



Ibrahim Murbarak, one of the four main founders of downtown Portland's Right 2 Dream Too homeless camp.

PHOTOS BY CARI HACHMANN/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Prophet of the City's Streets

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leather bag on his back, Mubarak describes his mission as "Fighting for human rights to shelter, food, sleep, and clothing."

Martin Luther King Jr. would

have been inspired. For the late civil rights leader who we celebrate in a national holiday on Jan. 21, the world of poverty and inadequate housing was closely related to the challenges of racism.

"Like a monstrous octopus,

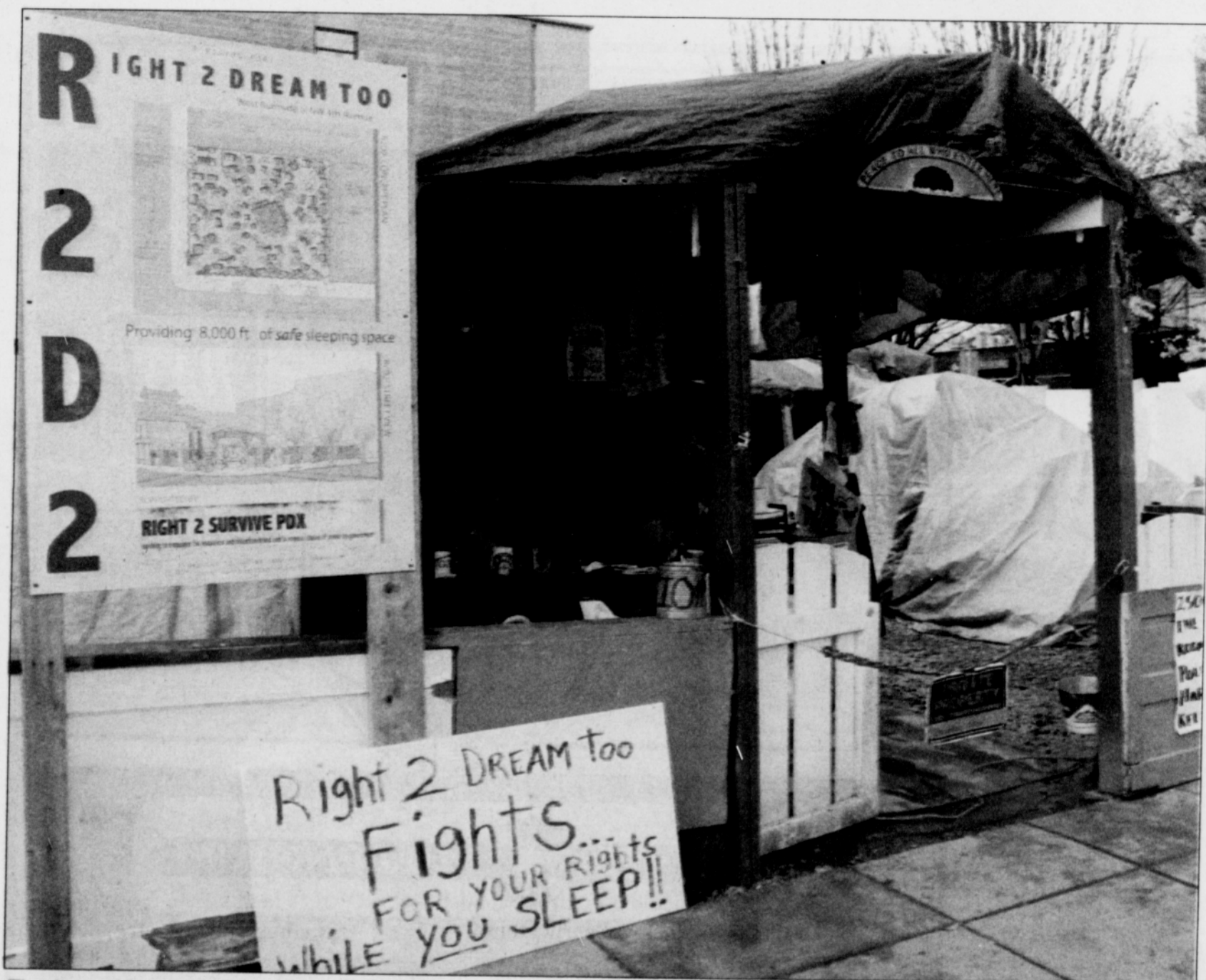
poverty spreads its nagging, prehensile tentacles into hamlets and villages all over our world," King said. "Two-thirds of the people of the world go to bed hungry tonight. They are ill-housed; they are ill-nourished; they are shabbily clad."

Mubarak knows the issues of not having a place to call home firsthand. He knows what it's like to be kicked off a step by a policeman's boot. He knows what it's like to not be able to find a place to rest; to be wet, cold, sleepy, hungry,

grouchy... to be without a house.

Mubarak says he was in a "bad place" when he first took to the streets 25 years ago. A stressful divorce quickly turned

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The homeless-run, temporary shelter Right 2 Dream Too, offers homeless men, women, couples and families with children a place to rest and refuel. The accommodation has been cited monthly with fines by the city.

Right to Dream, Sleep, and Be Human *Downtown camp a beloved community*

BY CARI HACHMANN
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

Walking into the Right 2 Dream Too houseless camp, a gravel corner lot at Southwest Fourth Avenue and Burnside Street, I think of what people coming together might look like after an apocalypse: former citizens in layers of worn and torn clothing, sitting around, keeping warm or keeping busy, food tents, rigged electrical equipment, dogs, sleeping bags, tobacco, raised garden beds...

It's a steely cold December day and I am greeted with a gleaming white smile and a handshake by one of the camp's four founders and

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