

# Homelessness and Covid 19: Learnings from Italy

The survey stems from an interest in observing the changes caused in homeless during the Coronavirus pandemic crisis; thanks to fio.PSD members and Caritas Italiana

## Background/issues

In Italy, the Covid 19 pandemic crisis began on 11 March 2020 when the government launched the appeal:

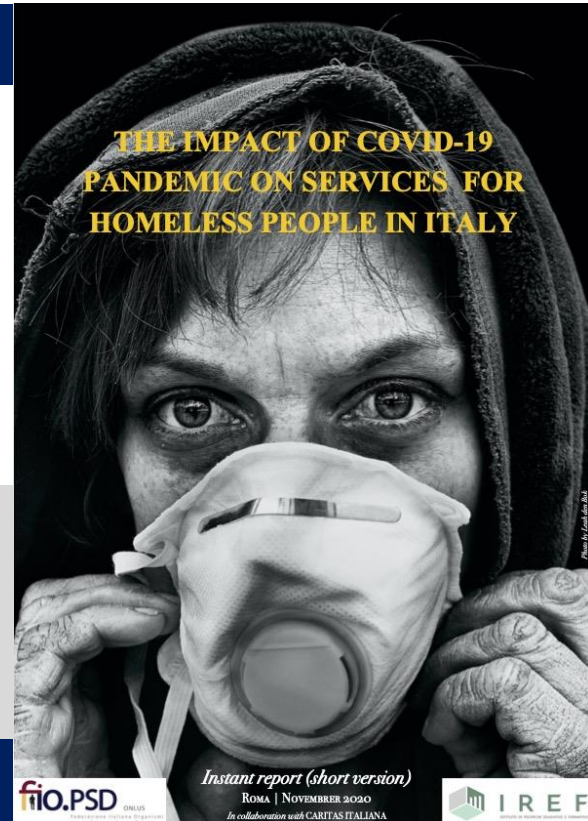
**#stayathome**

A "paradox" for more than 50,000 homeless people  
Homeless services were under pressure cause of the new rules, imposed to keep people safe

**32 phone/video interviews to**  
Services Coordinators, Director/Management  
Social Workers, Civil Servants

## Learning objectives

- To explore how homelessness services responded to COVID-19
- To identify immediate effects and challenges
- To retrace the times of pandemic
- To explore adopted short term solutions
- To analyze opportunities, tendencies and perspective of change



## Results/ Lesson learned

**1**

### **complex reorganization**

- coping strategy was adopted in the most part of services
- pandemic crisis as "a lens" to recognize limits and opportunities
- territorial resilience

**2**

### **services management**

- working adaptation
- re-think homelessness services
- reorientation of services toward long term solutions

**3**

### **homeless people**

- active involvement of homeless in services management
- capability approach is crucial
- reclassifying homelessness as a public issue and promoting socio-sanitary integration

<https://www.fiopsd.org/gli-effetti-della-pandemia-sui-servizi/>