

## 1. BE A GOOD NEIGHBOR

Get to know the unhoused neighbors in your neighborhood. Share hot coffee, provisions, a smile & human kindness on regular basis. Develop friendships & long term solidarity. We are rebuilding community!

## 2. NO POVERTY PORN

When you are out there being a good neighbor - don't take voyeuristic pictures of people living on the streets. No selfies with your "new homeless friend". Just be a good neighbor. No need for FB to know. It's "keeping it real" that actually does good and teaches.

## 3. DO NOT ILLEGALLY DUMP YOUR TRASH, OLD FURNITURE, "DONATIONS" AT ENCAMPMENTS.

People call the encampments home.



## 4. THE HOMELESS CRISIS IS A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS NOT A CAREER.

Don't try to make your interactions with the unhoused your new career, non-profit, start-up or project that needs to get funded. This is not a profession field. This is a human rights crisis. And if you do get funding - give that money back to the unhoused. Don't make a job out of other people's suffering. Homelessness is the buzzword these days. You would be surprised how many people are trying to cash in on it.

## 5. SOLIDARITY NOT CHARITY

Deprivation is an built-in product of a class system. Solidarity = bearing hardships together. Anything given to people on the street is in fact a return of what a system has taken by force and design.

## 6. COMMIT YOURSELF TO ENCAMPMENT DEFENSE & SUPPORT

Organize your people into groups capable of mobilizing & responding to sweeps, harassment & calls for support & action. It is collective action that builds power.

## 7. DIRECT ACTION GETS THE GOODS

We all need to stop waiting, expecting, begging the powers that be to "solve" the housing & homeless crisis they created. Take land & build homes. Be Bold, Beautiful & Unapologetic in your autonomous community led solutions. The crisis is your permit. Humanity is the code & license.

## 8. EDUCATE YOURSELF

Lies, myths & stereotypes create the public acceptance of criminalizing the homeless. This demonization of unsheltered neighbors provides cover for the violence & deprivation. It also excuses the system that created the situation. Intervene on your neighborhood listservs when they go off on unhoused people! All the suggestions on this flyer will give you a great education on what's up. But for starters, read materials from the National Law Center for Homelessness and Poverty <https://www.nlchp.org/> Or follow @The Village in Oakland #feedthepeople on Facebook.

## 9. NEVER CALL THE COPS

And don't call the city to complain. Remember that homelessness is not a crime and housing is a human right. Marginalized peoples never fare well in any interaction with authorities. The authorities have no solutions to offer and any exposure to them boosts the chances of incarceration and violence through the roof.

## 10. BE HUMBLE

If you are an activist going out to the camps remember you are coming uninvited to someones home. So act like your mama raised you right and don't come empty handed. Bring something like socks or coffee. Something. And don't go pushing your political agenda on people you just met. Trust you will have way more to learn from the most resilient and most vulnerable of Oakland. Listen before you preachy

### THE VILLAGE

\*THE PROMISE LAND\*


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\*HOUSING & DIGNITY VILLAGE\*

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# THE VILLAGE 10 THINGS YOU CAN DO TO HELP OUR UNHOUSED NEIGHBORS

