

Who are the NeuroDivergent majority of the Open Camping and Street Chronic Homeless (NDCH) ?

Local data verifies that the **genetic divergent personality type** is a helping each of them discover and plan to **realize** the future of **their** choice. “**disproportionate majority**” of our open camping and street Homeless Community of Shasta Co. They possess a **higher than average creative, innovative and problem solving capacity** that is largely “**incomprehensible**” to the “typical” community and often maligned for such by their peers growing up, their whole lives, and sometimes generationally.

For that reason, their different way of thinking and being is **generally misunderstood, maligned and treated** as a mental defect, dysfunction or disability. In fact their primary disability, or mental health issues, generally stem from a life-time of absorbing and reacting to the **accumulated traumas** from the “**disability**” of the typical **community to recognize their validity and value.**

“**Typical**” **shelters** offer them a measure of safety and protection from the elements, but at a price the neurodivergent may be unwilling, or unable to pay. The typical authorities and policies tend to believe they have **THE One True Formula** for the salvation of these wayward souls. They will not stand to be questioned, nor have policies disputed. That, is, in itself, impossible to the perpetual two yr old whose favorite question in “**WHY.**” To deny the neurodivergent his valid, but out-of-the-box **choices** or dismiss his attempts to share problem solving is to **discount his very nature and self-worth.** But to the typical, his ways of perceiving, doing, and being are just **incomprehensible.**

This population of NDCH need a home where their diversity is welcomed and valued, with a “family” who is devoted to helping them **discover, develop and thrive, marching to their personal drum beat, choosing their path to their meaningful future, while** learning to **listen to and communicate** with “typicals” to discover how their **unique talents** become **assets** to the community who applies them to the **team effort** of development and problem solving.

With their life-time of demeaning, even dehumanizing trauma, they may not recover enough to **rock the world** like Einstein, Hitchcock, Newton or Seinfeld, but they are certainly worthy of the **opportunity to discover and mine** their hidden “diamond-in-the-rough” qualities to become **all they could hope to be.**

‘Let us not fall prey to the soft bigotry of low expectations.’ Gorge W. Bush