What are Libraries Doing for Those Experiencing Homelessness?

In the Main chat box, share what services your library is already offering that may be important to patrons experiencing homelessness.
• Library is a naturally safe place and therefore naturally becomes a day shelter for people.

• Access to wifi and computers = access to connection to family, job applications, access to resources, etc.

• Community access point – a place to meet others.

• The library welcomes and accepts all, our mission is to be accessible to everyone.
Denver Public Library just hired a social worker.

- Remove barriers to community services and resources for people
- To provide support
- Intervene in any mental health emergencies
- Build relationships with customers
- Train and support staff in Mental Health First Aide, Trauma Informed Training, Vicarious Trauma
Other Libraries in the Country

• San Francisco
  - Social Worker and Peers
• Dallas
  - Social Workers; “Coffee and Conversation”
• Washington DC
  - Social Worker
• Philadelphia
  - Bathroom Attendants and Coffee Shop
• Edmonton, Alberta Canada
  - Very Robust Homeless Services Program

• Many others across the country are either hiring a SW or coordinating with the area Community Mental Health Programs