

# SFHOMELESS.NET

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR USING SFHOMELESS.NET

### Background

The SFHomeless.net wiki is a community document which all users can modify and add to. It is a new way for advocates to share community resources and information, and correct them when changes occur.

The majority of the site is composed of articles. An article can be an article, but it is really a mini-web page that can be used for many purposes. Currently in SFHomeless.net, the articles are used to identify agencies that have some relation to the homeless service field. In this way, "Glide" for example has their own page which spells out their services. It also has links to own web page, and has contact information.

One of the great advantages of the wiki is that it also allows Categorization of the agencies. There are approximately 45 categories such as Food, Medical, Housing Resources, etc. A user may not know which agency does what, and by clicking on the category of Food will be shown which agencies have been identified as providing Food.

### Accessing the Information

The Main Page is located at <http://www.sfhomeless.net>

Agencies can be listed by clicking on LIST ALL PAGES which is listed as an option near the top of the page. This will give over 700 agencies in alphabetical order.

Categories are also accessible in the same menu as above. Click on CATEGORIES right next to List All Pages.

Another place to find Categories is listed by subject. Scroll down to the Bar Association's box, which is a pink box on the top right where the boxes start. Click on CATEGORIES DISPLAYED BY SUBJECT.

You can also scroll to the very bottom of the Main Page and see the categories listed in alphabetical order. These categories, plus the displayed by subject ones, are only homeless related, and don't include some of the administrative categories.

### Searching

You can search using the search boxes near the top of the Main Page. One is for simple searches, the other is for more complicated searches. Use both if one doesn't give the results desired.

When using the Google search, you need to add your search terms after the pre-filled "site:sfhomeless.wikia.com". For example, your search might look like:

site:sfhomeless.wikia.com veterans housing seniors

### Adding an Article

New articles are created by using the ADD RESOURCE box in the Editing Area below the colored boxes. An article is a new agency and should only be added if that agency doesn't exist at all in any other article. You should also add categories when creating your new agency. You can copy them from one of the category listings described above, and on the list open up the page source by clicking on EDIT or VIEW SOURCE. Then scroll to where the category is listed and copy and paste it.

### Modifying Articles

When viewing an article and finding incorrect info, or missing info, or if you just want to add something, you start by clicking on the EDIT tab on the very top of the article's page. The code for that page will appear, and although it may look intimidating, it should be easy to find what or where you want to do something. Then all you do is type

it. You then click on Save Changes, and view what you did. If it needs some correction, go back in and change it around.

## Discussion Board

SFHomeless.net is currently trying to see if users will use a discussion board as a forum for homeless issues. The main link is at the top of the Main Page near the LIST ALL PAGES link. This board is hosted by pro-board.com and is not affiliated with wikia.com which hosts SFHomeless.net.

By clicking on the SF HOMELESS DISCUSSION BOARD link, you are brought to a page with GENERAL COMMENTS and GENERAL ISSUES. Currently the comments section is used for administrative discussion about the board. For example, there is an article discussing spam. The GENERAL ISSUES area is to be used for any topic that the community wishes to discuss concerning homelessness. Currently there is an article about housing practices.

Click on one of the two (I'll use the GENERAL ISSUES for this example), and you are brought to a list of topics. There is also a button for NEW TOPIC. Click on the existing topic "BEST PRACTICES IN SERVICE HOUSING RESIDENTS". You will see the beginning comment, and then you will see several replies. To add your own reply, click on NEW REPLY.

You will then see fields for your name, and then a large one for your reply. You can customize it with optional features but they aren't required. When finished you click on ADD REPLY and it will be added to the others.

If you want to add a NEW TOPIC you can click on that feature, but do it at the level where you want the topic added. For example, after clicking on GENERAL ISSUES you see the first level of topics under that heading. A new topic here will appear under this list. But if you were inside the BEST PRACTICES topic and you clicked on NEW TOPIC, the system would think you were adding it under BEST PRACTICES.

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