

federal law of the mandate to get insurance, California would add its own. The state also made roughly 1 million more Californians eligible for subsidies through the state insurance marketplace.

## What he hasn't:

• Enact single-payer health care: Few campaign proposals generated as much attention-and as much heat-as Newsom's 2018 pledge to bring state-funded health insurance for all Californians. So far, the governor has assembled a task force to look into how to get to universal coverage, but he was silent on last year's single-payer proposal in the Legislature.

• Lower health care costs: On his first day in office, Newsom signed an executive order directing state agencies to collaborate on purchasing prescription drugs, and last year he signed a bill enabling the state to produce its own generic drugs. But the state has yet to get into the pharmaceutical business and likely won't for years. And last year alone, manufacturers reported price increases of more than 16 percent on more than 1,200 prescription drugs to state regulators.

## Housing/homelessness What he's done:

• Enact mild rent control: In 2019 state lawmakers placed a ceiling on how much landlords can hike the rent. At roughly 7 percent, the cap only banned exorbitant increases. Many rent control advocates were not impressed, and they put an unsuccessful rent control measure on the ballot last November. But in a state that has long been wary of telling landlords what they can charge their tenants, it remains one of Newsom's biggest legislative accomplishments.

• Ban many evictions during COVID: In the summer 2020, COVID cases were reaching ever higher totals, unemployment rates

**Comanche Creek homeless encampment.** CN&R FILE PHOTO BY JASON CASSIDY

were skyrocketing and a potential wave of evictions presented not only an economic crisis, but a public health one. So the governor issued an executive order barring evictions for non-payment of rent-though crucially, tenants still owe their back rent. The Legislature has renewed that policy twice now, most recently through Sept. 30, in part because the state has been slow to roll out rent relief. But a CalMatters investigation found that thousands of tenants had been evicted despite the moratorium.

• Turn hotels into housing: In the early months of the pandemic, Newsom launched Project Roomkey, a program that spent federal money on acquiring vacant hotel rooms and converting them into temporary shelter for homeless Californians. It temporarily helped more than 42,000 people off the street while also curtailing the spread of the raging virus. Since then, the governor has supercharged the idea, converting 6,000 rooms into permanent supportive housing. This year's state budget includes another \$5.8 billion for the program. about half people with mental illness. That's all part of an unprecedented \$12 billion package to reduce homelessness.

## What he hasn't:

• Meet housing production goals: Running for governor, Newsom vowed to oversee the construction of 3.5 million new units by 2025. That works out to about 500,000 units a year—a feverish pace of construction unseen even in the state's boomingest years. Critics called the promise wildly unrealistic. It looks like they were right: Even before the pandemic, new building permits statewide were coming in at about a fifth of the goal.

• Reduce the number of homeless people: California's most intractable problem has not

**NEWSLINES** CONTINUED ON PAGE 14

# September is National SUICIDE PREVENTION Awareness Month

Many survivors of sexual violence struggle with thoughts of suicide at some point in our lives. We may start to believe that no one cares about us, no one understands, and even our family, friends, partners, and the world would be better off without us.

> Ongoing depression (an lead us to severe sadness or moodiness, hopelessness, sleep problems, withdrawal, and changes in our behavior.

> > Warning signs that we are

not doing well and when it

• Taking part in risky behaviors?

• Talking or writing about suicide?

• Thinking often about taking our life.

• Planning how we would attempt it.

to our problems.

• Feeling that death is the only solution

is time to reach out for help:

## **Questions to ask ourselves:**

- Do I feel worthless, guilty, helpless or hopeless?
- Have I been feeling sad, down or blue on most days?
- Do I have trouble sleeping or am I sleeping too much?
- Do I feel life isn't worth living?
- Do I feel restless or unable to sit still?
- Do I eat more or less than normal?

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• Giving away our possessions. If you or someone close to you has been struggling with any of the above behaviors, feelings or thoughts please know that you are not alone. We are here for you and

believe you. Please reach out to us on our 24 hour Crisis Hotline.

# ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

National Suicide Prevention Hotline 24/7: 1-800-273-8255 (English) Nacional de Prevencion del Suicidio: 1-888-628-9454 (Espanol)

Butte County Behavioral Health 24/7 Crisis Line: 1-800-334-6622

Tehama County Behavioral Health 24/7 Crisis Line: 1-800-240-3208

Glenn County 24/7 Crisis Lines:

During business hours (8a-5p) 1-800-500-6582 Outside of business hours: 1-800-507-3530 evenings/weekends/holidays

> We are open and affirming to all regardless of ability, gender, gender identity or sexual orientation.

Butte/Glenn: 530-891-1331 | Tehama: 530-529-3980 Calling from Corning: 530-824-3982

Virtual Business Hours: M-F 10am-6pm (excluding Holidays) 24hr CRISIS LINE: 530-342-RAPE (7273) **Collect Calls Accepted** 

**Rape Crisis Intervention** 

of North Central California

aka Rape Crisis Intervention and Prevention 530-342-RAPE Serving our Tri-County Community Members since 1974