernable to the  
Untrained Eye, are  
cut & shaped to release  
it's Brilliance.

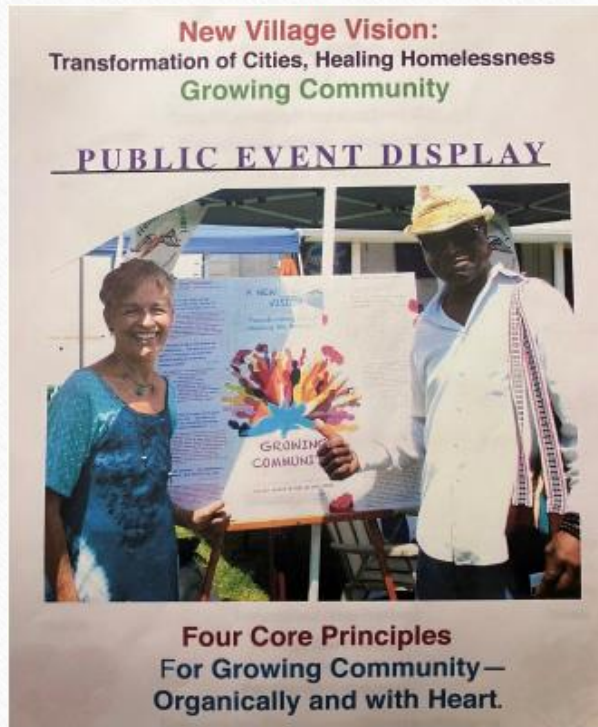
**But**  
the **Wrong Hand** will  
shatter it into useless  
diamond dust  
fit only for grinding.

The Power of **EMPATHY & UNITY** to Refine Homeless Coal into **DIAMOND ASSETS**



I have worked with and developed programs for them for decades until they told me I understand them... & I get them...Intuitively empathize with their views Because..... I AM them...

They recognized and taught me who & what I am



- These are the Diamonds-in-the-Rough

**Dirty...** Sooty Coal under inhumane pressure for decades and generations

**Creative.....Innovative.....to Survive.....**  
from One day to the Next

**Unique** Talents....to be Patiently Mined and Shaped.  
Following their personal inherent grooves Polished & Transitioned

**Potential.....Enriching....**  
**Enhancing.....Transforming our Public**  
**Community as Diamond Community Assets**



# First Attraction of the DDC Sanctuary Park

- Replace the soul nurturing landscaping of the park they leave behind, but **BETTER !**
- \* **No mow grass, fragrant flower covered fences, scattering of wild flowers**
  - \* **Clean, Dry tents in Small, Medium and Couple's sizes**
  - \* **Sanitation, Hand laundry, Hot Camping Shower**
  - \* **Staggered tent accommodations**
  - \* **Pet friendly**, friendly pets may frolic, and responsible owners pick up litter





# Start with basics:

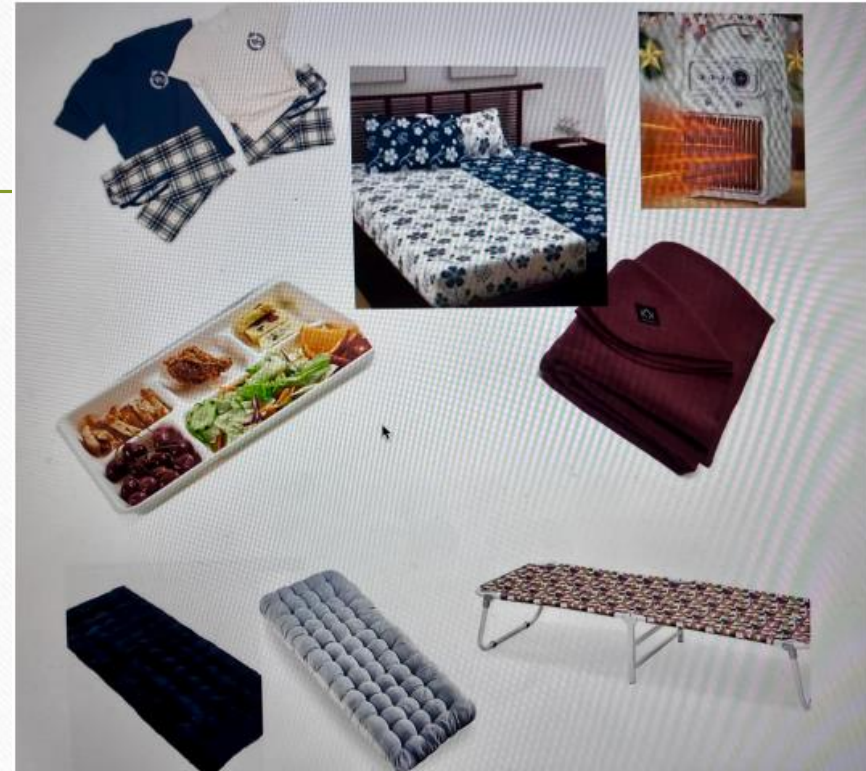
- 1. single tent, sleep mat, clean linens, p.js, clothes crate and a good breakfast.  
\*As these basic comforts become an acquired taste, Upgrades in comforts will be desired:

2. **Upgrades Earned through acts of service.**  
... thus, DDC introduces & motivates a life-style of service

3. **Real life is better** than the drug induced illusion. **No need to escape !**

4. **Drugs and Suicide** loose their grip... **When they are ready**, they may take a break to get free of Drugs, then...

5. **Return to the DDC** that supports their freedom the best version themselves.





## DDC's THREE TIERS OF SAFETY, SECURITY & CHOICES

**Application Contract:** All policies for **Personal Choices, Drug Free Camp and Public Safety** are discussed along with accountability and consequences... then **signed** or taken with them to consider.

- \* **1. Vehicle Campers & Nomads: "Privilege Parking"** Overnight from 8pm to 8am...  
**Security Guard** maintains random rounds to make sure all "Car Campers" Stay Quietly on site. No contact with DDC Residents or Public. Any defiance or disturbance, police called for Disturbing the Peace, Privilege is Revoked and vehicle is escorted out.
- \* **2. Sanctuary Park...**
  - \* **Time:** to Rest Body & Soul, regain mental clarity and Adjust to Responsibilities of a being a Good Public Citizen
  - \* **First Level:** 7pm -10am with Snacks & Breakfast in "Glamping" Park
  - \* Tent locks with key on a neck chain to secure personal belongings.
  - \* Card Carrying Public Citizenship with Accountability
  - \* On Call Advocate to intervene in any illegal police harassment
  - \* **Earn more:** Free Time, Meals, Comforts, Larger Tents through Scheduled Community Service
- \* **3. Developmental Village:** Must be Sober...Start Learning by Doing... Critical Thinking, Effective Communication, Life & Livelihood Skills... Community Center/Coffee House for Leisure Time and Choice of Activities





# Choices, Responsibilities, Accountability, & Consequences

- **\*1 Soul nourishing Beauty of Sanctuary Park needs to be maintained**
  - \* *Scheduled Service to help maintain the*
  - \* *landscaping and facilities provided*
  - \* *Not to be defiled by unsanitary & unsightly clutter*
- **\*2. Personal Choices are honored** as long as those choices do not deny their Neighbors (in DDC or Public) of **their** choices, safety, security or well-being.
- **\*3. Elected Representatives**, take complaints & Suggestions to Advisory Board.
- **\*4. Site managers**, with Elected Reps, mediate to help settle disputes



- **\*5. Drug Free DDC Home:**
  - \* **Residents may return home:** while under the influence of drugs or alcohol, as long as peaceable, or to “sleep it off” in tent
  - \* **Upon entering Sanctuary, All Drugs & paraphernalia** are surrendered labeled, locked up and secured.
- **\* Home is protected** from unwarranted police intrusion
- **\* Night Security Guards** (6pm-2am-10 am)
  - \* Protect the right of all residents to a safe & peaceful night & exit after breakfast (stage one of Sanctuary)
- **\* Patrol** to prevent entrance of unauthorized persons or “drug drops”
  - \* **Random**, day or night, **drug sniffing dogs** expose possession of drugs
  - \* **When Trust & Choices are Abused, they are Lost**
- **\* Drugs found in tent or found responsible for sneaking drugs into DDC only choice remaining is:** Drug Rehabilitation or Jail, then return to DDC
- **\* Disturbing the Peace**, requiring police intervention: go to Jail



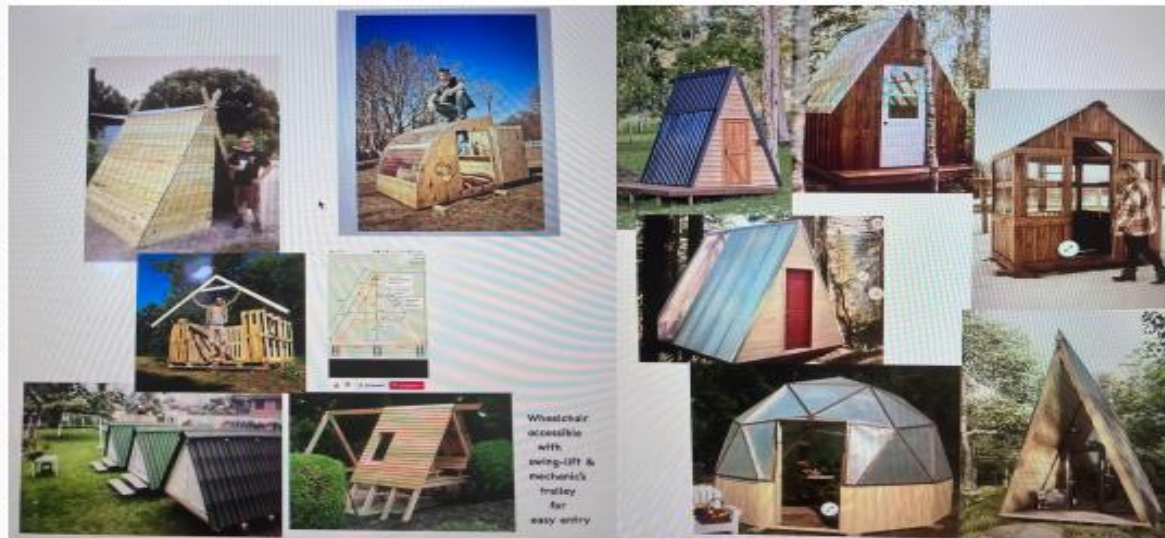
# Choices, Trust and Public Safety

- **1. The DDC is not an off & on/ in & out shelter. It becomes their Home, with a permanent address** to which they return at night.
- **2. Even if they should leave for a time, or “graduate”** to another home and livelihood in the public, they keep this address to stay connected to their family and return, if necessary.
- **3.** The Neurodivergent has difficulty changing old habits quickly, so even with the elimination of the stresses associated with the street life, they will need time to adjust and recognize that the drugs needed for survival of their old stresses are in fact the enemy of their future potential. and make their choice to become free it's captivity.
- **4.** It must be their choice, however, in their own time, otherwise they are robbed of the pride they would have in themselves to come to that conclusion with assistance & encouragement from their peer role models and volunteers.
- **5.** Demanding rehab. prior to or upon entry, would be counter-productive, being more likely to justify defiance and relapse.
- **6.** I have had positive feed-back with offering Melatonin gummies to homeless friends still living under homeless stresses and dangers. They said it helped relax the intensity of the cravings.
- **7.** With Melatonin assistance, and empathizing with their struggles, while encouraging them to become better than a captive, they are more likely to empathize with the need to keep the public safe from the collateral damage of drug users.
- **8.** They are more likely to obey laws designed to protect the public, and strive to become better citizens.
- **9.** If they slip or choose to endanger the Public by breaking the laws to keep them safe, they know jail time is the consequence of that choice



# ENTER THE DEVELOPMENTAL VILLAGE

- 1. **Must be Sober** to enter the **Transformational Village**
- 2. **Choose and help build your personalized micro pod L-1 home.**
  - \*Choose from custom Architectural Plans
  - \*Help build unique individualized micro-pod homes, insulate & paint up to 3 complementary colors
- 3. **Advancement** in housing is related to advancement from **Life-Skills**, to **Lively-hood skill** to **Beginning Jobs and Apprenticeships.**





# Dining Area/Coffee shop

- \* Misting Fans and Tower Heaters
- \* Rest rooms and Hot Showers
- \* Debates, Workshops, Improv
- \* Relax, socialize, board games,
- \* Private rooms for: Music, Study, Case Workers
- \* Line-and Cultural Dancing, Karaoke, Open Mic Night
- \* Uplifting & enlightening TV





- Computer Bank for GED and Skills Training



- In the Office with Secretary's Tech Support



\* **CAI** Neurodivergent job computer programs, employer & employee education, talent-need job matching program



- 1. **Learn by doing**
    - \* **Team work** in sports, games life & Communication Skills
    - \* **Lively-hood** from personal passion & talent
  - \* **Beginning Job** apprenticeship w/ Mentoring Employers
  - \* **Choice of “trying on”** another stake-holder’s program (more Faith Based?) or returning to complete the **DDC path** to your future
- 

## 2. Put your best smile forward for job interview confidence



## 3. Move to Partnering Group Home, Room & Board Home, or Sustainable Affordable Housing of choice.



- 1. **Governor is offering an additional \$920 mil.** in grants for **Innovative Pilot Projects** to Transition Encamped Homeless from tents to Permanent Housing.
- 2. **There IS no other Neurodivergent/Chronic Homeless shelter/housing/ developmental program** for this Target Population, **Nation Wide !**
- 3. **Statewide efforts** to provide for the homeless cost the state an **estimated \$50,000/homeless person/year.**
- 4. **The DDC Project** costs less than California Average/person cost but with **more appropriate priorities to attract and keep this Target Homeless population, out of their encampments and off streets.** (even less with Shasta County Zero Budget Impact collaboration)
- 5. **Zero local cost. Gov. Newsom** should be inclined to fund **this innovative program** that can save California billions of dollars over his initial investments, “Partnership HealthPlan” and other funds, as our many graduates become self-sustaining financial assets to the community



- 1. **Latest – “Point in Time” calculations show that** Shasta Co. had improvements of approximately 8% in the numbers of encamped homeless in 1923 from previous years. The 2025 count shows the sweeps in the interim documented a count of a mere 100 less are in encampments, now than then. That, does **not include the street population**. It tells me that more campers are **loosing all their personal possessions and documents** and are forced to the streets to survive like rats. I would not count those policies as successful.

3.. **Our City and County could gain national recognition** as the **only model** of it's kind to **resolve** the common national dilemma of sheltering & housing these chronic Neurodivergent hold outs, **refusing the typical alternatives offered**.

- 2. **High Success Projected for DDC Model.**
  - a. **Potentially 100% of Homeless off Streets and Public Parks.** (in combination with other programs to choose from, and proposed “waiting room”)
  - b. **Initially DDC functions as a “crisis stabilization unit,”** helping the chronic homeless stabilize physically, emotionally & spiritually to learn to “self-regulate” in anticipation of social and employment triggers.
  - c. **70%+ projected success in becoming permanently housed and self-supporting** (with built in motivation factors)
  - d. **Returning to the street/illegal camping will NOT be an option, but residents will always have the option** of taking a “time out” to “try out” another program (Like Faith Based), or return to the **Waiting Room**, knowing they may return to DDC, when ready.



**Bonus: Save millions with 1 last assisted  
“sweep.”**

**The City and County could save millions that could go to needed, but underpaid, law enforcement and health professionals by collaborating with DDC for Site & Services.**

- 1. Donate under-utilized lot, 16+ acres, for DDC
- 2. Create a “Waiting Room” for a one time/short term relocation to a service accessible site(s),out of sight.





# Zero Financial Impact to Shasta Co. & Redding

- 1. Submit whole plan to Gov. Newsom directly for funding. for this **IS HIS # 1** hoped for **Innovative solution** for transitioning the unsheltered- by- choice population to housed community assets.
- 2. DDC will donate small tents for street homeless, attractively placed along the outside borders of HHSA and adjacent **parking lots**, which they ***must*** keep clean, taking important documents with them when they leave for the day, **or** they may find tents **locked** with a note to clean up their space to restore access
- 3. Increase Safety Security to public streets & parks \*Saving < \$10 mil./sweep (? times) policing and clean up, virtually eliminating need for future sweeps. \* Saving of more millions \$\$ in policing public areas for displaced/lost Camping Homeless, to provide mobile medical needs.
- 4. \*Reinvest found \$\$ in our underpaid law enforcement and health care professionals





- For the last 2 years, I have held weekly **“SALT” (Speak up and Learn Together)** meetings to help the unsheltered-by-choice homeless population find their voice and keep the faith that the DDC would become a reality for them. Then an injury caused me to **loose contact with them for many months.**

In this time, **my core team was scattered**, and the hopeful **lost hope.**

I am now investing in **intense targeted advertising** to 3 populations: **(1) youth+ (2) seniors and & unsheltered homeless** to bring their energies, experiences, interests and visions together to build empathy and collaborate plans to **Make each Tomorrow** Beautiful for All in preparation for obtaining our anticipated DDC Community Home that offers them their unique **PATH** to the Future of their Choice.



# Developing Diamonds Community



The (no longer) Secret Garden to the Development of Shasta County/Redding as a place for professionals to come and raise their families and tourists to visit for the natural beauty and the national model of Healing Homelessness by growing community assets.