I have realized that most people do not hit the street and become homeless because of circumstances - but rather how they navigated those circumstances are. They hit the street because somewhere along the way when they looked for help, it was not to be found.

Kevin Pritchard

CHANGING MINDSETS

Changing minds and attitudes is the foundation for a culture of community that sees the importance – and possibility – of ending poverty.

– London For All: A Roadmap to End Poverty

In 2016, the LPRC @ King’s released its community blog, intended to be a platform for dialogue on issues of poverty in London to work towards the shift in mindsets required to end to poverty in London. http://povertyresearch.ca/blog

Here’s what Londoners are saying...

UNDERSTANDING FOOD SECURITY

“While [current food security] models are provided with the best intentions, and are helpful, they are not sufficient. We need a culture of building food security in London and, in fact, their very structure tends to increase the experience of food insecurity among the patrons that they serve.” - Roberto McClelland, MSW Candidate, King’s

Jacintha Seck

THE WIDENING WEALTH GAP

“We need to bring accumulation to a level of controlled measure, eliminate the motivation of needing more and learn to share resources with one another. Only then can we finally begin to create a new culture founded on things of value beyond the material which is crucial to eliminating the wealth gap and building equitable communities.”

Caroline Worthingston

SOCIAL DETERMINANTS MATTER

“We’ve all been conditioned to believe that medical science is the answer to what ails us. Our health is impaired by some sort of disease, and whatever treatment we use will fix the problem with the same sort of ease. People could be looked on as a form of truth. It’s job security, income, social capital (i.e. friends, family, and connections), language and ethnicity – those dam old Social Determinants – that matter most to a person’s health.” – Dr. Frank Warsh

THE CHANGING FACE OF POVERTY

“The face of poverty is changing. It may not be as easy to tell who is struggling as it once was and more people are finding it difficult to keep their heads above water. Conventional wisdom was that education would protect us from poverty. Unfortunately, today, with such a high percentage of people earning university degrees, education is not the protection it once was.” – Kelly Barnes, PhD

BREAKING STEREOTYPES

“Social housing policies that focus on vulnerability encourage bad tenants to stress their disadvantages and helplessness. This is not the fuel most debilitating form of welfare or disability dependency and inevitably sap the morale and capacity of people, just because they want somewhere decent to live.” – Robert Saxsmith

“People need the knowledge to understand and then make informed decisions. We all need tools to help us relate, reframe and repeat in learning to change.”

Wendy Lee, Labour Employment Service

“I look at the [Mayor’s] Poverty Panel’s recommendation of 2.5 [advocate for increased enforcement of child support payments]” and it strikes me as something that can cause greater hardships and barriers for individuals in poverty while looking at the issue with a multicasted gender lens.” – Anonymous

https://povertyresearch.ca/blog