



## **Conducting Action-Based Research to Address Homelessness in Portland and Beyond**

**Greg Townley**



**Wednesday 17 Nov 2021, 7:00 pm PST**  
The online lecture is free and open to the public;  
link: <https://pdx.zoom.us/j/85498799873>

forward to a rich and dynamic conversation with attendees following the talk.

Homelessness is one of the most pressing challenges facing our local community and communities throughout the United States. In this talk, I will discuss my work conducting action-based research to help address homelessness and its negative impacts on individuals and communities. I will discuss both national and international research but will focus on work conducted locally in my role as co-founder of the Homelessness Research & Action Collaborative at Portland State University (PSU). I will present results from a recent study of homelessness and housing insecurity among PSU students and employees; share findings from a study of six local tiny home villages for individuals transitioning out of homelessness; and discuss my role helping to design and evaluate the Portland Street Response, a new branch of Portland's first responder system that responds to non-emergency calls involving people experiencing homelessness and mental health crisis. The talk will address different components of homelessness and point to evidence-based solutions for addressing homelessness in Portland and beyond. I look

Dr. Greg Townley is an Associate Professor of Community Psychology at Portland State University and co-founder of PSU's [Homelessness Research & Action Collaborative](#). He received his Ph.D. in Clinical-Community Psychology from the University of South Carolina, his M.A. in Psychology from the University of South Carolina, and B.A.s in Psychology and Africana Studies from North Carolina State University. Dr. Townley's research examines community inclusion and supportive housing of individuals experiencing serious mental illnesses and homelessness. Central to Dr. Townley's work is the promotion of positive, reciprocal relationships between academic and community stakeholders. He collaborates with numerous local service providers and advocacy groups, including Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare, Central City Concern, Street Roots, and p:ear to address homelessness, supportive housing, alternative first response programs, and community attitudes about homelessness and mental illness.