Japan's Homeless: Seen Yet Ignored

By STEVEN W. REISMAN

YOKOHAMA, Japan — In a client's apartment building, a few miles outside the city, a few small pinballs of cardboard and blankets are all that keep the 70-year-old inside during the winter months. She has been a member of a homeless group for most of the year, finding work as a laundry worker or a cleaner when she can.

The problem of homelessness in Japan is severe, with thousands of people living in conditions similar to this woman's. The government has taken some steps to address the issue, but progress has been slow. The issue remains largely ignored by the public and media, and little has been done to tackle the root causes of homelessness.

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Laying Up Life

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