



PHOTO BY EMILLY PRADO

HUTCH, from page 10

Even with the rapidly changing demographic and landscape on Alberta Street, Drushal and Grijalva see this as a reaffirmation of their need to continue operating.

“Over the summer we’re going to have teachers and workshops,” said Grijalva. “We have a whole equity committee planned and we want to make sure we’re reaching people and are making space for people who Alberta [residents] really want, too. (The) POC-led equity committee (will) work with different community-led organizations to find people whose families have been impacted by gentrification here. Those people are still here. There are a lot of families who are absolutely resisting and we want to give them an opportunity to make money and an opportunity to take back the space. So that’s what we’re working on right now. It’s gonna be creative reuse, art and mending. Our goal is to use excess stuff that comes through the Free Hutch. Maybe we’ll turn t-shirts into tote bags. We’ll also have people teach others how to fix broken appliances and stuff like that.”

“It’s definitely worth the fight for the sake of resistance,” Drushal said. “We don’t want to give up that spot for someone to build a high-dollar inaccessible boutique.” And as far as any fears for pushback or challenges, Grijalva said, “Where I see there being any controversy at all is that we’re in support of true equity.”

Follow the Alberta Free Hutch online: @albertafreehutchpdx

CHAP. 1
EUROPE AND HOMELESSNESS
ALARMING TRENDS

HOMELESSNESS IN EUROPE: AN ALARMING PICTURE

LOCATION - NON-COMPARABLE - NON-EXHAUSTIVE OF ALARMING TRENDS IN HOMELESSNESS IN EUROPE

GREAT BRITAIN
LONDON

+7%
people sleeping rough in 1 year

IRELAND
DUBLIN

+59%
families in homeless accommodation in 1 year

THE NETHERLANDS

+50%
young homeless in 1 year

BELGIUM
BRUSSELS

+34%
homeless people in 4 years

LUXEMBOURG

+61%
people in adult homeless accommodation in 4 years

SPAIN

+5%
homeless people in 7 years

SPAIN
BARCELONA

+8%
homeless people in 2 years

FRANCE

+50%
homeless people in 11 years



CHAP. 1
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FINLAND

-10%
single homeless in 3 years

DENMARK

+85%
young homeless in 6 years

LITHUANIA

+32%
people in shelters for mothers and children in 8 years

POLAND

+17%
homeless people in 2 years

GERMANY

+35%
homeless people estimated in 2 years

AUSTRIA

+28%
registered homeless people in 6 years

ITALY

+6%
homeless people in 6 years

GREECE
ATHENS

71%
9,000 estimated homeless people were forced to live on the streets in the past 5 years

Evidence from across Europe points to a worsening homelessness situation. Finland is the only exception, showing the effectiveness of implementing a long-term homelessness strategy.

WARNING: These statistics are not comparable. The situations described, the sources (official as far as possible), the periods of time and the methodologies are different and specific to each of the countries concerned. Details and explanations regarding the data are available in the following pages.

SECOND OVERVIEW OF HOUSING EXCLUSION IN EUROPE 2017 | FEANTSA - THE FOUNDATION ABBÉ PIERRE

Homeless rates increasing across Europe

Homelessness grabs a lot of headlines in Portland, but it’s without question a global issue. The United States homeless figures continues to hover at more than a half a million people, give or take a few percentage points in recent years. Meanwhile, countries across Europe are seeing a disturbing trend.

According to a new report from EU housing organization Feansta, European countries are facing a homelessness and housing exclusion “crisis.”

Launched in the European Parliament in Brussels in late March, the Second Overview of Housing Exclusion in Europe reveals alarming trends in homelessness in the majority of European Union countries.

“Homelessness is increasing in almost

all countries,” said Feansta director Freek Spinnewijn. “Relative poverty is going down in Europe, but extreme poverty – and, notably, homelessness – is going up, and going up very fast. This is an emergency and action is needed.”

Feansta’s report, created in conjunction with French housing charity Fondation Abbé Pierre, brings together a series of studies that paint a troubling picture of housing exclusion.

Germany has seen a 35 percent increase in homeless people in two years. In Austria the number of people registered as homeless has gone up by 28 percent in six years.

In the UK, 7 percent more people were sleeping rough in London between 2015 and 2016. Spain has seen an increase in homelessness of 5 percent in seven years,

while Italy has seen an increase of 6 percent in six years.

In response, Feansta has launched a new campaign – ‘Be Fair, Europe – Stand Up for Homeless People’ – to push EU policymakers to do more to put an end to homelessness, including using European funds on homelessness-reduction programmes. The International Network of Street Papers, of which Street Roots is a member, is a media partner on the campaign.

“We want the European Union to stand up for the rights of homeless people,” Spinnewijn said. “Homelessness is not currently looked at as a fundamental rights violation. I think there is room for the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights to start doing that.”

– Laura Kelly, Courtesy of INSP.ngo

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