

SAY THIS, NOT THAT

Foster a more compassionate community by adopting respectful language that honors the dignity of individuals affected by homelessness, mental health challenges, and substance use. By replacing outdated terms and phrases with more respectful language, we can help dismantle stigmas and promote understanding.

HOMELESSNESS

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|--|-------------------------|
| ✔ People experiencing homelessness | ✘ Homeless people |
| ✔ People experiencing unstable housing | ✘ The homeless |
| ✔ People experiencing housing insecurity | ✘ Transient populations |

MENTAL ILLNESS

- | | |
|---|----------------------------|
| ✔ People with mental illness | ✘ Mentally ill |
| ✔ People with a mental health disorder | ✘ Crazy |
| ✔ People with a diagnosis of mental illness | ✘ Insane |
| ✔ Psychiatric hospital/facility | ✘ Mental defect |
| | ✘ Suffers from (condition) |
| | ✘ Asylum |

ADDICTION

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| ✔ People who use drugs | ✘ Drug users |
| ✔ People with substance use disorder | ✘ Addicts |
| ✔ People with alcohol use disorder | ✘ Drug abusers |
| ✔ People who smoke | ✘ Alcoholics |
| | ✘ Smokers |