



SHOWER, SHAVE AND SELF-ESTEEM: Homeless resident receives services at Mobile Shower Pilot—See page 2.

of such complexity requires persistent focus and collaboration with the County’s partners and stakeholders—and sustained resources.

To that end, last month the County Board of Supervisors made a \$402 million investment in the fight against homelessness by approving the FY 2018-19 Measure H spending plan. Building on an array of successes, the budget targets a number of proven strategies in the County’s comprehensive Homeless Action Plan and includes \$120 million for shelter and interim housing, \$73 million for rapid re-housing, \$49 million for permanent supportive housing and \$30 million for outreach.

We have a long road ahead as the economic and housing factors driving people into homelessness persist. But Los Angeles is investing, responding and working together and we are making a difference.

The Measure H Quarterly Update will keep you apprised of the progress being made—one aspect of our commitment to rigorous accountability and transparency. Visit our website <http://homeless.lacounty.gov> for more information and follow us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/CountyHomelessInitiative>.

Thank you for being a part of this important effort to move individuals and families from homelessness to housing and enable them to improve the quality of their lives.

A Message from the Homeless Initiative

Welcome to the Spring 2018 issue of *From Homelessness to Housing: Measure H Quarterly Update*.

We are in the midst of a critical movement to combat and prevent homelessness across Los Angeles County. Since the passage of Measure H just over a year ago, the County has accelerated its mission-critical work to address this most pressing humanitarian crisis. And thanks to heightened partnership and cooperation in the region, there is a palpable sense of hope and innovation fueling our efforts.

The Homeless Initiative’s ninth quarterly report shows that Measure H-funded work is gaining traction across all dimensions of the County’s fight against homelessness.

Thousands of families and individuals—including veterans and young people—have been directly helped with permanent housing placements, rental subsidies, benefits

assistance, intensive case management and much more. At the same time, shelter beds have been increased and new outreach teams have hit the streets to connect our most vulnerable residents with a broadening array of services.

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The 2018 Homeless Count results showed a decrease in the number of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County—for the first time in four years—down three percent in the County. Veteran homelessness decreased by 18 percent and chronic homelessness decreased by 16 percent. At the same time, adult and youth housing placements

increased greatly.

These metrics indicate that funding from the County and the successful deployment of our interconnected strategies are beginning to have an impact and that our collective efforts are moving in the right direction. While the numbers are encouraging, a task



Office of the Homeless Initiative
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
County of Los Angeles

 homelessinitiative@lacounty.gov

 <http://homeless.lacounty.gov>

 [@CountyHomelessInitiative](https://www.facebook.com/CountyHomelessInitiative)

Recent Activities



Mobile Shower Pilot

THE MOBILE SHOWER PROGRAM WAS launched this spring—at Whittier Narrows with Lava Mae Los Angeles and in East Pasadena with Shower of Hope—to serve people experiencing homelessness in nearby encampments with access to showers and hygiene supplies.

The community outreach program has included on-site showers, haircuts, food, clothing, pet supplies and other support services thanks to a variety of partnering agencies. In addition to supporting the health and well-being of our homeless neighbors, the mobile showers serve as new points of engagement to connect people to vital services including mental health, case management and housing navigators.

Developed in collaboration with Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and other County departments, LAHSA and local service providers, this program is a tangible example of our coordinated approach to reaching our most vulnerable residents and helping them move from homelessness to housing. Since launch, an average of 100+ individuals per week have utilized the services at Whittier Narrows and report feeling fresh and rejuvenated, with an enhanced sense of self-esteem.

Yes to ADUs

TO RAISE THE PROFILE OF ACCESSORY dwelling units or “granny flats,” the Homeless Initiative partnered with the Los Angeles County Arts Commission, Department of Regional Planning and the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission to hold the *Yes to ADUs* contest to find the best re-imagining of housing

possibilities. More than 40 proposals were submitted from students and professional architects, highlighting the potential of ADUs as a housing type to alleviate the region's housing pressure and combat homelessness—and the winners were announced in April. The designs will become a valuable online inventory of concepts with the potential to bolster the stock of affordable housing.

A Regional Movement

THE HOMELESS INITIATIVE HAS CONTINUED to diversify its network of partners representing homeless service providers, County departments, cities, business, philanthropy, labor, faith-based organizations and community coalitions in a highly collaborative Countywide movement.

In February, upwards of 500 County and City elected officials, stakeholders and homeless service providers attended the 2nd Annual Homeless Initiative Conference, centered on Partnership and Innovation, coming together with a shared vision of what we can accomplish together.

An innovative grant program is in process with 45 cities developing city-specific plans to address homelessness in their communities, illustrating an enthusiastic



response from stakeholders across the region. Partnering cities will submit their final plans this summer.

And coinciding with the one-year anniversary of the passage of Measure H, a broad coalition of leaders and community groups launched Everyone In—United

Way of Greater Los Angeles' dynamic new campaign designed to engage community members as an active part of the solution. Learn how you can get involved at <http://everyoneinla.org>.

Jobs Combatting Homelessness

HOMELESS SERVICE PROVIDERS HAVE added more than 1,000 new jobs across the region to enhance the delivery system. We partnered on the second joint LA City/County homeless services job fair in April at LA Trade Tech, which attracted 750 attendees and 50 employers. And we continue to support this rapid expansion via www.JobsCombattingHomelessness.org—our online portal linking job seekers to nonprofits offering a “paycheck with purpose.”

Measure H Success Stories

Vet Finds Security

MR. DAVIS stayed at West Side Vets in Inglewood for seven years after declining health issues forced him and his family into homelessness. He faced three challenges; finding property owners who would accept Section 8 vouchers, owners who requested a credit score of 640 and his own sense of profound rejection. Case managers at West Side Vets helped Mr. Davis obtain a Section 8 voucher, visited him monthly to check on his well-being and helped secure housing



for him and his family. This was largely due to the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles Homeless Incentive Program providing the owner with a \$2,467 holding fee.

“My experience working with Mr. Rodriguez and the housing advisor team was truly a blessing. I couldn’t have done it without these organizations. It’s an awesome feeling to have these Individuals have so much love in what they do. They help veterans like me get through these difficult times to secure housing.”

An Answer to a Prayer

MS. JAMIESHA TILLMAN was a survivor of domestic violence, which caused her to leave her housing unit prematurely, along with her four children. They stayed with family and friends as long as they could, then resorted to staying in Ms. Tillman’s car and in shelters. Finally, she connected with St. Joseph Center where she received a Section 8 Voucher. Even with the voucher, Ms. Tillman still faced challenges in finding a safe home for her family, a landlord willing to accept vouchers and in coming up with the security deposit.



The Homeless Incentive Program (HIP) and the Housing Advisory Unit Staff helped her locate units that matched her criteria and convinced the property owner to accept the Section 8 voucher by providing a holding fee. HIP also paid the security deposit, enabling Ms. Tillman to lease the unit in February and have a place to call home.

“I’m blessed to have been connected with this program that helped me secure a place for my children and me. Getting connected with HIP was the best thing that could have happened to me and my family.”

The Transformational Power of Employment

EDDIE is a 45-year-old who was homeless with long-term unemployment and previous



substance use disorder when he enrolled into a job readiness program at Chrysalis. He worked in Chrysalis Works, a one-year transitional job program in street maintenance. Working in the Fashion District helped him overcome his discomfort in crowds and built his communication skills. Eddie found full-time employment as a prep cook with First to Serve, an organization

that provides transitional housing, medical, and supportive services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness in South LA. He has been working with First to Serve for more than six months and was recently promoted to Supervisor.

Eddie tells others about Chrysalis and says he has been given “the power to make the choices on what job I want.”

Family Matters

JS IS A SINGLE FATHER with a 5-year-old son. He battles depression and anxiety and has been involved with the criminal justice system. When a LAHSA outreach team engaged him, he was fighting to maintain custody of his son. With no other family, JS was concerned that his son would be placed in a foster home if he did not find housing soon. A LAHSA outreach team connected with JS at a Homeless Connect Event in Pomona and was able to secure a one-bedroom apartment for him through Upward Bound House, where he is able to stay for up to one year or until they obtain permanent housing. JS is actively seeking employment in construction, and his son is excelling in school.

“People have told me that they were going to help me, but most of them did not follow through...(LAHSA Outreach staff) Donald Holt and Lisa Lyon have been the most honest and diligent people helping my son and me. In this moment of serious crisis, we were literally days from sleeping on the streets with no help in sight. It brought tears to my eyes when we showed up at Upward Bound homes and my son turned to me and said, ‘Daddy now we can be safe.’”



WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

If Measure H has made a difference in your life, please share your story with us:

homelessinitiative@lacounty.gov

Strategy Implementation Updates

Los Angeles County's Homeless Initiative is a broad-based action plan with interconnected strategies to effectively combat and prevent homelessness. These updates demonstrate the promise and significant progress of this critical initiative. Among many early initiatives and successes, key Homeless Initiative outcomes from July 2017–March 2018 include:

STRATEGY A1 : Homeless Prevention Program for Families

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 771 families received homeless prevention services through the Family Solutions Centers. Of those 771 families, 300 families exited the program and 219 either retained their housing or transitioned into other permanent housing.

STRATEGY B1 : Provide Subsidized Housing to Homeless Disabled Individuals Pursuing Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 802 homeless, disabled adults pursuing SSI were housed.

STRATEGY B3 : Partner with Cities to Expand Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 1,750 participants successfully exited the rapid rehousing program and retained the housing in which they had been placed.

STRATEGY B4 : Facilitate Utilization of Federal Housing Subsidies

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles provided \$880,686 in incentives to landlords to help secure 403 units for housing voucher recipients.

STRATEGY B7 : Interim/Bridge Housing for Those Exiting Institutions

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 1,437 individuals discharged from institutions were provided interim housing.

STRATEGIES C4, C5, C6 : Establish a Countywide SSI and Veterans Benefits Advocacy Program for People Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, Countywide Benefits Entitlement Services Teams (CBEST) assisted 5,703 disabled individuals with applications for SSI and Veterans Disability Benefits.

STRATEGY D2 : Expansion of Jail In-Reach

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 2,987 inmates received D2 Jail In-Reach services.

STRATEGY D6 : Criminal Record Clearing Project

SINCE THE JANUARY 2018 launch of D6 expungement services, the Public Defender held 20 record clearing services events throughout the County, engaged 267 clients, and filed 117 petitions for dismissal or reduction, 78 of which have been granted so far.

STRATEGY D7 : Provide Services for Permanent Supportive Housing

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 2,195 clients were linked to new Intensive Case Management Services slots, 1,108 clients received federal rental subsidies, 808 clients received local rental subsidies, and 476 clients were placed in permanent housing.

STRATEGY E4 : First Responder Training

AS OF MARCH 31, 2018, 42 First Responder Trainings were convened for Sheriff personnel, for a total of 1,152 deputies and sergeants who have been trained since the inception of the First Responders Training on October 26, 2016.

STRATEGY E6 : Countywide Outreach System

BETWEEN JULY 2017 AND MARCH 2018, Countywide outreach teams engaged 7,204 individuals, connected 4,663 individuals to services, placed 632 individuals into interim housing, and linked 267 individuals to a permanent housing program.

STRATEGY E8 : Enhance the Emergency Shelter System

SINCE JANUARY 2017, contracts have been awarded to service providers for 933 new Crisis and Bridge Housing beds. From July 2017 through March 2018, 10,330 individuals entered crisis, bridge, and interim housing, funded in whole or in part by Measure H. During the same period of time, 1,703 individuals exited interim housing to permanent housing.

STRATEGY E14 : Enhanced Services for Transition Age Youth

FROM JULY 2017 THROUGH MARCH 2018, 2,768 youth were assessed using the Next Step Tool.

VIEW OUR NEW ONLINE GRAPHIC PRESENTATION Measure H Quarterly Performance Outcomes: Charting the Progress of Measure H- <http://homeless.lacounty.gov/homeless-initiative-quarterly-report-9/>