

Homeless Initiative
Los Angeles County

**Measure H FY 2021-22
Funding Recommendations Process**

Public Input Received
through the Homeless Initiative Website
February 2021

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Public Comments on Strategy A1: Homeless Prevention Program for Families

Many more need to be created.

I am very grateful for this opportunity to have permanent housing.

Increase the amount of money allocated to support families. It is these children who need to be looked out for. With more money allocated to families for housing, job skills, mental health, and education- we won't see the upcoming generations settling for a lower standard of living such as a tent on the sidewalk held up by the blood, sweat and tears of community health workers and a social security check.

There are thousands of office buildings not being used in part or in whole due to covid. We also know that the majority of office work can be done remotely. This leaves a surplus of empty, now useless space. These offices can provide near immediate shelter for homeless people. Find a way to manage security. Find a way to manage charitable causes for building owners that don't take advantage of the people in need. Perhaps the building owners would also supply security as part of a community benefit package. Even if it's only a few nights to a few weeks - it gets people out of the rain and cold. Families are frequently forced to choose between bills and food. Restaurants and hot food deli's are the biggest contributors to food waste. A program to repurpose these items to hungry families and individuals could aid in taking a burden off of them to possibly keep the roof they already have over their heads.

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Create/Build housing that is actually affordable and accessible and plentiful (tiny housing etc). Repeat the 'Gettlove' relational housing first model, that was used in south central, in other areas to connect & maintain housing and icms with families.

Preventing homelessness should be the primary focus. Providing assistance to families so that they do not lose their homes. There are many empty hotels and motels around the Los Angeles area. These facilities could be used as temporary measures until permanent housing can be found.

These funds should specifically used to build public housing. There are already numerous service providers for PT Prevention...

The only thing being done to prevent homelessness is the recently enacted eviction moratorium. What happens once it expires? No one is going to help those families who need the help. Rent keeps increasing higher than what jobs want to pay how is anyone supposed to make a living. What about those people who are struggling but can't actually blame it on covid. Covid might be part of the reason but it's not the complete reason because they didn't lose their job but their hours got cut. There's a lot of people who need help but don't qualify for assistance because they have a job or they make more money than what the limit is but don't make enough to actually survive. Sometimes you either have to have no job and get welfare to get assistance instead of actually trying to work and support yourself.

Affordable housing and jobs.

I live in the Antelope Valley area. There are so many homeless families out here living out of motels. I am in the process of trying to get a new house myself with a Section 8 voucher and I'm finding no luck. I just want to raise my family out of harm's way. I am holding on to a home that is a safety risk because I am afraid to jump out there and end up homeless only because I want a better life for my family. They're really needs to be some sort of policy to make these transportation agencies such as the AVTA and Caltrans stop hoarding properties that could be rented out to families to keep them from living in motels. Recently 80 families were displaced from the motels during a pandemic. I doubt if anyone knows or cares where they're supposed to go. I looked for almost a year last time with a \$2,400 housing voucher. There was so much discrimination in my housing hunt that I almost gave up. The agency out here that assist families turned me away at the beginning. They offered me money to relocate to another state but would not assist me in locating a house and paying its security deposit. I believe that homeless families and the issues surrounding them are overlooked and minimized to mental health issues and housing affordability. With requirements like three times the rent income and 680 credit scores get in the way of where children are supposed to live, greed is definitely a major factor in anything that Measure H could give.

Having worked in NYC with and the Human Resource Administration and for Begin Employment and Gain Independence Now (BEGIN), I have a clear understanding of the issues that prevent people from moving forward. Now 20 years later, I find myself with a family and homeless. My husband and I are both educated and he has run a successful business in New York City, Philadelphia and Chicago, however, health issues can bring even the mighty down. The constant stress of running a business on two coasts took its toll. Now he is re-educating and becoming a math teacher for secondary education. But, without the credential, he is only substituting and with Covid 19, work isn't guaranteed. Without a steady income, it's impossible to get into a more permanent housing arrangement, especially since we were evicted from our previous residence, three years ago. We were paying \$1600 for a 3-bedroom apt. and now we pay \$650/ week for a hotel room, and \$400 /mo for storage fees. Needless to say, our housing costs have doubled over night. SNAP covers most of our food and using the afternoon school lunch program, we've been able to make our SNAP funds stretch. But as far as what issues need to be addressed, I created this list based on both layers of my experience, working and being a parent of four children, who are now mostly grown, with my youngest being 14 years old.

#1 - jobs (steady) with reliable transportation

#2 - affordable housing

#3 - some way to develop credit (Credit Karma and Capital One), only use it for a few little things and then pay it off every month, on time.

#4 - a way to overcome an 'eviction' on your record, sooner than 7 years

#5 - reduce stress (which happens naturally, when you have affordable housing, a steady job and a way to provide a safe, stable environment for your children to grow.)

Training in stress reduction techniques, mindfulness, and meditation.

#6 - good health care providers

#7 - ways to overcome addiction (creating opportunities in one's community to give back, because when you can help someone else, it can put your life in perspective and offers you a chance to feel a sense of accomplishment, joy, and success. It also provides opportunities to show your capabilities to others. When one thing in our lives starts to go well, then our perspective changes and we are more open and receptive to the possibility that some other things will go well too. I think working in the construction field, learning any of the trades can be a very lucrative investment, because when you need a plumber, electrician, or carpenter, you really need them. And anyone with a home or apartment knows that.

#8 - opportunities to develop a spiritual/ conscious awareness of self and others (empathy and compassion)

#9 - Communal housing, where all members offer their expertise to run the home, each contributing to the whole. Possibly renovating old warehouses or factories that have gone into disuse and can be rezoned for residential purposes. The rooftops can be used to create gardens for sustainable living. And solar panels can be added for energy to run the building.

#10 - single mothers need the support of a group most of all, since they are truly on their own, unless parents are helping in the background. By creating ways for them to become entrepreneurs, whether in crafting, cooking, organizing, or care-taking, these are all areas where there are often great needs. With women working together to care for each others' children, it can free up those that have a skill or desire to work. Connecting people and services through the EDD website or creating a new one could serve as a source of advertisement, a vetting process, and opportunities.

#11 - One of the biggest hurdles to success is not knowing the right people who can vouch for you, mentor you, and introduce you to the right people. As the old adage goes, "It's who you know, is where you go." Creating a network of people and matching them with corresponding professionals would go a long way to mitigating some of these issues

Nowhere do I see mental illness addressed. I believe LACO should join with other counties and get the courts to reinstitute families and doctor's right/ability to commit adults to mental institutions. Secondly, we need to rebuild the mental hospital/health system to accommodate those who cannot manage themselves and ultimately live on the streets. Substance abuse victims need a similar court mandated remedy since they will not refrain from using, which is a requirement for housing, and live on the streets/rivers making all attempts to house them a useless endeavor.

Homeless Prevention Program is for educational purposes in informing individuals on how to prevent becoming homeless, but unfortunately when a nationwide epidemic is at the center point it affects everyone. Homelessness cannot be prevented only provision and assistance can help. The provision and preparation is vital and needs a better solution.

Good idea, but it does not seem to be working well. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and more needs to be done to prevent even more people from becoming homeless.

I think the word "homeless" is not an accurate term to describe the suffering and problems we see among a large segment of our population. Over 99% of human history has been lived with human beings meeting their needs while living in nomadic tribes rather than in settled homes. The health and well-being of indigenous peoples who still continue to live to this day is a testament to the strong tribal community bonds that they have while living a nomadic lifestyle. The problem is not that people don't have settled homes; it is that they lack shelter and community. Many people do not want to spend their time working all day to earn money to pay for a settled home. Many people would prefer a lifestyle where they don't have to work so much and do not have to pay for a settled home. Rather, they prefer to be a part of a nomadic tribe or community that gives them the freedom to explore the beauty of the world around them. This would require a variety of shelters to provide for people who desire a nomadic lifestyle which is consistent with the nature of our history as human beings. A nomadic community would have an incentive for its members to help each other. For example, they would have an incentive to cooperate together to work on a community garden to provide food for themselves. For those who prefer to be settled, I recommend the great demonstration project of the Los Angeles Eco-Village: <https://laecovillage.org/home/about-2/> as a fine example of a low income, sustainable community that integrates ecologic, social and economic functions to improve the health and well being of its members. If you have any further questions about these issues, you can learn more from the Los Angeles Eco-Village. You can also contact me Gary Kodel at my cell: 661-478-0738 or my email at g5s5k5@sbcglobal.net. Thank you for soliciting public comments!

Everything "prevention - based" should be GOLD STARRED! Market it better so people actually know it is happening and available if needed. For example, the suicide hotline is very well known as it should be. However, I am not aware of who to call if I am ever about to be homeless and that there is a program to help prevent it. Some success stories are a good start.

Yes definitely there should be no homeless kids in the streets and I wish law enforcement was allowed to do their part and arrest all those that sell drugs and those that consume them specifically around parks where families gather

The listed numbers are miniscule in comparison to the amount of money that has gone into this Initiative. More money is going towards administrative costs. Use County property to build a Housing Department! Build housing for seniors who cant make ends meat off of SS, build housing for people who have jobs and are living in their cars. The streets are getting worse with more homeless. Be proactive, you help 105,000 people, 200,000 more become homeless.

26,083 individuals and family members have been permanently housed

48,712 individuals and family members have obtained interim housing, funded in whole or in part by Measure H

47,424 individuals have engaged with street outreach teams who connected them to services

Get rid of Rent Control and Rental Regualtions, and make it easier to rent to high-risk individuals with poor credit.

SET PRIOROTIES IN PROVIDING RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Funding should recognize the 80/20 Rule with a Triage model that identifies and gives priority to those that can be helped quickly and successfully through existing systems.

80% of people will succeed with 20% of budget and 20% will require 80% of budget.

Many people have spare bedrooms. A monthly stipend should be offered to purple who are willing to open then homes to individuals and families, per person, to received semi permanent or permanent housing to get people and families on their feet. When purple have somewhere to call " home " them they can get schooling, find employment, save for their own residences, and get a sense of belonging.

I've been working the social field for 28 yrs. much has changed/ for instance I've been housing personally a family- food shelter etc., every time i call for support services I recieve a run around their needs to be a system specific for immigrants. Or some type of service for an individual housing assistance /so atleast the Grandmother,daughter, Granddaughter can have some privacy (Gmother has been here 20 yrs! unbelievable/ yet theirs no procedure for assistance and since i dont have a car its even harder for donated food locations due too language barrier... seriously 311/211 need more training in programs that assist urgency is important. Housing assistance is minimal- their should be a 200.00 or 300.00 in assistance for an american who can provide a housing service for this type of family specially LA County.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

well I've been homeless since 2017 I have documents from 211 from different places like hopics. I been having a job the whole time cause I had to provide housing through hotel an motel for my kids. No one seen to care when you homeless with your family. I've been struggle with my credit been miss up through an family member who made it hard for me to live once I made my kids. But I know its always an solution for any problems I dealt with in my life. I had to struggle with my kids an im still struggle with housing through this covid 19 I thank God I dont have the Corona virus or my kids doesn't have through the grace of the lord. Its been hard to find house because of my credit. An I feel if you have a job you should be able to find an apartment while that's not the case. So I kept pushing an im still pushing trying to find houses for my 6 years old an my 8 years old. They don't know nothing about been homeless but they steady asking me mommy are we going every have our on rooms. Only God would know that problem.

With regard to all levels of homelessness in LA, we need to have mental facilities for those who need mental help, drug rehabilitation programs for those who are drug addicted and we need low cost housing for those who are low income and cannot afford housing.

To start people are mostly homeless for several reasons. They are mentally sick, addicted to drugs or alcohol, fallen on hard times, or are using the system to avoid working and subjecting to a responsible life. Second for those who are sick, addicted, or have fallen on hard times need to be helped, put in institutions that are staffed to help them and stop leaving them to find their way on the streets, and treated like animals.

We are wasting money to build housing and then just leaving to their own resources. They need some kind of help or they would not be there. Unless they are there to Flim Flam the public they want to get out of there situation unless they are simply mental ill and don't know what they want.

I seems simple to me that you treat all homeless with care and help them either medically, for mental illness or drug addiction in a staffed institution. For those that can be saved for drug addiction go next to learn a trade and help them find a job.

For those who have fallen on hard times again you help them for temporary housing, and again help them to get back on there feet.

Taxes are used for such a venture and stop wasting money on a budge of stuff that only waist money.

Another thing is you give businesses a tax break if they hire these individuals, and / or have a training program for a period of time of employment. This helps the business and the individuals.

Under no condition can people be allowed to sleep, or house themselves on tax paid property. Not matter whether they like it or not.

Granted this takes time, and I am not saying that low cost housing is another part, but until we build the infrastructure to help them with a place to start for medical help or to get back into society then this problem will never go away.

Now last. What about the people that just want to use the system. Once you find them out, they cannot stay on the streets, parks, or whatever, and if they are arrested for that more than twice they go to jail and it just keeps getting worse until they know the system doesn't help them.

If we can build hospitals over night for Covid-19 why can't we build these institution in a short time and start getting the homeless off the streets, away from drugs, and take care of them properly, so they are not a burden to the tax paying public that wonders why you don't do this in the first place.

Obviously, these institutions have to be properly managed and are graded on how well they do. I believe there are many businesses and individuals that would also help

All families housed in motels MUST be attached to an MHSA provider. The AV has families that have been in motels for over 18 months with no real plan to move onto permanent housing. This is extremely expensive and counterproductive. No one should want to live this way with children. Clearly there is an underlying mental health or trauma issue that must be a barrier to becoming productive or self-sufficient. A condition of extended motel stays should be an exit plan. Currently...there is no mandate for supportive services for families with our CES provider - it is just recommended.

Measure H funds should be spent on specific Measure H strategies and that should include funding to cities and Councils of Governments.

Same as the previous answer.

Very concerned about the lack of funding in this strategy. There seems to be a great deal of focus on housing individuals, but very little focus on the needs of housing families in sustainable housing situation. Additionally, the proportion of funding to the proportion of need is not equivalent. This is not to mention the fact that when a family goes unhoused, this means more individuals are exposed to the traumas of homelessness potentially increase the numbers of homelessness in the future. Data has shown the earlier and more often a child is exposed to homelessness the more likely they will become a homeless youth and thus a homeless adult. By reducing the number of homeless families, ultimately we are reducing the long term impact on the system.

People become homeless when rent or mortgages increase or lose their jobs

Public Comments on Strategy A5: Homeless Prevention Program for Individuals

No one should be allowed to live on sidewalks/public spaces. It should be illegal and after 3 days they are to a) move or b) get picked up and placed in a temporary shelter. Mall tiny living communities with support services can be sustainable.

Although I suffer from mental health, it is good to know that homeless prevention help is here. Some days are very hard for me but being stable is Very Important.

Drugs and mental health are a huge factor we need to consider and preventing drug abuse is key. Also, there are people who want to be homeless and they need to be rehabilitated and reintroduced to normal working society. How do we prevent that? Should there be more social workers reaching out to people experiencing drug abuse, more mental health institutions, more affordable rehabilitation along with career pathways out of drugs/homelessness.

More outreach workers and less bureaucratic positions at LAHSA

I recommend that some funds be initiated to provide subsidized rent for families that are receiving CalWORKs sort of like Section 8 .

I am one of a team of social workers assisting college students experiencing homelessness or housing instability on our campus. We are able to assist some students connect to rapid rehousing through a program on our campus. However, there are many students who simply do not qualify for those supports and find themselves heading toward alternative, often overwhelmed, community based options. It is not unusual for these circumstances to lead to academic instability and/or failure. It would be prudent on us, as a community, to increase prevention options for all people - including our college students and their families. Without resources or with extremely limited resources, often with significant qualifications, our students (and, people in general) are not connecting with much needed support. We simply need more commitment, access and options to offer the people we are supporting. I am encouraged by the programs that are thinking outside of the box, so to speak, around options that had previously not been explored. However, there is great potential beyond even those options.

This program(s) along with structured direction/responsibilities and supervision, etc.

There are thousands of office buildings not being used in part or in whole due to covid. We also know that the majority of office work can be done remotely. This leaves a surplus of empty, now useless space. These offices can provide near immediate shelter for homeless people. Find a way to manage security. Find a way to manage charitable causes for building owners that don't take advantage of the people in need. Perhaps the building owners would also supply security as part of a community benefit package. Even if it's only a few nights to a few weeks - it gets people out of the rain and cold. Families are frequently forced to choose between bills and food. Restaurants and hot food deli's are the biggest contributors to food waste. A program to repurpose these items to hungry families and individuals could aid in taking a burden off of them to possibly keep the roof they already have over their heads.

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Low/No barrier subsidies for rent

I believe that our systems of care, LACDMH, LAHSA, LACDPH, LACDHS need to communicate better w/ one another. Individuals with chronic mental health issues are sometimes "exited" rather quickly due to ongoing mental health symptoms which require more stabilization but are release from shelters before LACDMH can assist and setting up long term mental health care.

I don't see any kind of homeless prevention happening in my neighborhood. As a matter of fact the homelessness has gotten a lot worse since the pandemic. And I'm strictly referring to those dirty drug addict homeless people. Across the street from my house there's some sort of encampment that just keeps growing and no one does anything about it. These homeless people come into the complex that I live and start building their living areas under the steps to our houses. There's heroin needles everywhere broken beer bottles broken glass pipes. I can't even go outside of my house once it gets dark because of fear that I'm gonna be attacked or I'm gonna step on something. I these all these ads claiming homelessness is being addressed but idk where that it happening because it's not happening in Pacoima. All the city government people who make all these laws should take a week or so and look around every single neighborhood in the San Fernando valley and you will see what I'm talking about. Homelessness is getting worse and no one will do anything about it because you guys don't care

Affordable housing and jobs.

The homeless issue is tragic for LA County when we have so many persons without shelter. We need to provide temporary shelter with other wrap around services to address the underlying caused. This includes counseling, substance abuse, education and career planning services.

Another concern is the accumulation of trash, especially in the LA City where makeshift shelters abound. We have a responsibility to maintain an attractive, clean and healthful environment.

Build many more affordable units

We need to begin thinking of home sharing. Many individuals are unable to afford their rent and many others are not making enough income to live here in LA. Home sharing can help both folks stay housed during this time. Both parties help each other stay housed. The county can connect folks in need to folks at risk of losing their housing

Expand section 8 program

It's way cheaper to provide Individuals with Direct Cash Transfers than it is to put on virtually any program. I'd like to see more funding for this intervention, especially for youth experiencing homelessness in LA County. It's a good intervention for people with low to moderately high acuity, and often the fear of recipients using the money on luxury goods never materializes, or it happens so little that it doesn't affect the outcomes/goals of the intervention, which is for people to be able to find stable housing. Direct Cash Transfers needs to be at LEAST \$1,200 a month for up to two years in LA County given the cost of housing here. With optional program supports like case management, people could access services that help them accomplish their long term goals for self sustainability. Honestly, this is the very least we could do for people experiencing homelessness in LA County. The very existence of homelessness indicates that our county has failed its citizens and the only way we get out of this moral and bureaucratic failure is to defund the programs that aren't working and ensure that all programs are structured using homeless voices, specifically LGBTQ+ and BIPOC homeless voices, as guidance and the final word on decisions regarding their ability to survive and thrive.

Thousands of individuals and families face eviction as a result of the downturn in the economy. Now is the time to fund prevention programs and strategies robustly even if it means cutting back on services downstream. Preventing homelessness saves money. I also support a concerted effort to outreach senior citizens who are on the verge of homelessness. They need programs such as long term utility and rental support to remain in housing when their income no longer covers rent and utility increases.

Good idea, but it does not seem to be working well. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and more needs to be done to prevent even more people from becoming homeless.

I work for an organization called SHARE! We house people who are homeless as well as those who are housing-insecure. We place people in collaborative housing where they can get back on their feet, find employment, attend self-help support groups, return to school, and envision and achieve a set of personal goals with our assistance. SHARE! does this without placing restrictions or barriers to who may find housing with us. We don't require identification, there are no credit or background checks, no cash deposits, no criminal history or livescan required. We connect individuals in need with homeowners who have opened their homes and hearts to those who need it most. Funds from Measure H would go a long way to helping more people get housed through SHARE!

Create more communication lines like 24hrs between the various CES Countywide. This would give individuals who can't walk-in the opportunity to utilize the services too by phone. Implement home services to at risk of homelessness

See my answer regarding "prevention for families"

Make it illegal to live, sleep, erect tents, store items, trash,.. on public places and lands, such as sidewalks, streets, beaches,....

I am a big supporter of these programs and strongly believe the idea that, how well the most vulnerable populations are protected and cared for defines a society. Please continue to support and promote programs to help prevent, address, and reduce homelessness in ways that maintain people's dignity. This is especially important for individuals of all backgrounds. Getting help as an individual, especially one male, mentally well person, and youth is wrought with barriers and obstacles, as well as stigma (eg. You're so young and perfectly capable of working, you don't need public assistance. / You don't have any children so you don't qualify for assistance. / You aren't mentally ill so you don't qualify for our program./ You have a job so you do not qualify for assistance, even though you are at risk of being homeless. / etc.). Having robust programs that assist all demographics in need is even more crucial. Many years in college on and off, I lived in my car as it was the only place I could afford to live. I showered at the gym, and spent most of my days at school trying to pass my classes and build a better life. Yet, despite many attempts, I was not qualified to receive assistance. The only option offered was that I could sleep in a shelter. As a young single woman this was especially intimidating. I couldn't even get help with food. Since college, it took a year and a half to find work. I was still living in my car, and trying to find work. If it hadn't been for the VA programs assisting me, I likely would still be there. Yet, given the right kind of assistance, I was able to obtain permanent housing, professional clothing, and transportation if needed. I now make a substantial income working as a chemist for a pharmaceutical company. These programs are just as needed by those on their way toward upward mobility, as those who are the most vulnerable and incapable of full self care. Thanks for listening to my perspective.

I think a big issue is all of the garbage in homeless camps. I recognize that some of the garbage is actually things that the homeless need/want, but a lot of it is just garbage that needs to be recycled/thrown away. The problem is the city is reluctant to throw things away that might be needed.

I think it would be helpful if the city handed out little tags that homeless could put around their things. If they indicate they are using the items this week then it is not thrown away. If the items have not been used for over 1 week, then it is eligible to be thrown away. This will greatly allow more cleanup, which will improve the feelings of the homeless towards the city. And it will empower police and cleaning crews to remove items that are really garbage.

SET UP PROGRAM SITES WITHIN ALL 50 STATES WITH FEDERAL SUPPORT

In conjunction with Federal Government locate excess capacity for social services, jobs and housing from other States.

Recognize acute vs chronic problems and establish long term care for some.

Each Program Center will provide shelter, clothing, self-care facilities, nutrition, medical & psychological & spiritual services, educational and life skills training, assistance with government financial programs, retrieval and centralized saving of important documents, storage facilities, and for RV parks, sewage disposal.

Set up program for young adults transitioning from Foster Care.

Continue support after program graduation for each level of independence, as necessary.

SET PRIORITIES IN PROVIDING RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Funding should recognize the 80/20 Rule with a Triage model that identifies and gives priority to those that can be helped quickly and successfully through existing systems.

80% of people will succeed with 20% of budget and 20% will require 80% of budget.

PROVIDE SAFETY

The safety of staff and residents is a top priority. To insure safety, there needs to be a strong security and medical and social services present at each program site.

• Use National Guard, if necessary until triage sites can be properly staffed.

Establish special on-site conservatorship courts to quickly and compassionately decide least restrictive environment for disruptive persons with jail as a last resort.

Alcohol and illegal drugs are not allowed while on the premise of any facility.

Every homeless person who received at least \$1,000 a month could find shelter and become stable.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

I believe it's vital to have more programs available to men and single individuals, who I feel fall through the cracks in the social safety net more easily.

The same for what I wrote about Homeless Families.

How many incentives and programs do they need?? If there's such a surplus of funding then that money needs to be redistributed to the taxpayers who funded this. I can barely afford my food and bills every month because we pay the highest taxes in the NATION here. Why should our earned money be used so frivolously for all these programs that most of the homeless people don't even want or utilize.

This strategy ultimately provides more resources and opportunities to individuals experiencing homelessness. Then linking these individuals to the specific services that are possibly needed.

I was and am currently homeless for the past 6 years. My experience is priceless and not be given for free, employ me and I can help with this serious issue. The current systems is seriously flawed. At the on set of my journey into homeless, I had a young daughter who is now 21 years of age. This homeless journey cost me my relationship with my daughter. I want to see real change with this crisis, not cute websites that do not hold water against this travesty of what should be a basic human right, housing.

As a Skid Row resident and Black woman displaced here eight (8) years ago, I fall into one of the number one demographics displaced into poverty and homelessness here in Skid Row, Black middle aged to elderly women. We are a prevailing demographic, not just year after year but literally decade after decade. "Unaccompanied Women" is now a demographic and should prioritized. There are systemic biases of inequality that have and should be prioritized for change, this starts with HOUSING.

I would like to comment for more funding and housing development meets in favor of these things

Public Comments on Strategy B1: Provide Subsidized Housing to Homeless Disabled Individuals Pursuing Supplemental Security Income

My plan would include this population as well!

Provide inner city camp grounds for individuals/families to establish a community for people who do not want an inhouse shelter or has barriers to accessing affordable housing like not allowing pets. Provide trash receptacles, out houses, electricity and security.

This is an important strategy to help people experiencing homelessness BUT my loved one lives with severe and debilitating mental illness in subsidized housing and if he were to apply to that same program today. He would be denied housing in favor of a person experiencing homelessness
This strategy will only be just and equitable when there is enough housing and enough supportive services (staff) to include ALL who need this level of support
It is wrong to exclude one to include another
Please include ALL who need supportive housing and services

Shared Recovery Housing provides immediate housing for disabled people including those with mental health and/or substance abuse issues. It costs a fraction of building housing units and uses a resource--single-family houses--that are abundant in Los Angeles as over half of all housing units in Los Angeles are single-family houses and they have a much higher vacancy rate than other rental units. Shared Recovery Housing has been shown to move people off of government benefits and into employment and market-rate housing, thus making way for more homeless people to use the resource. There needs to be specific funding for finding houses, training owners and placing people in Shared Recovery Housing as no dedicated funding exists for these necessary services. Shared Recovery Housing does not require licenses or new conditional use permits or zoning adjustments. It can act as immediate shelter for people pursuing or receiving Social Security income.

Build more affordable units

Housing First strategy does not work as illustrated by the condition of our streets. Build rehab and mental health centers instead

In providing for our disabled is important along with our Vets. In doing a survey or walking with the homeless, most of our homeless population are vets with severe disabilities. We should provide more Subsidized Housing for the elderly, vets, and disabled communities.

Good idea, but it does not seem to be working well. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and more needs to be done to prevent even more people from becoming homeless.

Fund Board and Cares at a minimum of 2000 a month to house individuals waiting for benefits, or those who need congregate living spaces. Invest in and promote use of Adult Residential Facilities.

There's sober, bridge, supportive and independent living options available to house individuals, but our agencies which aren't eligible for licensure are not invited to participate. We are viable agencies who house disabled men and women on ssi, disability and social security. Please have us as part of the conversation. 818-585-7956

I have been trying to help a homeless individual for the past three years. Finally she has received her voucher, but for the past 4 months she has been trying to rent a place but she has been rejected each and every time. Mainly because she does not have a past residence reference, an eviction in her record and naturally a bad credit.

So, securing a voucher is one thing and getting a place is another big hurdle.

my suggestion:

Making it mandatory for the landlords to accept homeless tenants with bad credit and eviction under these conditions:

1-Exception to this mandatory acceptance should apply to the addicted persons. The tenant has to provide drug and alcohol test, government will pay for it.

2- As an incentive for the landlords, in case of any violations of the rules and/ or none payment of the rent, the cost of the eviction should be covered by the government. So, the landlords feel financially secure in renting to such tenants.

not just this particular group, but most homeless worked and contributed to los angeles city or county or somewhere. they require assistance to find their lost documents: SS card, ID card, birth-marriage certificates and divorce and child support orders to determine what legal services they are entitled to besides social services. I also want to comment that it would be helpful to tax payers to see the budget for Measure H. I am concerned that when tax money is in the hands of democrats that they squander it to keep the status quo and the money flowing. it's not my imagination. Please send me information on where I go to see the budget for Measure H. I voted for it. Thank you for this opportunity to speak. I will be following Measure H efforts and hope they really work.

I've been on both sides of the desk. Both as an Assistant Systems Analyst, for EFAHP. A program housing homeless families. Where I had a beautiful office in the State building with a lovely window view overlooking downtown Orlando. This when I worked for the State of Florida 1989-1991. Where I oversaw 13 offices in 9 counties for my district. And oversaw a multi-million dollar budget. At one point I worked with the senior fraud investigator for the State of Florida in developing a path to cross reference data and prevent fraud. Saving the State millions of dollars in lost revenue. An effort that benefited many people. Not only in my district but in the State as a whole. And long after I was no longer working for the program. I left it better than I found it.

And I've been a homeless person seeking assistance here in L.A.

I am currently housed by going through the system here. This is what I've learned and what I have to share with you.

What I see is money being burnt through at breakneck speed for infrastructure for housing the homeless. But pennies being spent on actually housing the homeless. It's just one big industry. I call a spade a spade. And I call bullshit.

My suggestion is this.

Why don't you just take the funding that's available and put it into the current infrastructure that's already built up?

Simply fund Section 8.

Just fund it!

And make the program work better for landlords. The HIP program should be permanent and not just to pilot program. I've watched HUD videos that were on a national scale where landlords got to speak up about their issues. And their issues mainly consisted of one too much paperwork and two lack of recourse when they have a problem tenant. So those two issues need to be addressed. Keep it simple.

There's a 10-year wait list to even be considered. Currently the only way to get assistance from Section 8 is to have a mental health problem. Then you qualify for the DMH HAPP Certificate program. And Shelter+ Care. I should know because that's what I have.

I got my assistance to Didi Hirsch. Of course Didi isn't instructed like some place like Ascencia or LA Family Housing. So I was on my own when it came to actually finding housing that was willing to accept my HCV.

The very best organization helping to house the homeless is without a doubt LA Family Housing.

To get assistance there is not how it should be at all. First off you wait in queue for over a year before they start to assist you. And then they make you jump through hoops for what I hear to be approximately. another 2 years. But only if you have a mental health disability otherwise the grant money is not there and they're not interested. Because that's how the system is structured.

Me personally. I begged LA Family Housing to help me. I literally begged them. I cried and I begged. They told me to go see DMH and come back once I'd handled that. This wasn't from a low-level staffer it was from upper staff. For well over a year I went out of my way to go to all of their Homeless Outreach events that they scheduled once a month in different areas. Each time I went there specifically to get LA Family Housing to help me. Each time I left with no help. You call the intake number it rings and rings and rings. If it goes to voicemail it's either full or you leave a message and they don't call back. You can't go to the door. They don't accept you going to the door. So I'm running around going to their Outreach things asking for help and not getting it. I have no clue how anybody who is really suffering with something like addiction or or a mental health problem that keeps them from advocating for themselves. Could ever possibly get through the system. That's why you have so many people camped out around LA Family Housing. They want in. They desperately want in!

I should know. As I live in an apartment within a block of LA Family Housing at this very moment.

And when I was signed a worker. I didn't even know I was assigned a worker. I found out who my worker was through calling DMH and asking for help and them looking on the computer. So months after doing an intake and finding out who my worker is. I meet with that worker. And I never ever see her again. She doesn't even return my calls. She sends me a lame ass email once a month with some listings for slum apartments near Armstrong Park. Which is a great place to live. If you want to be an addict. Not if you want to come up from being homeless. And certainly not a proper choice for a normal family that just got evicted and is reaching out for help.

What you're currently doing can't keep pace with the problem.

In addition. I think it's rather obvious that building housing to house homeless people is not a financially viable option in this market. What LA has been paying to build is a joke. LA is getting screwed. And they seem to be perfectly okay with it. As long as a Mayor gets re-elected.

Providing Section 8 HCV (housing choice vouchers) to house people in existing rental properties works. It's more cost effective. That is of course if you actually want to house them. If you're more interested in building a big building and having staff work there that provide mental Health Services and blah blah blah. Then you got to build it right? And pay astronomical amounts of money to do so. And fight fight fight all the people in the neighborhood that don't want you to do it there. "NIMBY!" "PUT IT SOMEPLACE ELSE!"

Providing somebody with a housing choice voucher to find an apartment in a building that has a vacancy or somebody's garage apartment. Or a house out in Lancaster where it's more affordable works. And it puts the money back into the community.

That I where the money is coming from to begin with right? I mean it does come from taxpayer dollars right?

Create additional Licensed Adult Residential Facilities and Residential Care for Elderly to provide embedded care including medication management, meals, 24-hour supervision etc. Current Rate of Reimbursement is almost \$36.00 per diem. Many facilities are forced to close because the Rate is unsustainable--especially when compared to the rates paid for shelter beds, Regional Center beds, and Assisted Living beds (same license)

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

Why is this even happening? No one would ever want to see any family member who is disabled on the streets. This is ridiculous. Providing them with a stable home and if needed assistance is what we should be doing for our people. Even providing them with some type of training that could help them with their disability would be great. People with disabilities can accomplish so many great things but how can they when they are on the streets fighting everyday to stay alive. It's always heart breaking to see people on skid row with disabilities homeless. This should not be happening..

Only when they show progress and are willing to get off this subsidy in a period of time. Not sure what that time should be, but it has to have an ending, so the individual knows they have to get off it. Mentally ill people don't get a subsidy they are just cared for.

There must be a better understanding on how the system our helping and not keep individuals who get the help in bondage for a better future.

Our disabled and too often aging population are too often left to fend for themselves in the midst of comorbidity health issues, susceptible and vulnerable to a precarious lifestyle which could and most presumably will include trauma. This only exacerbates the trauma one already endures while challenged by being a demographic who stands a chance of dying twenty to thirty (20-30). years younger. These intersectionalities are a death sentence.
Housing is a human right.

Absolutely and immediately.

Public Comments on Strategy B3: Expand Rapid Rehousing

I think all City and County owned vacant lots and parking lots should be immediately repurposed for sanctioned camping, with sanitation and security provided. This way the encampments will be off the sidewalks and overpasses, people will have access to sanitation and their belongings will be secure. This way homeless people can also stay close to their own neighborhood. They can also receive services and get on waiting lists for permanent housing as more comes online, but at least they will have a safe, secure, CLEAN place to live with some dignity in the meantime. I know this will be expensive, but the human and fiscal cost of this crisis is already too expensive.

The County and Cities have many empty and unused buildings. For instance, the LA County Probation Department oversees 12 closed juvenile camps. I am unsure of all of their condition and locations of these camps, but I would love for the homeless initiative to explore them as options for housing. The CEO's office is reportedly working with probation to repurpose these buildings, but many years have passed without action.

Build a large multi-service center in the wide open spaces of Palmdale/Lancaster that includes housing and relocate every homeless person in Los Angeles County and move them there.

Negative

Build many more affordable housing units

Children, again, are some of the most disadvantaged groups in the homelessness debate. Mainly, they are not considered in the counts because they're not adults. However, when you go to these motels and see single parents with five six and seven kids and one room for months, it kind of seems like rapid rehousing should be more of a priority than it actually is. Once again I feel like landlords need to be coerced to get rid of the unreasonable rent requirements. I feel it transportation agencies should release some of the properties that they are holding on their grounds because they are contributing to a homelessness issue. I am not homeless, but if I give in my 90-day notice, I will be. I don't even question it. I am a minority. There is discrimination against minorities with Section 8 vouchers here in the Antelope Valley. Our elected officials stand up against housing subsidy. They have sown a seed of discourse with the homeless and the rest of the public. In my area, our mayor even suggested that homeowners arm themselves to protect themselves from the homeless. It is a crusade of his. Rapid rehousing would save a lot of children from mental health struggles and potential substance abuse. Rapid rehousing would assist single parents in not suffering for mental health issues in the inability to provide a home for their children. There are a lot of things that could be fixed such as releasing those rental requirements so that people can qualify for housing.

I have seen first hand how RRH is beneficial. How, providing this assistance greatly improves the chances of an individual/family securing housing after going through a program like this. With the tools to learn how to manage and save their money they can thrive in securing a 1st and last deposit. Family Promise of the Verdugos is an exemplary model.

I also believe that something must be done to all the encampments along san fernando rode in sun valley. There are so many individuals struggling there who need assistance, not only in securing housing but in mental health assistance.

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I also believe that something must be done to all the encampments along san fernando rode in sun valley. There are so many individuals struggling there who need assistance, not only in securing housing but in mental health assistance.

Good idea, but I don't see this happening in practice. Malibu has become a mecca for the homeless and people living in cars, RVs, etc. This is creating major health and safety issues and must be addressed. We need more housing for the homeless in the communities where they originate.

Include older adults 55+ who are struggling with life changes like retirement and fix incomes.

Where I understand the need to rapidly re-house, I am unclear on the model of success here. When re-housed and assigned a case manager, to what lengths is this person/people released? Rapid Re-housing does NOTHING if the people housed are not rehabilitated prior to "exiting" the program. Focus more energy there and then be transparent about it.

Seventy percent of Los Angeles County voters approved spending large amounts of their tax dollars to provide housing for the homeless. Clearly they care about the welfare of the homeless and want them to have housing. Yet it is also clear that they don't want that housing in their own neighborhood. Never have I seen homeowners and renters protesting because they can't get housing for the homeless established in their neighborhood. But protests by homeowners and renters against having homeless-housing in their neighborhood are commonplace. Examples are the protests that have taken place in Venice, Korea-Town, and Chatsworth. Many homeowners oppose homeless housing in their neighborhood because they fear it will significantly bring down the value of their homes – in which the majority of their life savings are invested.

I feel that both the interests of the homeless and homeowners and renters should be respected: Housing for the homeless should be built or otherwise established, but not in neighborhoods where the current homeowners and renters oppose it. This, I believe, would exclude most neighborhoods in Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4.

District 5, however, has a land mass greater than the other 4 Districts combined, most of it scarcely populated; and the land value in these areas is generally far less than the land value in the other 4 Districts. I believe homeless housing in these areas would meet far less opposition than in more populated areas.

I would recommend that the County explore the idea of having housing for the homeless in these areas. Large communities composed of small homes or travel-trailers that are heated and air conditioned, with a kitchen, a bathroom, and a living room, could be established in them. Each homeless person could be given exclusive use of such a home, and would, therefore, have both shelter and a degree of privacy. Food, counseling, healthcare, vocational training, and job placement services would be offered to the residents; and there would be common areas in the communities to be used for such purposes as meetings and recreation.

An effort would be made in these communities to prepare the residents to earn an income sufficient for them pay the rent and otherwise provide for themselves anywhere they choose to live in Los Angeles County or outside of it.”

Eugene Pomerantz
13082 Mindanao Way, #36
Del Rey, CA, 90292
818 903 3610

Keep everyone from slipping into the homelessness cycle! Fund more community vouchers and engage more landlords.

educate everyone in the home. How to become a better person how to become a homeowner how to become INDEPENDENT.

There's sober, bridge, supportive and independent living options available to house individuals, but our agencies which aren't eligible for licensure are not invited to participate. We are viable agencies who house disabled men and women on ssi, disability and social security. Please have us as part of the conversation. 818-585-7956

Homelessness is a massive problem, but it is not complex. Rents are too high and single family homes in Southern California are unaffordable for more than 70% of us. Meanwhile wages have not kept pace with inflation and social services have been cut to the bone. Veterans, former convicts, addicts and the mentally ill lack access to basic help. While Prop 13 in 1978 started the process of decline, lack of leadership and vision by politicians such as you accelerated the decline.

The solution is also simple, but very hard: increase the supply of affordable housing, increase wages to match the cost of living in SoCal and expand social services for our marginalized.

One idea is to convert a few urban LA golf courses into housing tracts. A typical 18 hole consists of 150 acres. Each acre can accommodate 20--30 2 bdr apartments. That's over 3,000 units at 3-4 people per unit. I understand that this might upset some of our affluent citizens, but as an example- Palos Verdes Peninsula alone hosts 5 golf courses, I think we can afford to inconvenience them a bit. Especially now that the homeless are now camping on their doorsteps now. Look into it. I have experience in this field.

Another is to incentivize builders to build lower cost houses and multi-storied apartments, such as the housing boom post WWII to house our returning veterans. I grew up in such a project in Wilmington California. While it wasn't a luxurious life, it was good. We had good schools, affordable housing, parks and jobs. A motivated High School graduate could find a job to support him/herself. Now those jobs are leaving. Which is problem #2.

When we allow employers such as Nissan, Toyota and others have fled due to cost of living and onerous regulations, we lose good jobs. Regulations do little good when folks are homeless and hungry

i need more info on this. Who owns this type of housing? the city, county or state or private property owners? how does it work? And, again, where does a tax payer to see the budget for this program? I assume civil service workers are in charge of administration of Measure H funds. Most tax payers want to help end homelessness and we want to see where OUR taxes are going and to whom and for what. Thank you for the opportunity to voice my issues and concerns. Will I be hearing back?
dlgalvan2005@gmail.com

While looking for shop space in many areas, I could not help but notice many seemingly abandoned buildings in LA. I know many are being converted for lofts but many were still available. It seems the cost of building would be avoided if a building were already standing and just needed some refurbishment to the interior...just saying....

To solve the Homeless Crisis, California needs to encourage landlords and developers to construct more housing. Rent Control is NOT the solution to encourage investors to construct more housing. Since AB1482 was shoved down our throats, there are many apartment buildings that are converted to co-OPS or Condos. These housing units are for OWNER OCCUPIED, and not for rentals.

EXPAND HOUSING OPTIONS TO ALL 50 STATES WITH FEDERAL SUPPORT

Those with jobs or with a good prospect of finding a job get priority access to permanent and transitional housing (including car parks) in city centers near transportation & jobs.

Current homeless non-profits should concentrate on transitional housing and skills.

Expand concept of housing:

Include boarding houses with common kitchens and bathroom, independent living with roommates, mobile home parks, RV Parks, etc.

Seek 50 State solution by expanding the search for placement of clients in supportive services, housing and and/or jobs within the entire United States, including moving expenses, especially if there is no current familial or cultural attachment to LA.

• LA is an expensive housing option. There are lower cost areas throughout the United States with large vacancy rates and/or are looking for workers.

• Match placement location to person's current income or family resources.

• Attempt to keep current friendship groups together.

For people who want or need to live in a tent or RV, provide a safe place with services as long as they are participating in a program.

Make a commitment to local neighborhoods that any placement in a community setting will not involve a known or active safety risk or disruptive person.

Subsidize housing for those willing to assist in their home. Specially those who make less than 44000.00 a year they cannot afford a 1 bdr. in L.A. county 1600.00 to 2000.00 a month terrible run away rental prices. Government housing to expensive too built on the same tax payer base. a strategy ASAP needs to be established specially for life long californians.

LAHSA should expand HUD's definition of "homeless" as it is unnecessarily restrictive and creates barriers to foster youth being able to receive necessary housing services. Since Measure H funding are not HUD funds, there is an invaluable opportunity to be more flexible and thoughtful in the use of Measure H funds to serve current and former foster youth; however, to date, LAHSA has relied on the HUD definition of homelessness. The HUD definition of homelessness is used to prioritize the most vulnerable individuals; however, TAY are one of the most unique and vulnerable populations in the County, who need to be granted greater flexibility to receive necessary housing services. Voters intended Measure H funds to be used expansively to end the cycle of homelessness and local funds should not be narrowed to a federal definition of homeless which limits the opportunity to address the needs of local youth.

1.Track and report how many TAY received RRH and their outcomes

Further expand RRH to accommodate approximately 1,000 young adults that will be exiting extended foster care (EFC) on October 1, 2021 (per the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021) – to prevent young adults from entering homelessness this year. Youth in EFC and those preparing to exit EFC need high quality support in navigating the complex web of housing supports and services. Below are a few ideas that can help create an offramp for kids exiting EFC later this year.

1.Implement a pilot program using Project Roomkey as a model

2.Designate Project Homekey sites/rooms specifically for TAY

3.Increase THP-Plus rates according to the local cost of housing and services provided, as the cost of housing has outpaced the growth in the rate.

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The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

This is a wonderful thing for families. Right now with the pandemic a lot of families lost their homes and are struggling to even get food. This is a great idea

Please ensure that individuals do not spend to long without a home to reduce the risk of them losing personal documents, experiencig a medical condition, or losing their general well being in times of hardship.

Why? Are we NOT utilizing more of the unincorporated areas in SPA-1 for housing projects with ADU housing, which is cheaper than traditional building, as well as faster, to decrease our shortage in affordable housing

Expand funding – utilizing potential new federal or state funding as necessary – and ensure that the LAHSA Rapid Rehousing for IPV/DV Survivors is sustained. This program utilizes an Evidence Based Practice model based in Domestic Violence Housing First. Not only does this model end experiences of homelessness, a recent evaluation of Domestic Violence Housing First in California demonstrated that 58% of survivors were able to prevent homelessness through the program.

Expand funding – utilizing potential new federal or state funding as necessary – and ensure that the LAHSA Rapid Rehousing for IPV/DV Survivors is sustained. This program utilizes an Evidence Based Practice model based in Domestic Violence Housing First. Not only does this model end experiences of homelessness, a recent evaluation of Domestic Violence Housing First in California demonstrated that 58% of survivors were able to prevent homelessness through the program.

Per the 9/29/20 County Board motion recognizing the unique needs of unaccompanied women and the mandated 12/28/20 CEO's office report back, set aside funding through Strategy B3 should be contemplated for the rapid rehousing of unaccompanied women.

It is very important for individuals as well as family to get the financial support needed to move in permanent housing. Because of survival not everyone is able to have all monies to move in which will cause a hindrance to go forward with move in.

I am a primary care physician serving the homeless population in SPA2, in clinic as well as part of the E6 outreach program. I am relatively new, but have significant concerns regarding the current performance of several strategies in SPA2. Most of my patients are in SPA2.

In my role there are many opportunities. Many individuals experiencing housing insecurity have complex medical, psychiatric, and/or social needs that require case coordination to prevent entry into or return to homelessness. Overall, it seems that rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing have better returns on investment than shelters and temporary housing. This is supported by a USC literature review (<https://socialinnovation.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Outcomes-Re-Entry-Literature-Review.pdf>).

It often feels we operate in a bubble – with each discipline delivering services on its own without closely communicating with other disciplines – a lack of an integrated approach. This proves especially problematic when homeless individuals are sometimes too functionally impaired to express to us what services they are already receiving. For instance, a patient's medical team would have difficulty in assessing adherence to any mental health treatment plans or in assessing its efficacy. Medical and psychiatric needs are often barriers to entry into permanent housing and are important information when allocating resources. Of course, this fragmentation can lead to a host of other problems. A possible solution would be to clearly-assigned community case/health workers for each individual who would share information among organizations and disciplines. To get individuals into permanent supportive housing coordination is crucial.

In my experience, it seems we do not have a shared list of common resources/contact information for homeless individuals available to all organizations involved in the SPA and county.

In my brief experience in SPA2, I have found many of my patients are staying in shelters or other forms of temporary housing for too long putting them at risk for poor outcomes, return to the streets, and being lost to follow up. My patients in shelters and interim housing are telling me that they are not being assisted with Section 8 or other permanent housing applications. Also, my patients do not seem to be receiving routine assistance in filing SSDI and housing for health applications. Our clinical staff sometimes find ourselves working on social work related tasks to fill the gap with limited capacity to do so.

If my voice really matters, call me 424-302-7057

I FEEL THAT AS A PERSON WITH LIVED EXPERIENCE WITH HOMELESSNESS THESE SERVICES ARE MORE THAN IMPORTANT, IT WITH SAVE SOMEONE 'S LIFE.

I am writing in support and advocacy of preserving and enhancing services for Transition Age Youth. It is imperative that Los Angeles County invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wrap around services, including workforce development and employment programs if we are truly going to be able to stem the growing tide of homelessness that affects our County. We know that the longer a person is homeless, the more chronic and pervasive their homeless situation becomes. By addressing homelessness at its inception, we stand a chance at curbing this wave. We know that most homeless adults indicate that their first episode of homelessness began in their early 20s so it makes fiscal sense to pour resources into this population.

In the face of difficult decisions needed to be made with growing need and shrinking resources, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crises levels. They are:

- Preserving the strategies funded in E7 related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and

Housing Navigation

- Avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems);
- Preserving TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing in Strategy B3;
- Using the additional \$4 million that is being allocated to strategy E14 to prevent cuts to the youth system.
- Continuing to fund Transitional Living Programs that provide stability while youth obtain necessary education/employment skills to successfully live on their own.
- Preserving the funded Access Centers for TAY; and
- Providing funding for mental health services so we can stabilize these young people and have a greater chance at successfully stabilizing them.

We are still in the midst of an unprecedented pandemic event that has not only killed over 20,000 residents of Los Angeles County, but has also devastated our economy. We understand that difficult decisions are ahead in terms of budgets and potential cuts. However, as more and more Angelenos fall into homelessness, now is not the time to cut programs for people experiencing homelessness, especially youth.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wraparound services, including workforce development and employment programs.

We also understand that as there may be cuts, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crisis levels. They are:

- Preserving TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing in Strategy B3. As more youth will experience homelessness as a result of economic hardships brought on by COVID-19, we must continue to create spaces to meet youth where they are at and provide youth-centric services. Rapid Rehousing continues to be an important tool in getting youth permanently housed.
- Preserving the funded Access Centers for TAY; We advocate to continue moving forward with the recently funded access centers for homeless youth. These much needed centers will allow youth serving agencies to target outreach and offer services for homeless youth.

Since 1969, the Los Angeles LGBT Center (Center) has cared for, championed, and celebrated LGBT individuals and families in Los Angeles and beyond. Today the Center's over 800 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world. We offer residential services for youth and seniors, drop-in services for people experiencing homelessness, immigration assistance, meal services, and so much more. Across all our programs, we see over 50,000 clients per month; or, over half a million visits each year. We are also the lead agency for the TAY CES system in SPA 4 and work with a wide variety of coalitions responding to and working towards ending homelessness. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Thank you,
Lisa Phillips
Children, Youth and Family Services Department
Director
Los Angeles LGBT Center

Preserving TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing in Strategy B3;

For Domestic Violence/Sexual Assault/Human Trafficking (DV/SA/HT) victims and survivors, it is essential to expand funding for Rapid ReHousing (RRH) programs; ideally, this could be accomplished by utilizing potential new federal or state funding as necessary to ensure that the LAHSA Rapid Rehousing for IPV/DV Survivors is sustained and expanded. This DV/IPV-specific program utilizes an Evidence Based Practice model based in Domestic Violence Housing First. Not only does this model end experiences of homelessness, a recent evaluation of Domestic Violence Housing First in California demonstrated that 58% of survivors were able to prevent homelessness through the program.

Further, DV/SA/HT resources are structured specifically around confidentiality and safety; arguably, above all and certainly above housing, safety is, in fact, the paramount need that a Victim Service Provider/DV provider meets. As such, the LAHSA RRH for IPV/DV Survivors and other programs in this vein, provide a much-needed alternate access point. Without these programs, a survivor's only way of accessing an RRH program is through the CES, which oftentimes (if not always) asks a victim to sacrifice their cloak of confidentiality (due to entering into HMIS/Clarity and, by proxy, having Personal Identifiable Information in a large, comprehensive database accessed by many housing providers, any of which could be an abuser or be a friend/family member of one, and all of which will know that this person is a DV survivor, upon viewing their profile). Additionally, due to VAWA restrictions and protections around Personal Identifiable Information, Victim Service Providers are prohibited from using a database like HMIS, so they cannot directly administer a RRH program otherwise; this places undue pressure onto the CES, and forces Victim Service Providers to refer there solely to receive RRH assistance.

Victims/survivors are entering into homelessness at varying levels and degrees –which Victim Service Providers are well-practiced at navigating. Sometimes, this means immediate homelessness with absolutely no resources; and sometimes, this means a recovery over a shorter period of time before a victim is able to sustain employment or income. Because DV/SA/HT can vary widely in terms of lethality and the extent of coercive control an abuser exerts, so do victim/survivor needs; however, one thing that unites victims/survivors regardless of their specifics, is that at the time they are leaving an abusive relationship, they have nowhere to go. As such, the survivor experience must be considered throughout the entire spectrum of homeless and housing resources.

An often overlooked subpopulation among the homeless is college students. According to a 2018 report by the Los Angeles Community College District, 1 in 5 students experienced an episode of homelessness within the last 12 months. In response to this crisis, the State allocated funding to create rapid rehousing programs that specifically target college students, however, the funding allocated is woefully insufficient to the need. We recommend building on the existing success of these programs, known as College-Focused Rapid Rehousing, to enable an expansion to a greater number of students. The model has been proven to be successful and strong partnerships are in place between colleges and housing providers that could be leveraged. Access to higher education, whether a vocational certificate, associate degree, bachelor's degree or beyond, is critical to help low-income youth move out of poverty. For low-income students whose academic prospects are already precarious, the experience of homelessness makes college completion unlikely. When these students are supported through successful completion of a degree or certificate program, the likelihood of future homelessness declines. An intervention at this crucial point in the life of a young person can make all the difference in their life trajectory and is therefore an extremely worthwhile investment of County resources.

Further expand RRH to accommodate approximately 1,000 young adults that will be exiting extended foster care (EFC) on October 1, 2021 (per the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021) – to prevent young adults from entering homelessness this year. Youth in EFC and those preparing to exit EFC need high quality support in navigating the complex web of housing supports and services. Below are a few ideas that can help create an offramp for kids exiting EFC later this year.

1. Implement a pilot program using Project Roomkey as a model
2. Designate Project Homekey sites/rooms specifically for TAY
3. Increase THP-Plus rates according to the local cost of housing and services provided, as the cost of housing has outpaced the growth in the rate.

LAHSA should expand HUD’s definition of “homeless” as it is unnecessarily restrictive and creates barriers to foster youth being able to receive necessary housing services. Since Measure H funding are not HUD funds, there is an invaluable opportunity to be more flexible and thoughtful in the use of Measure H funds to serve current and former foster youth; however, to date, LAHSA has relied on the HUD definition of homelessness. The HUD definition of homelessness is used to prioritize the most vulnerable individuals; however, TAY are one of the most unique and vulnerable populations in the County, who need to be granted greater flexibility to receive necessary housing services. Voters intended Measure H funds to be used expansively to end the cycle of homelessness and local funds should not be narrowed to a federal definition of homeless which limits the opportunity to address the needs of local youth.

1. Track and report how many TAY received RRH and their outcomes

Preserve TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing.

Expand funding – utilizing potential new federal or state funding as necessary – and ensure that the LAHSA Rapid Rehousing for DV Survivors is sustained. This program utilizes an Evidence Based Practice model based in Domestic Violence Housing First. Not only does this model end experiences of homelessness, a recent evaluation of Domestic Violence Housing First in California demonstrated that 58% of survivors were able to prevent homelessness through the program.

Currently, our folks due are asked to be placed in shelters that are not accessible to folks. In thinking about how we can utilize funding such as this to add services I believe it is vital to think of how transportation plays a part of this. If folks received an Uber voucher, or even a bus pass with a set monthly stipend for a length of time it would allow for more autonomy of individuals seeking such services. In thinking about rehousing as an issue we must address the issue at hand of lack of rent-control, and also lack of affordable housing options for the mid- to older population. Housing accessibility is a human right, and with the current model renting seems to be the only thing fathomable for our community.

Expand funding utilizing potential new federal or state funding as necessary and ensure that LAHSA Rapid Rehousing for IPV/DV survivors is sustained. This program utilizes an Evidence Based practice model based in Domestic Violence Housing First. Not only does this model and experiences of homelessness, a recent evaluation of Domestic Violence Housing First in California demonstrated that 58% of survivors were able to prevent homelessness through the program.

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1. Track and report how many TAY received RRH and their outcomes
2. Further expand RRH to accommodate approximately 1,000 young adults that will be exiting extended foster care (EFC) on October 1, 2021 (per the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021) – to prevent young adults from entering homelessness this year. Youth in EFC and those preparing to exit EFC need high quality support in navigating the complex web of housing supports and services. Below are a few ideas that can help create an offramp for kids exiting EFC later this year.

1. Implement a pilot program using Project Roomkey as a model
2. Designate Project Homekey sites/rooms specifically for TAY
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1. Track and report how many TAY received RRH and their outcomes

4. Further expand RRH to accommodate approximately 1,000 young adults who will be exiting extended foster care (EFC) on October 1, 2021 (per the Consolidated Appropriations Act 2021) – to prevent young adults from entering homelessness this year. Youth in EFC and those preparing to exit EFC need high quality support in navigating the complex web of housing supports and services as they transition from EFC to independence. Below are ideas that can help create an offramp for kids exiting EFC later this year.

1. Implement a pilot program using Project Roomkey as a model

2. Designate Project Homekey sites/rooms specifically for TAY

3. Increase THP-Plus rates according to the local cost of housing and services provided, as the cost of housing has outpaced the growth in the rate.

Public Comments on Strategy B4: Facilitate Utilization of Federal Housing Subsidies

Please assign a working group to answering the hard question: "If we cannot succeed by strictly trying to house everyone in LA County, where else (geographically) can we house them?" The difficult and painful truth is that LA is extremely costly; qualified construction labor is very tight; permits are very hard to come by; and NIMBY is extraordinarily powerful in LA. This effort to house the homeless is not going well. Be real about the failures and weaknesses. WE MUST LOOK OUTSIDE LOS ANGELES for some solutions. It's much less costly; the regulations are much easier; and there is much less NIMBYism to deal with. Not every homeless Angelino can stay in LA. Not any more than every homeless individual can stay in Manhattan. We must find the honesty, compassion, courage and wisdom to look beyond LA to solve LA's homelessness problem.

Yes..cut government red tape and bureaucracy

Take federal funds and build high capacity Shelters/ pharmacies/mental health centers. Do this for no more than 20k per room away from residential areas. Remove homeless from streets and put into these rehab shelters. No questions. No option to stay on street. Get these people off street and well.

Use empty cargo freight boxes as temporary or permanent housing units like they're doing in Japan.

Landlords who hinder or slow down this process in any way should be penalized by not being allowed to rent to ANYone.

Good idea, but it I don't see this in practice. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and tent cities and illegal encampments are everywhere in LA County. It looks like a third world country.

Section 8 housing on the Westside is hard to come by. Our organization offered to accept it, but it is required that tenants not use substances. Section 8 housing rules prohibit the requirement of staying sober, but there are homeless individuals that don't use substances, or may elect to live in a sober environment. I encourage you to consider sober living as a way to house more homeless who wish to live in a sober environment with others like them.

There's sober, bridge, supportive and independent living options available to house individuals, but our agencies which aren't eligible for licensure are not invited to participate. We are viable agencies who house disabled men and women on ssi, disability and social security. Please have us as part of the conversation. 818-585-7956

We have been seeing people who were previously housed in Sect 8 apartments fall into homelessness because of budget cuts to housing agencies. Can this be helped?

2) Are MHSA funds being used for housing? I am hearing many complaints from clients with Serious Mental Illness that the application process to apply for housing voucher, obtain a housing voucher, locate all of the many many many documents required by HACLA, sitting and waiting for promised call-backs that never come, and the threat of losing a promised apartment or expiration of the voucher is both laborious to navigate and increases rehospitalization of previously stable mental health clients. The Increased Anxiety of the constant waiting is often overwhelming.

If MHSA funds are being used, is there a special Navigator position within DMH to help shepherd this process? Communication between the Housing Organizations and the Client Organizations need to be Improved.

SET PRIOROTIES IN PROVIDING RESOURCES AND SERVICES

Funding should recognize the 80/20 Rule with a Triage model that identifies and gives priority to those that can be helped quickly and successfully through existing systems.

80% of people will succeed with 20% of budget and 20% will require 80% of budget.

needs to be done Building Housing cost to high.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

Low cost housing is OK, but not in rich neighborhoods. Causing developers to put up 20 to 50% of their project is nuts. They can contribute to Low Cost developments. Low income individuals cannot afford to live in rich neighborhoods. They want to live together in areas they can afford.

Absolutely and immediately.

Public Comments on Strategy B6: Family Reunification Housing Subsidies

Hi there, I'm the founder of Miracle Messages. We help people experiencing homelessness rebuild their social support systems, primarily through family reunification services, a phone-based buddy system, and \$500/month direct cash transfers. I'd love to offer our services throughout LA to help end relational poverty on the streets. For family reunifications, we have a network of volunteer "digital detectives" that help make phone calls, write letters, and locate loved ones.

More information below. This is a very low cost, high impact intervention that is grossly under-utilized nationwide. Would love to make LA a model together for ending relational poverty among the unhoused.

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Miracle Messages is an award-winning nonprofit organization that rebuilds social support systems for our unhoused neighbors, primarily through family reunification services, a phone-based buddy system, and direct cash transfers.

Reunion services: A person experiencing homelessness records a message to a loved one (or vice versa). Then, our network of volunteer "digital detectives" attempt to locate the loved one and deliver the message. To date, we've reunited 400+ families (average time separated: 15 years), with 15% of reunions resulting in stable housing and 80% in a positive outcome.

Buddy system: Miracle Friends is a first-of-its-kind phone-based buddy system for people isolated by homelessness. Miracle Friends has matched 130+ unhoused neighbors with trained volunteers for weekly phone calls and texts, in partnership with 20+ service providers in five counties in CA, AZ, and FL. Volunteers are welcomed to apply from anywhere in the world.

Direct cash transfers: Miracle Money is a direct cash transfer program for people experiencing homelessness in the United States. Beginning in January 2021, an initial pilot of 12 unhoused participants in Miracle Friends will receive \$500/month for six months.

Miracle Messages offers a humane and effective way to help end homelessness: strengthen social supports, shatter stigmas, and empower people everywhere to get involved. Our work has been featured in the New York Times, Washington Post, SF Chronicle, CNN, in an essay by President Bush, in a TED talk, and hundreds more. We are on a mission to end relational poverty on the streets, and in the process, inspire people to embrace their unhoused neighbors not as problems to be solved, but as people to be loved.

Use funds to build more public housing..

This is also a strategy that should be easy to get on board with given that the execution is done well, followed through and backed by success stories! a recurring theme I see in all these strategies is case management. That is so broad I hope that it entails numerous people and disciplines, like mental health, addiction treatment and financial literacy.

county sheriffs are lousy at returning call or answering for support services for re-entry
their budget needs to be cut and private agency established for newly re-leased its time.

Maximize FUP and expand its use to youth ages 18 to 24 who have exited or will exit EFC within 90 days
o Youth ages 21-24 who have exited foster care only qualify for Transitional Housing Program – Plus (THP+) — of which there are less than 197 beds to provide housing for the more than 2,300 former foster youth who are between the ages of 21 to 24 at any given time in Los Angeles County.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

Placement has it good, bad and the ugly. Family are important to a child growing up in a system design to hold them back. At least with a unit family are able to navigated to happiness together without all of the red string attach.

Absolutely and immediately.

It is incredibly traumatizing for children to be taken away from their parents and be placed in the foster system. I've seen many cases of these youth running away from their placements and choosing homelessness instead. Parents need supportive services that help them not only obtain housing, but find ways of retaining it. Workforce development, substance abuse counseling, family planning, and healthy relationship building to name a few.

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Public Comments on Strategy B7: Interim/Bridge Housing for Those Exiting Institutions

There should be a sturdy foundation laid down before exiting them from jails, hospitals, foster care, ect... Create the in-reach that consists of classes that are at least 3 consecutive sessions of what they are going to expect, what is expected of them, and what to do after interim/bridge housing is up. It makes no sense to have people in the streets who can't take care of themselves. There are literally people laying in the streets on every single corners in so many parts of LA. It's so dangerous. If they cannot care for themselves then they should be in long term care hospitals where they can at least stay sober and out of harms way.

As an individual that has survived the exiting of the Institutionalized system of detainment; I have an ideal that would greatly improved the lives of my clients and others when transitioning back into the community. They are many vacant lots around the county to build affordable placement dwelling with a great plan to house individuals. I have a plan of my own that I will be looking for funding to implement and would love to discuss with someone.

Jobs / Affordable housing

This is an important way to help people prepare for housing

The amount of money spent on these projects are outrageous. What we are spending on units we could buy a beautiful home. Tiny houses. Tiny spaces. Cheaper . Get more for less. Stop lining politicians and their friends pickets!!!

Tented parking lots for camping run by the city with services and safety, dormitories with multiple bunks per room

Clean up Venice beach and Santa Monica! It is a disgrace how you have all let the homeless run rampant for years. We pay too much in taxes to have this issue continue to grow with no solution in site. Revive the Mental institutions, put them in rehab or move them out to a place where they can't continue to harm the community. We have had enough

Good idea and important effort, but must be done with safety of other residents in mind.

We shouldn't need more if the other people who "shouldn't be homeless" weren't. In other words, when those other strategies worked, bridge housing for ex cons, foster care, hospitals etc., would be available. This should be a smaller group in the current homeless demographic.

Fund more transitional facilities, adult residential facilities (with services attached) and promote these as a source of housing on the continuum-either a step down from PSH or a transition to PSH. Invest in training ARF operators to become advocates and effective whole person care coordinators in the system.

Bridge housing is a proven effective tool under SAPC. However, due to lack of funds, we cannot expand this option for those completing a SUD program. This funding should be expanded to allow organizations such as ours, to offer additional RBH beds to those that need it. Currently we are the only ones offering this service on the Westside, and we could easily double our capacity if provided funding.

There's sober, bridge, supportive and independent living options available to house individuals, but our agencies which aren't eligible for licensure are not invited to participate. We are viable agencies who house disabled men and women on ssi, disability and social security. Please have us as part of the conversation. 818-585-7956

I would like to see this money used to provide a purposeful and long term resource for these individuals.

I currently work for the Dept. of Mental Health assisting client exit from locked facilities who continues to be lost in the system after discharge. I have an ideal that if implemented may help with stopping the cycle of return or at least slow cycle down. This will work for many other programs and provide continued care to recovery.

omgosh - yes.

Increase the number of ARF's and RCFE's which would increase stability during this transition period.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

Interim housing works. It's a way to get people housed and able to live a more productive life. As a case manager who works at a housing site that works with the forensic population have seen first hand how this has helped many of my clients. I was able to give them the tools to be able to live independent as well as linking with jobs that when they are done from the 2 year program they will be able to go into their own apartment and still be able to receive wrap around services.

Depends on how it works.

Utilizing unincorporated areas, allow a stress free, less threatening environment, as well as allow implication for services, and enrichment enhancement without environmental barriers.

I am a primary care physician serving the homeless population in SPA2, in clinic as well as part of the E6 outreach program. I am relatively new, but have significant concerns regarding the current performance of several strategies in SPA2. Most of my patients are in SPA2.

As mentioned in my response to Strategy E6 and Strategy B3, it seems that rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing have better returns on investment than shelters and temporary housing. This is supported by a USC literature review (<https://socialinnovation.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Outcomes-Re-Entry-Literature-Review.pdf>). In my experience, this can be for a multiplicity of reasons.

Shelters and interim housing function as cover from the environment. Perhaps, more importantly they are stepping stones to permanent supportive housing. However, this can only occur with proactive rapid rehousing programs; otherwise, these clients end up back on the street or suffer other poor outcomes.

The shelters and other close congregate settings have a variety of drawbacks that, for some, deter them from participation in the homeless system. The most common concern is that they do not do well in crowds. There are real safety concerns. And perhaps most concerning from a medical perspective, drugs are distributed freely among some individuals. I had a patient who upon leaving a motel and entering a shelter, ended up rapidly developing heart failure due to increased substance use from the peer pressure of the environment. She was prior to this without chronic conditions; however after being in the shelter for only a few months, required a 1 week hospitalization. Innovative solutions would need to be trialed – outcomes would need to be measured in attempt to mitigate some of these concerns. Nevertheless, I would not propose shelters or interim housing having preconditions.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in more workforce development and employment programs. We urge LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. The economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

WOMEN'S BRIDGE HOME LAUNCHED BY MAYOR ERIC GARCETTI.

Public Comments on Strategy C2/C7: Increase Employment for Homeless Adults

We need more programs like this to help us become self sufficient because of the stigmas we face from getting public assistance.

The bottom line is that you have drug rehabilitation issues and employment issues contributing to homelessness. For those able to work, we should be able to provide them with jobs and assist them temporarily while they get back on their feet. Another idea is to work with a growing state in need of human resources and potentially relocate people willing and able to work and place them in areas where work is plentiful. You have to evaluate the type of work available in California/career pathways and realize only some of the jobs are required here while other states may need the human resources.

pay homeless to help cleaning the streets and the neighborhood. the amount of trash around the city is out of control, and allowing homeless to help and getting paid could help to keep them busy, make some money and keep the city clean

There is a job for everyone. Instead of just giving, giving, giving and the people just take take take we should be more equitable and provide them with jobs. With all the incentives there are to be homeless now adays, the problem is only growing worse. And we need to bring property valus down already. The homeless problem starts there! So instead of allowing investors to buy neighborhoods at a time, we need to increase the incentive to work such as: "hey we aren't just going to give you a roof over your head", but we are going to make it so you can buy your own home and we will help you every step of the way, IF! you are willing to work. It is so sad that homeless advocates and people of that sort actually demonize working or asking people with disabilities to work. First of all, many of them are only disabled because they are on drugs. Get them jobs that don't require them to be sober. Pay them to paint over grafitti all day, or pick up trash, or sleep/use the bathroom somewhere other than a sidewalk. Don't reward them for doing nothing. This is learned behaviors. You don't have to classify them as employee for liability reasons, but you can give them "daily chores". And please please please donot leave exclude the working class people who happen to be housed from the equasion. This is the group next in line for being at risk for homelessness but they keep fighting and they keep working.

Blessed Straight, Inc. Mission Statement

A Christian Missionary Academy for the homeless and disadvantaged that provides meals and living quarters over a 13-month period (or 18 month period if the enrollee requires remedial training) and/or additional guidance. A safe environment promoting, harmony, kindness, love, and self-improvement from a Bible based curriculum, which includes but not limited to:

- Spelling/reading comprehension
- Math
- Music
- Hygiene principles/structure
- Wellness/fitness classes

Blessed Straight will offer apprentice workshops/programs, instruction for service oriented skilled positions (auto repair, carpentry, cooks/food service, construction, customer service, electricians, landscaping security, plumbers) etc.

Additionally, Blessed Straight will offer through its network;

- Mental health evaluation and counseling
- Gainful employment
- Permanent housing
- Private transportation (vehicle ownership) for the participants once they graduate from the program.

Until the company procures a permanent brick and mortar location, sleeping bags, paid for meals, monetary support and clothes when available will be distributed to the homeless and disadvantaged community.

<p>There is a ton of litter everywhere. While extreme mental health issues are not the only reason for homelessness, offering payout to able bodied homeless for litter collection would benefit them, the community, and our local government. People of all ages who are flee from abusive homes are some of the highest risk of becoming prey to human trafficking as they're already conditioned. This would benefit them as well by providing a reduced need to rely on potentially dangerous individuals or groups.</p>
<p>There is a ton of litter everywhere. While extreme mental health issues are not the only reason for homelessness, offering payout to able bodied homeless for litter collection would benefit them, the community, and our local government. People of all ages who are flee from abusive homes are some of the highest risk of becoming prey to human trafficking as they're already conditioned. This would benefit them as well by providing a reduced need to rely on potentially dangerous individuals or groups.</p>
<p>Employer reimbursement vouchers for individuals employed who are in the CES</p>
<p>On a basis level, in order for someone to be able to even be considered for a job interview or be able to keep their employment they need to be able to have access to clean clothes, hygiene products and showers. There is a growing gap in places that have all of these items available at the same location. Additionally access to clean clothes that are the right fit, style and appropriate for a person's needs is even harder to come by. The only organization doing this as a mobile service and in a dignity, humane and safe way is Project Ropa. They work in tandem with mobile showers to make sure that people in need have the opportunity for a complete refresh. They also provide employment opportunities for people transitioning out of homelessness as well as previously incarcerated individuals.</p>
<p>After finding permanent housing for an adult, I think there should be a program that immediately hires them to do something in the so many depts within the county of LA. If that means keeping squad cars washed, keeping windows clean at bldgs, monitoring parking lots and structures, working in cafeteria facilities and not just to these limits. Homelessness affects people with college degrees as well as those who do not. Place people where they fit. You have county workers that half ass do their jobs and really dont care about the people. Give these ppl a chance without telling them they dont have skills or putting them on 12 month waiting list. I see 3-4 jobs within my dept that really doesn't seem that a person would need a degree to do.</p>
<p>Income and Housing are inextricably linked. An individual simply cannot sustain housing, long-term without an income. Too much of the housing solution is focused on housing and very little on income. We have been executing housing first for years and we have only seen an increase in homelessness, even before the pandemic, homelessness in LA was getting worse. Having a job will also gives homeless individuals a sense of dignity and hope. The County should partner with more employment focused nonprofits in addition to their housing partners. Together, with the necessary wrap-around services we can begin to end individual homelessness. What we have been doing is not working, it is time to try something new.</p>
<p>Most of the homeless might have been out of the job market for awhile, and job training might be the first step in getting them back into the job market.</p>
<p>I believe that opportunities for employment should be provided and not just offering a job opening. Teenagers, Adults, Families that find themselves homeless might not have the necessary skill to find or retain a job. Yes, we would like for all of us to have jobs and have money to pay for rent, food, clothing, health, transportation, etc. but sometimes the skill needed is not there. We need to offer training for jobs not just training for learning a skill but to keep that job via communication, understanding, culture and learn from that experience, support with additional training to grow for better job opportunities; climb up the ladder if you will. Unfortunately, it will require a lot of hand holding and follow up with each individual/family and time and funds need to be invested in; sort of like a life plan and letting that individual or family know that they are not alone and that it is a process that will take time to learn for a better life.</p>
<p>meekism.com. We're handing out gig-jobs to homeless people today. We're currently in beta but the app is live. With a chunk of funding from your LA area initiative, we can use location software to ensure every dollar donated for your mission in LA is supported. It's time to merge the gig-economy with the charity economy. In my humble opinion, this is the primary strategy.</p>
<p>Make these people work. They need to be accountable. There needs to be consequences</p>

<p>Increasing employment would cut down a lot of homelessness. The only problem with providing employment are criminal records, substance abuse, and the mentally ill. Placement is very hard due to the fear of individuals that are not willing to employ. We need to find out the capabilities of each these individuals and create jobs that would benefit our society.</p>
<p>Good idea, but it I don't see this in practice. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and tent cities and illegal encampments are everywhere in LA County. It looks like a third world country.</p>
<p>It's a good idea. But too vague. What is the difference here versus the employment office?</p>
<p>Invest in social enterprise, urban food production, housing construction jobs for homeless!</p>
<p>Provide stable, semi-permanent (safe/clean) housing with personal privacy, help preparing for employment, employment search assistance, and food to the unemployed homeless. Collaborate with other organizations to increase homeless employment opportunities, and possibly internships, job training programs, or otherwise. These programs should also be flexible and available for those employed with jobs which do not pay enough to live. Flexible programs and/or program hours will help address the underlying issue for many that do have work, but cannot make enough money at their present jobs to live and/or maintain a living.</p>
<p>house them and make them work so they can have a Independent Income Individual habit and make a mandatory cleaning habit have them register to vote and do jury duty they have to comply in everything an individual would do without being homeless...</p>
<p>Our agencies also provide jobs for high functioning men and women in a residential setting.</p>
<p>Hello, I would like to inquire on what is being done to reach out to homeless adult men to encourage those that are in the streets to obtain substance abuse treatment and then jobs. There are many men pan-handling in the cities of Hawaiian Gardens, Long Beach, Bellflower, Downey, South Gate, Whittier, Santa Fe Springs and reporting each one individually is a process that rarely produces results. They just move from one area to another and are often dangerous to themselves and others. Since the State of California has large parcels of land that it acquired for the bullet train, what can be done to give these homeless individuals purpose and a pay check and incorporate them in the solution, after they obtain necessary substance abuse treatment? I am tired of seeing free money with no strings attached and no long term incentive to get a job, contribute and help society pay for their needs.</p>
<p>Helping people get jobs is good but they also need help stay out of drugs and alcohol and a more severe punishment for those that sell drugs to homeless individuals</p>
<p>with democrats pushing 15.00 min wage it will be harder for employers to keep workers and will be harder for those looking for work. that's just for wages at 28K a year. the wage increase does not count for all the city, county, state and fed taxes and training and equipment costs for EACH employee + all important health and employee benefits, supplies, utilities, furniture, rents/mortgage on warehouses and office buildings, property taxes...this will be a tough one for those who need it most. democrats just push agendas with no thought to the total costs of what they're proposing. Their hearts are in the right place, but they don't think about how tax payers who support their 'whims' are supposed to get along. We work for our families, too. thank you for the opportunity to speak. dgalvan2005@gmail.com</p>
<p>I am an Orthodontic Assistant with 21 years of experience. I have 5 children and a husband with mental health. With that been said, life has been a financial struggle that led to homeless. I am head of household earning a decent pay but with the outrageous high rent in L.A and the credit restrictions we have been living in and out of hotels the past 5 years leaving nothing to show for. I personally would train the homeless in my feld and provide job placement to secure financial stability that would pay off in their luelihoods. Eventually the streets of L A would be clean off giving the opportunity for a better tomorrow in preventing that this downfall occurs again..</p>

EXPAND EMPLOYMENT OPTIONS TO ALL 50 STATES WITH FEDERAL SUPPORT

Those with jobs or with a good prospect of finding a job get priority access to permanent and transitional housing (including car parks) in city centers near transportation & jobs.

Current homeless non-profits should concentrate on transitional housing and skills.

Seek 50 State solution by expanding the search for placement of clients in supportive services, housing and and/or jobs within the entire United States, including moving expenses, especially if there is no current familial or cultural attachment to LA.

work with franchised owners in hiring homeless adults

1) Many homeless individuals require training/retraining for employment. However, many of the training programs provide small stipends for the client's participation. While this is great on the surface, the stipends are considered income and the client's face cuts in their GR benefits when they participate in such programs. An example of this is the employment training program offered by Mental Health America with additional funds for the client coming from the Department of Rehabilitation.

I would like to suggest that the client's receive a waiver so that the additional income (stipend) can be combined with their public benefits to increase the small monthly income they receive from public benefits. I believe that client participation would increase with this effort and improve their chances for employment.

2) Another suggestion I have would be to allow homeless individuals, linked to agencies and services, be provided cash assistance/stipends for desert/street clean up and graffiti paint over. Many of the abandoned and current encampments are filled with trash and waste which present a health hazard to the community as a whole, contribute to neighborhood blight, and lowered property values. Developing a clean-up program, which would pay daily/weekly by debit card would allow homeless individuals to feel invested in the communities where they reside, provide opportunities to build and strengthen their self-esteem, increase their ability to purchase self-care items such as hygiene products, pay for a night in a motel, stimulate the local economies, while investing in the dignity and self-worth of homeless individuals. This would also free-up city maintenance crews to focus on higher priority jobs and address public concerns. I also think that it would improve public perceptions of "who" the homeless really are.

Programs similar to this have been initiated in other states and have been shown to be effective.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

I have seen some clients who would sleep all day. But with the proper training for employment they are now able to keep a job and work full time and love it. For many its been the first time ever having a job.

Yes. Give businesses breaks to do so. We seem to let people in from Mexico. What about our own people?

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in more workforce development and employment programs. We urge LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. The economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. We are very interested in also having a focus in getting system impacted youth 18-25 into the workforce. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

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Increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs. The pandemic has disproportionately impacted the employment and earnings of women, specifically Black women, Latinas, and Indigenous women, who historically earn far less than men or white women. Absent stable and reliable income, we can expect to see an even sharper rise in homelessness amongst women in Los Angeles. Even amidst the challenges posed by the pandemic with regards to physical distancing and virtual engagement, DWC was still able to support 23 women with job training through our social enterprise, MADE by DWC. With programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in more workforce development and employment programs. We urge LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. The economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

Are there ways to increase social service jobs and careers that will directly improve conditions for unhoused community members and build their leadership? i.e. case managers, cooks, etc for programs like PATH and Downtown Women's Center.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in more workforce development and employment programs. The Center for Employment Opportunities (CEO) LA office provides employment and training exclusively to people returning home from incarceration. The reentry population is among the most vulnerable of low-income workers and heavily represented by Black, Latinx and people of color who experience stigma from a criminal conviction and often experience racial and socio-economic bias in the job market. Many are returning home to low-income communities in LA that have been disproportionately impacted by the pandemic with high unemployment rates, high rates of homelessness and high rates of COVID-19 transmission and hospitalization. CEO urges LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. The economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

It is critical that Measure H resources continue to fund employment services for those experiencing homelessness. We strongly encourage that programs like LA:RISE continue under Measure H funding. In fact, we would advocate for an increased investment in employment strategies such as LA:RISE.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in more workforce development services. We urge LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year.

The economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in more workforce development and employment programs. We urge LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. The funding LA:RISE receives is critical to Los Angeles County's initiatives to tackle homelessness. Additionally, the economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

In LA County Black folks are roughly 8-9% of the overall population, yet, approximately forty to forty-five percent are living in poverty to homelessness. Systemic inequities are systematically playing a role in our displacement and overall quality of life. Too often we are the last one hired, first one fired and challenged by being profiled through pre-employment applications, behavioral testing and background checks. This while our income ratio to white counterparts is significantly lower. Going back to Reconstruction, Jim Crow Laws and Redlining, for generations we have historically been set up to fail all while being blamed for not "pulling ourselves up by our bootstraps". At what point is there not institutional accountability?! It is time to step up and address the inequities plaguing our employment development system which has harshly judged particularly vulnerable people, such as myself, causing me long term trauma.

Los Angeles County is making progress, so now is the time to invest in more workforce development and employment programs. JVS SoCal urges LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. As you know, the economic recovery from this pandemic will not be simple, but with impactful programs like LA:RISE, we can get people back to work, rebuild the infrastructure of our communities, and prevent a further escalation of the homelessness crisis we faced pre-pandemic. Let's envision a community in which everyone has the opportunity to work and thrive.

We strongly urge LA County to increase funding for employment services, job creation, and the Los Angeles: Regional Initiative for Social Enterprise (LA:RISE) County and City programs, in the Measure H funding recommendations for the coming fiscal year. LA:RISE is an existing, proven model that creates pathways to employment and economic mobility for our communities, in particular for our neighbors without homes and justice involved individuals. The pandemic has further exposed economic security, safety, and housing challenges across so many of our communities. LA:RISE, in partnership with robust housing and social services creates a pathway to an inclusive economy and communities in which everyone works and thrives.

Public Comments on Strategy C4/C5/C6: Countywide Supplemental Security/Social Security Disability Income and Veterans Advocacy Benefits

I've seen how these agency misappropriate funds designed to help people get SSI/SSDI/VA benefits. It is a waste of money. There is a disconnect between these providers and their jobs. You do not need 18 months of appointments to tell the applicant they don't qualify for assistance to apply for benefits. No one can make the decision that a person does not qualify for SSI besides the social security department. More money should be allocated in teaching and promoting competency and ability. Too many lazy drug addict abuse the system and get SSI and never try to better themselves. Instead of allowing people not say they can't work and then incentivizing them not to work by giving them \$1000 a month, rent free space, and the green light to change it to a levels system where they have to participate in showing up for groups, classes, or work activities that are assigned to them. Anybody who is mentally disable should be given a conservator and payee. Maybe start that advocacy.

If we hand people opportunity we can create a market of expectation. I would like this to be a nation-wide effort, but willing to expand our beta phase to include county funding and impact analysis. What I'm speaking about here is real and new, no one has done it before. We're delivering words of encouragement and cash to people living on the street in an effort to hand people economic independence and the belief things are getting better. Thanks

Many disabled citizens of the Antelope Valley did not receive stimulus payments if they did not work. This did not mean that they did not have households to support. The DPSS office figures and social security income with food stamp benefits so people are becoming ineligible. I received SSI and I cannot get assistance with my rent because I'm on Section 8 during a pandemic. There is no assistance for me at all. So I know that someone who is unable to speak up for themselves is having more of a problem. This needs to be looked at there needs to be more benefit for those who are disabled, including helping them find work so that they can improve their station.

I applaud the VA for housing vets on its grounds and working to bring them back into the workforce, etc.

These are essential to the well-being and upward mobility of a multitude of our community members.

Many cases are lost because the county system does not provide for some of the documents that are necessary to win these cases. The County System (DMH, DHS, etc) needs to have the capacity to provide psychological testing and report, Vocational Assessment and report as a part of the documents to be submitted to Social Security, especially if there's a hearing scheduled. This is where many cases are being lost.

CONSIDER DAILY FEES AS ADDITIONAL FUNDING SOURCE

- Every program should lead with compassion with expectation that each homeless person has a corresponding responsibility to be an active partner in the solution.
- In exchange for shelter, food and medical services all clients with a steady income will pay a sliding-scale daily fee.
- After 90 days, if a person receives any source of income, including SSI, Social Security, Insurance, VA Benefits, work, etc., set up a Direct Deposit Conservatorship for those funds while a person is in Triage, hospital, or a program.
- In exchange, provide moving expenses and costs of new clothes and housing set-up.
- Maintain limited Conservatorship to pay housing and utilities post transitional housing.
- Refund a small stipend to a debit card for attending program classes re life skills.
- Establish work training opportunities that provide services to program centers.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

This is great and is needed to help our veterans and people with disabilities.

I am a primary care physician serving the homeless population in SPA2, in clinic as well as part of the E6 outreach program. I am relatively new, but have significant concerns regarding the current performance of several strategies in SPA2. Most of my patients are in SPA2.

As in my response for Strategy B3, these resources need to be known and utilized by all participating organizations. My organization was somewhat acquainted with this resource in SPA2, but many members within the organization including myself have only recently learned of the program. Efforts should be made to bring important information and resources to outreach workers and providers who work with the homeless and to provide reminders to utilize and refer to such resources.

SSI and SSDI are set up to create the systematic inequality which plaques those most at risk. The system paralyzes and contributes to the perpetual trauma of vulnerable people who simply want a quality of life and deserves as much given their circumstances. You cannot blame people for not “pulling themselves up by their bootstraps” while cutting off their boots through penalization and threats of criminalization. We can no longer talk about equality and empowerment while continuing to enforce inequities.

Public Comments on Strategy D2: Jail In-Reach

This just needs better vetting. The program is amazing, but the selection of clients is not good. Consider prioritizing the selection of first time offenders, proven record of homelessness, create a bridgeway that client have to complete in jail before they get out. So while they are still incarcerated (and sober!) someone goes inside and does a few weeks of classes on the program, the requirements, and what they need to do every step of the way. The providers can't do the internal work for them and if the client is not engaged and into doing the footwork like staying sober, increasing their life skills, identifying the medication that works for them and participating in therapy...then....it still won't work out.

Increase funding to agencies like project 180 that supports reentry

I have many ideas about criminal justice reform. Let's start with including the victim's voice post conviction. Every whole (personhood) identified victim of a crime should hold the absolute authority to overturn a conviction.

get them out, get them support, get them housed!~

Living in Long Beach, I think this strategy is so important because so many of the homeless in my particular area are young and sadly, they are a criminal element beyond the fact of being homeless.

Many seem of an age where some type of intervention or hopefulness will go along way in reducing the need to burglarize and physically harm other citizens. Some type of work and education program similar to The Mission in downtown Los Angeles?

I would like to know what is being done to help people who are in jail obtain job training that will help them contribute to society and avoid homelessness once they are out. Practical skills, construction, welding, electrician that can be soothing coupled with outreach relationships with local employers and social workers to monitor their progress would be beneficial. What creative approaches are being taken to reduce the circular door from jail to homelessness?

This is so needed. please provide more info on the community based organizations involved. I would happily donate. Note: whatever happened to PSAs? no one knows where to find information. A lot more folks would help if they knew where to send a check or who to call or donate food, clothing and furniture to places that assist the homeless and in need to get back on track. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. dgalvan2005@gmail.com

This has been an ongoing problem. Problem #1: There is no way for families who reside in outlying areas such as the Antelope Valley can contact LASD to be able to predict and plan to pick up their loved one who is often released at 2 a.m. in downtown L.A.

Kudos to those departments such as DMH that assess in-mates prior to release, introduce themselves, provide a plan of action that includes housing, linkage to services etc. This should be expanded, especially to the jails.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

This is a great way to get people from not reoffending. If they are are to get services before they are released from jail it gives them hope. A lot of times people are released from jail and back on the streets. Or they have no idea how to get back on their feet. With support I believe a people coming out of prison can live a productive life and be able to make a change in the world in a positive way

Preventing homelessness from occurring after jail sentencing will help individuals impacted by poverty crimes. Ideally this organization should advocate for prison and police reform to lessen the mental physical and financial impact of policing on community members

Providing Pre-Transitional cultural wraparound services to properly prepare individuals re-entering to the community, assist with PTS, decrease recidivism, while addressing issues, prior to individuals encountering barriers that can lead to failure

We have been operating a DMH program for 2 1/2 years that deals with inmates that are transitioning back into society. We are shocked at the lack of preparation for jobs and housing that the inmates receive. We have hired tech support to teach former inmates how to use a smart phone to look for a job - a skill that didn't even exist 15 years ago when they went into prison. A modern transitional house with released inmates in a controlled setting starting on their mandatory classes such as anger management, etc. while assisting them in searching for a job and housing would make great strides to reducing recidivism. We are offering these services on an outpatient basis but housing is a major obstacle. What a sad state we are in that former inmates are sometimes handed tents and sleeping bags. The services that we provide on an outpatient basis after release, would be more effective if the prison provided training and preparation before the release. With all of the money spent in the prison system, surely some can be carved out for this service.

Public Comments on Strategy D6: Criminal Record Clearing Project

I believe this shall help house those who were once disqualified and housing is the biggest start. It's hard to want a better future when your not stable, cold, dirty & hungry.

All persons in County jails need counseling and advice on clearing criminal records.

Expand The Criminal Record Clearing Projects with strategic planning for criteria 's that are reasonable and not attainable.

This should only be available for non-violent offenses and those not involving children.

As long as there is a strict criteria on what can and can not be cleared. For example, child endangerment should not be cleared under any circumstances.

This is a great idea.

Again, PSAs please. Folks need to know. I'm sure it goes without saying that some crimes cannot be removed like crimes against children and violence - like rape - of any kind....just checking. This will help a lot of folks who need a 2nd chance.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

This strategy is crucial in supporting long-term stability for the formerly incarcerated. As evidenced by much research, the formerly incarcerated are more likely to come from already and multiply marginalized communities and so have less access to jobs with livable wages, high risks of housing and food insecurity, and lack of dependable transportation options. To further curtail their earning power due to past incarceration is to hobble them nearly entirely. Please fund this strategy to support these community members, their families, and the community at large.

Part of the institution that I mentioned.

The criminal justice system is incredibly bias, and many families of color, particularly men have items on their criminal record that have no bearing, are inflated, or to be honest are not real. These records than increase their barrier to entry to find jobs, find income, and find housing. Cleaning these records is one step towards equity for our communities of color.

We have written a brochure with our partner Neighborhood Legal Services on the Fair Chance Act requirements. Even with these rules, it is nearly impossible for a justice involved individual to break through that barrier. Employers and landlords must be educated and incentivized to employ and house felons. But honestly - why should they when there is already a housing shortage for non justice involved individuals? Each released inmate should have the opportunity to work with legal aid to reduce or expunge criminal records for the purpose of obtaining housing.

Their should be a pathway towards redemption and rebuilding one's life. This pathway should include "criminal record clearing". Perhaps this is a measured process, yet, the process should include expungement measured by the severity of the offense as well as length of time and recidivism within that time frame.

I wanted to touch on the way this affects LGBTQ+ folks disproportionately. In thinking of the way that community members have been affected by our current system I think of the way that LGBTQ+ folks are taken away just due to survival techniques. With a high proportion of the street economy being the only accessible form to make money we must think of how employment could fix the root of the issue at hand. It is imperative that we think of how offering jobs within the city through these funds could allow for folks to uproot the issue at hand of even having a criminal record. In my undergrad we used to do a harm-reduction approach towards substance use that pivoted education as a praxis for creating a better future together. It's exciting to think of how with funding such as this we can think of rooting the problem from where it originates.

There are too many people experiencing homelessness who have criminal records for non violent, petty crimes. These records prevent them from getting jobs and finding housing. They need legal counsel to help expunge any records they possibly can.

Public Comments on Strategy D7: Provide Services and Rental Subsidies for Permanent Supportive Housing

Assistance of any kind would be helpful.

People need Help!

increase funding to established community agencies that connect individuals to services in their area

Use a tool like Samaritan to address the financial and social poverty your homeless residents face daily, giving them the capacity to take the difficult steps towards PSH and better health.

Until there is housing available none of these programs will work...Build more public housing...utilize public land and properties more efficiently.. Increase housing subsidies to reflect market prices

Rental subsidies would be nice, but lowering rents and rental requirements would be more sufficient. I understand that this opens up more properties from landlords because of the potential subsidy receipt. However, they should not be allowed to hoard properties without penalty.

This is most crucial as it guides individuals to a level of competency that prevents homelessness in the first place

Clean up Venice and Santa Monica!!! It's a disgrace

Add a tax on home owners to pay for this service. They also should get a car.

Why should we provide permanent housing for adults who can work

We should provide services to all individuals who face a crisis. Our cities have so many abandoned and vacant buildings. If we fixed some of those up for living quarters.,I'm sure many more will have housing.

Good idea, but it I don't see this in practice. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and tent cities and illegal encampments are everywhere in LA County. It looks like a third world country.

Provide more community outreach to homes in other areas like SPA2 and in the community healthcare facilities.

Subsidize operations of OLD PSH buildings that are all over the COUNTY, and have rapid churn rate/evictions.....keep them stable and resourced.

Please provide project-based rental subsidy for PSH units in affordable housing! Please make sure money is available for wrap around supportive services

There's sober, bridge, supportive and independent living options available to house individuals, but our agencies which aren't eligible for licensure are not invited to participate. We are viable agencies who house disabled men and women on ssi, disability and social security. Please have us as part of the conversation. 818-585-7956

The rental subsidies need to be in better neighborhoods and not in run down buildings in bad neighborhoods. Monthly check ins for the residences with an guideline on keeping up their homes and property up to code should be implemented to insure a safe and clean environment.

until 15.00 an hour is ever the law of the land there should be housing for anyone living on the current minimum wage. i don't know how to get landlords or city owned buildings or railcars turned into living spaces, but I see lots of empty buildings and warehouses that I think - again, I don't know how - would be communal housing. Communes - like the 60s - where folks barter services and sharing of goods. it can't hurt to try. There was a great old hotel on PCH and 2nd ave in long beach that was razed for a mall. what a waste. it could have been made into housing. the long beach mayor was out to lunch on that one.

Increase funding to individuals who want to convert garages or build units on their property! I went to apply and the grants were closed. Measure H should be used to solve the Homeless Situation and not have a minimal impact and paying for staff only (administrative costs). We need funding for housing and we need to fund people who own properties to get or prevent more people from becoming homeless. USE HOMEOWNERS AND OFFER BONDS TO BUILD HOUSING! I AM INTERESTED ALONG WITH MANY OTHERS. This should not be limited to only unincorporated areas. Offer funding to cities so people living in cities can apply.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

I'm curious where Section 8 is included in this-- I was a census worker last summer and there are a shocking number of vacant apartments all over the city-- in some cases entire buildings that were vacated just before Covid hit that are still vacant over a year later. There was on such building in Highland park with well over 100 family-sized apartments, now 99% vacant for over a year. Another building was near Mariachi Plaza-- an apartment building with at least 50 SRO units that had been forcibly cleared out many months before Covid and currently has only 2 occupied units left. I believe the city needs to give landlords a limited amount of time to renovate and re-rent their vacant apartments before it automatically becomes a Section-8 apartment. There needs to be a consequence to landlords, and I believe making the apartment section-8 would motivate landlords to lower their rent and also potentially make more Secion-8 apartments available.

Yes I think that would be an solution

Adequate services and rental subsidies for permanent housing is the path forward to stability for our houseless community members, as supported by research. Stability and the reduction of acute stressors will reduce these community members need to access multiple other services, and give them the time and space to be able to obtain steady employment or otherwise contribute to their families and community. Stabilizing more houseless people means mens less repeated cycling through county services, allowing the County to assist a higher volume of community members.

I don't understand why "acquiring housing" isn't on the list for LA County. You are relying on the generosity of landlords to honor these \$1,000/month housing vouchers, and that's where the huge bottleneck happens, and why so many wait on the streets for years. Let's just get people off the streets by buying our own housing for the unhoused - not new development, which takes years and years. Anything along the line of all-suites hotels, where each suite has a living room, bedroom, bathroom and a kitchenette. The hotel would already have offices for staff, common areas, etc. If the all-suites hotels are located away from residential areas, like downtown or near the airport, there won't be as many NIMBY objections.

Per the 9/29/20 Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors motion, the CEO's office was instructed to provide an update as to whether funding in any or all Measure H-funded Homeless Initiative strategies, beginning in the FY 2021-22 Measure H Funding Recommendations, should be set aside to address the needs of women experiencing homelessness. The 12/28/20 CEO report back to the Board commits to discussing the further scaling of housing resources for unaccompanied women during the FY 21-22 Measure H Recommendation process, and the intention to maintain, and potentially grow resources for this newly recognized subpopulation. Therefore, DWC recommends an increase in PSH funding for unaccompanied women through Strategy D7, as unsheltered, unaccompanied women face particularly high barriers to housing, waiting 10+ years for stable housing, per the findings of the California Policy Lab.

Public Comments on Strategy E6: Expand Countywide Outreach System

Yes it needs to be more Advocates out in the field... I WOULD LOVE TO HELP! I once lived on Skidrow & was able to turn my life around. I hope my story could motivate others to do the same! #GameGirlsFilm

Do what we do in other countries: Set up camps that provide shelter, food and medical aid OUTSIDE OF URBAN AREAS. There is no reason why our state / country allows camping out on sidewalks, under bridges, parking lots and other areas where the housed have to commute, work and shop. Utilizing empty plots of land to house the unhoused (whether they are refusing help or want help) outside of the cities benefits everyone. If they want to camp out and refuse services, set up tents for that away from those that want help. Maybe they'll change their minds. For the ones that want help, having everything accessible in one consolidated space makes it easy. But the rest of us should not have to be subjected to the mentally ill and drug addicted infestation that is happening in our once clean and uneventful neighborhoods. If the camps are good enough for refugees in other countries, it is good enough for our inhabitants. And all veterans should be given services as soon as they return from serving outside of the USA.

More outreach workers and increase annual grant funding to COGs

Enable outreach teams to use Samaritan to engage people who do not normally access services.

Samaritan Memberships are provided as a resource for potential or current homeless residents you serve. Members set housing and life goals, and then can access capital from a team of supporters or by taking action steps towards goals (like accessing housing navigation, getting a job application in, etc). Funds are spent to sustain basic needs like groceries, bills, and move-in fees.

The strategic social support and cash transfers have accelerated pathways for Samaritan Members to enter housing, employment, recovery and more.

Feel free to reach us at hey@samaritan.city if this is of interest!

Partner with mutual aid and grassroots organizations

A couple of ideas: 1) find community volunteers to serve as points of contact for each homeless individual or family. They must feel so disconnected and it would be great for them to just have someone (not a government rep) to talk to, and 2) create more events in the community to allow residents to support our homeless and provide for their ongoing personal needs. I know that housing is the ultimate goal, but right now there are so many more concerns and daily needs, such as distribution of hot meals to keep them healthy and fight the pandemic. I'm not sure this fits here, but sharing. It's good for residents to understand the true impact of homelessness countywide, and getting personally involved is impactful.

You no longer require any skill to the job

West Covina is one of largest City's in the San Gabriel Valley but our City does not receive its fair share of Measure H. I would like to urge Hon. Supervisor Solis and other Honorable Members to take action and allocate additional Resources for the City of West Covina to combat Homelessness in our community that continues to grow. Our City has a program like this call H.O.P.E. But additional Resources are needed.

Consider using communication platforms that are community-based, like next-door.com as an example? These are verified neighbors who know their neighborhoods and would assist in a sort of an out reach communication program not to vilify but to help individuals in need.

When timeliness is a factor and a situation is not necessarily for law-enforcement, having a dedicated landline or online forum may be a good way to initiate conversation and collect details quickly and efficiently.

Hello, I would like to know what creative efforts are being taken by outreach by using google earth satellite pictures, technology and focusing on the concentrations of homeless people that move from rail road tracks to river beds to every thing in between. What can be done so that technology is used by outreach specialists to service those in need?

There isn't enough coverage for the 88 cities throughout the County. Even those of us who work within the systems struggle with the LAHOP portal and coordination with LAHSA to meet the great need, with recognition that there is a great need and not enough resources. But there are a lot of people falling through the cracks every day. The people who do not score a high enough SPDAT score for immediate services are then spending more time on the street or in their cars, further compounding their existing trauma of having fallen into homelessness in the first place.

The system also needs to support the individuals on the ground, which is a tough job. The outreach workers probably need to be paid more and given support to process the daily traumas they encounter. The service provider systems need to not replicate the extractive nature which depletes the workers of the energy and enthusiasm required to do their jobs well. I've encountered too many beleaguered and exhausted outreach workers to really have hope that the systems in place will truly be able to meet the crisis we are all witnessing on the streets.

can't say it enough: PSAs they are needed to get out the word. use my tax dollars for PSAs

As compassionate as I am for the homeless, I feel it needs to start with mental health in order for any program to work. The street drugs and mental health is scary. I've seen seniors at a bus stop unable to sit and being verbally abused because a homeless woman had taken over the bench as her own. She's been there for over a month.

Outreach should be restricted to getting people to emergency triage centers. Outreach in services is very inefficient and is further hindered by mobility of homeless.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

yes expanded them around the whole county of Los Angeles

No comment. Sounds like a waste to me.

Don't rely upon point in time counts to allocate funding. Those counts are not accurate, particularly in suburban and rural areas.

I am a primary care physician serving the homeless population in SPA2, in clinic as well as part of the E6 outreach program. I am relatively new, but have significant concerns regarding the current performance of several strategies in SPA2. Most of my patients are in SPA2.

Our E6 medical team consists of an outreach case worker, a medical provider (either MD or NP) – and usually a LVN and a medical staff member to assist with insurance enrollment and consent. The program has been able to successfully connect a number of patients into housing, as well as medical, dental, and psychiatric care. For SPA2, my concern is that the outreach case workers are not routinely able to transition participants into a rapid rehousing program or permanent support housing. Rather we have been moving many participants into temporary shelters, motels, and interim housing without a longer-term plan. These participants end up staying in temporary forms of housing and too often return to the streets with no reliable access to integrated case management services. See my responses to Strategy B3, Strategy B7, and Strategy E8 for more on this. Based on my review of the research and my experience, it seems that rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing have better returns on investment than shelters and temporary housing. This is supported by a USC literature review (<https://socialinnovation.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Outcomes-Re-Entry-Literature-Review.pdf>).

There are barriers to providing patients with substance disorders life-saving harm reduction medications, and equipment (such as fentanyl test strips, clean syringe/needle exchanges).

Ongoing barriers to care persist for severely mentally ill patients. Our E6 medical team does not always include a mental health professional. Assertive community treatment is an established integrated approach to provide extensive case management to these individuals. This is the DMH's Full Service Partnership which has shown promising initial results (see citation below). In my brief experience, it has not been easy to access these resources for patients. Frequently these patients are not treated until they are putting others in danger and are subsequently placed on psychiatric hold. This undoubtedly results in poor outcomes. Further emphasis on a proactive integrated multidisciplinary approach for the severely mentally ill is paramount to housing and caring for these individuals.

McBain, Ryan K., et al. Los Angeles County's Mental Health Full Service Partnerships Yield Cost Savings. Santa Monica, CA: RAND Corporation, 2018. https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_briefs/RB10041.html.

I live in West LA and have come to be aware that the LA Supervisors signed on to the Stepping Up Initiative (<http://file.lacounty.gov/SDSInter/bos/supdocs/101280.pdf>). I think you should leverage this commitment to create a data sharing platform that every agency involved can securely share data on people arrested who are homeless AND have a mental illness: county health department, LAHSA, courts, district attorney and sheriff. Fulton County is doing it and Measure H is the perfect way to live up to the Supervisors' commitment.

I think it's important to highlight that if you aren't not talking about the centralization of services in DTLA / 90069 then we are doing a disservice to our community. Currently our models run on an understanding that Los Angeles has the highest amount of undomiciled folks than ever before, but we are forgetting about folks who live in areas like Baldwin Park, Lancaster and Palmdale which are still in the county. In understanding the way that there are no local services with an added element of transportation as a problem then we aren't talking about the the root and full picture at hand. Measure H funding provided to local municipalities like Baldwin Park will allow alternatives to incarceration, keep people off the streets, and allow preventative measures to be implemented city-wide.

The platforms are doing to much talking and need to move forward in action, DSS collaboration with the juvenile system, put the money on the table . We all want the same results.

Public Comments on Strategy E7: Strengthen the Coordinated Entry System

Do what we do in other countries: Set up camps that provide shelter, food and medical aid OUTSIDE OF URBAN AREAS. There is no reason why our state / country allows camping out on sidewalks, under bridges, parking lots and other areas where the housed have to commute, work and shop. Utilizing empty plots of land to house the unhoused (whether they are refusing help or want help) outside of the cities benefits everyone. If they want to camp out and refuse services, set up tents for that away from those that want help. Maybe they'll change their minds. For the ones that want help, having everything accessible in one consolidated space makes it easy. But the rest of us should not have to be subjected to the mentally ill and drug addicted infestation that is happening in our once clean and uneventful neighborhoods. If the camps are good enough for refugees in other countries, it is good enough for our inhabitants. And all veterans should be given services as soon as they return from serving outside of the USA.

We appreciate the CES' in our area. We frequently refer to these points of contact. We hear from those we support, who access support at the CES, that the qualifications for support are daunting and limiting. People have reported to us that they may simply not qualify for support, until they are in crisis. There must be more viable options available to our community members to prevent homelessness, prior to the concern becoming an absolute reality.

Funding should be provided through this strategy directly to cities and councils of government to support homeless plan implementation and innovation. This should be in the amount of at least \$15 million, to renew the \$9 million originally allocated for city homelessness plans implementation and the \$6 million allocated to councils of governments for innovation. This funding currently provides for active, locally supported initiatives to address homelessness which will not be able to be sustained without additional funding. These programs have been successful at reducing homelessness, and a renewal of these funds is necessary to prevent a reduction of service in our communities.

There needs to be some type of temporary shelter in the East San Gabriel Valley where those living in their vehicles can have public restroom available 24 hours, maybe grab a bite to eat, and be able to sleep safely in the comforts of their parked vehicle overnight.

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This is my final submission due to the fact that all these programs sound great on paper and if committed will help the situation. However, we all know (should know) that throwing money at the problem will not solve it. MONEY or the lack of, did not CAUSE the homeless.

It will take people to heal people. So since we raised so much money for this effort, it should be used to get people really involved in helping these people. Not just government systems and shuffling programs. Bottom line, no homeless person will seek these programs if they don't want it or don't know about it.

The key to many is one. Focus on getting one homeless person off the street and rehabilitated at a time. Be realistic in this effort and disciplined. If one college major in social work or therapy had a paid internship for a year, to solve one homeless person's crisis, we would see much higher success rates and much lower re-homelessness. The newly rehabilitated individual can return contributions to the program in likes of additional support and outreach. Co-counseling or even employment in the same system. If every reformed homeless person saved one other, our crisis will be resolved exponentially faster.

Scale up from there. You can't get all the homeless off the street at once, but you definitely can reverse the direction of the population. HEAL them, not simply HOUSE.

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Include ARF's in CES, fund them as such.

I would answer this strategy with another question and that is how to alert homeless individuals to the types of services that are available to them? It's a struggle to see homeless who are happier without rules engaging in poor behavior and one wonders if these individuals are actively aware of the programs that could change their lives?

Get the state HCD to recognize the CES as. A Substitute for the market studies they still mandate for many of their programs, even when the project will be 100% subject to the CES.

While necessary, the CES needs to be widened. We cannot rely on the handful of CES lead agencies to funnel people into LAHSA. There is a backlog and a bottleneck that is happening. Perhaps we need to reassess how these systems can be set up to support all people who fall into homelessness.

The recent changes to the CES system were badly needed. I am hopeful that by identifying specific agencies to be entry points, we will be able to better assist, advocate and refer clients to the services they need. However, because the County is so large, it would be nice to have a resource available to homeless services workers, that serve at entry point agencies, that would identify programs within each SPA that provide specific services.

All homeless clients do not need all of the services offered. By streamlining the CES to allow clients to be directed only to the services needed to get them back on their feet, we could reduce the attrition rate of clients frustrated by the confusing maze of services. For example, If a client only required identification (Social Security card, I.D., Medi-Cal) to obtain employment, the client could be referred to services specific to that need without having to participate in other services to get that small need met. We could also increase the number of persons served while improving the quality and access of services rendered.

There needs to be an expedited process for homeless individuals to obtain documentation for housing matches, benefit establishment, etc. An agreement among agency coalition members to provide a dedicated process for the homeless would help to reduce barriers for service providers and clients and reduce the number of hours/days spent waiting to move forward in the re-housing, reintegration process.

This strategy could be implemented utilizing the existing coalition of homeless service providers.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

Yes. The purpose is to get everyone off the street, and help them before we help asylum seekers.

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Please help us continue to fund our city homeless plans and efforts to combat homelessness in the the City of Baldwin Park and in our Cohort Cities of El Monte and South El Monte, as well as from a regional approach across the San Gabriel Valley.

Support Strategy E7, and continue the full funding of Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators (DVRC). These regional positions ensure that DV survivors are not systematically blocked from CES housing opportunities and are crucial to our systems of care. Additionally, fund training and technical assistance for the implementation of the LAHSA Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Emergency Transfer Policy for housing providers and local public housing authorities.

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SPA 1 is the only SPA where all of the CES money is given to one agency. There is absolutely no system of checks and balances and their 20% administrative overhead is excessive for a non-profit agency. There are currently 18 managers for 18 different programs that they are facilitating. A true time study should be requested to determine if the number of managers can be reduced, as all of the other healthy non profits in the Antelope Valley have done. This would allow more funding to go to direct services.

Older adults are experiencing greater rates of homelessness in Los Angeles than ever before. LAHSA's Older Adult Coordinator is working diligently to address the complex issues of older adult homelessness but additional resources are needed. Cross-sector older adult and homeless services provider case conferencing should be established across Los Angeles. To create flexibility and focus, funding should be procured to enable each SPA to have an "Older Adult Liaison" position to organize and manage cross-sector collaboration. The Older Adult Liaison would engage stakeholders, organize sessions, create older adult training, document best practices, support model building, hold case conferences and carry out other work to build cross-sector collaboration. The eight liaisons could be LAHSA employees and report to LAHSA's Older Adult Coordinator, creating synergy with existing structures and fostering integration of policy, operations and service. The Older Adult Liaison role can be modeled after a position developed by Los Angeles Family Housing.

I am writing in support and advocacy of preserving and enhancing services for Transition Age Youth. It is imperative that Los Angeles County invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wrap around services, including workforce development and employment programs if we are truly going to be able to stem the growing tide of homelessness that affects our County. We know that the longer a person is homeless, the more chronic and pervasive their homeless situation becomes. By addressing homelessness at its inception, we stand a chance at curbing this wave. We know that most homeless adults indicate that their first episode of homelessness began in their early 20s so it makes fiscal sense to pour resources into this population.

In the face of difficult decisions needed to be made with growing need and shrinking resources, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crises levels. They are:

- Preserving the strategies funded in E7 related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation
- Avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems);
- Preserving TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing in Strategy B3;
- Using the additional \$4 million that is being allocated to strategy E14 to prevent cuts to the youth system.
- Continuing to fund Transitional Living Programs that provide stability while youth obtain necessary education/employment skills to successfully live on their own.
- Preserving the funded Access Centers for TAY; and
- Providing funding for mental health services so we can stabilize these young people and have a greater chance at successfully stabilizing them.

Because there are different kinds of homelessness, there needs to be a central agency directing those experiencing homelessness to the best place to serve their needs. Some are homeless because of drugs, some because of no family support, some had a job loss, some don't want to be helped. There also needs to be a way to connect with this central agency for those who want and need the help.

Funding should be provided through this strategy directly to cities and councils of government to support homeless plan implementation and innovation. This should be in the amount of at least \$15 million, to renew the \$9 million originally allocated for city homelessness plan implementation and the \$6 million allocated to councils of governments for innovation. This funding currently provides for active, locally supported initiatives to address homelessness which will not be able to be sustained without additional funding. These programs have been successful at reducing homelessness, and a renewal of these funds is necessary to prevent a reduction of service in our communities.

We are still in the midst of an unprecedented pandemic event that has not only killed over 20,000 residents of Los Angeles County, but has also devastated our economy. We understand that difficult decisions are ahead in terms of budgets and potential cuts. However, as more and more Angelenos fall into homelessness, now is not the time to cut programs for people experiencing homelessness, especially youth. Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wraparound services, including workforce development and employment programs.

We also understand that as there may be cuts, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crisis levels. They are:

- Preserving the strategies funded in E7 related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation (while avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems); The infrastructure provided by Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation are the backbone of the Youth Coordinated Entry System. Over the last four years, the TAY CES SPA Leads have spent countless hours creating valuable relationships to build a system that is tailored to the needs of youth experiencing homelessness. These critical positions are essential to maintaining a functioning response to youth homelessness. Removing these positions from agencies charged with coordinating SPA-wide activities would devastate our ability to properly assess youth and place them into housing.

Since 1969, the Los Angeles LGBT Center (Center) has cared for, championed, and celebrated LGBT individuals and families in Los Angeles and beyond. Today the Center's over 800 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world. We offer residential services for youth and seniors, drop-in services for people experiencing homelessness, immigration assistance, meal services, and so much more. Across all our programs, we see over 50,000 clients per month; or, over half a million visits each year. We are also the lead agency for the TAY CES system in SPA 4 and work with a wide variety of coalitions responding to and working towards ending homelessness. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Thank you,
Lisa Phillips
Children, Youth and Family Services Department
Director
Los Angeles LGBT Center

Funding should be provided through this strategy directly to cities and councils of government to support homeless plan implementation and innovation. This should be in the amount of at least \$15 million, to renew the \$9 million originally allocated for city homelessness plans implementation and the \$6 million allocated to councils of governments for innovation. This funding currently provides for active, locally supported initiatives to address homelessness which will not be able to be sustained without additional funding. These programs have been successful at reducing homelessness, and a renewal of these funds is necessary to prevent a reduction of service in our communities.

Preserving the strategies funded in E7 related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation (while avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems);

It is essential to support Strategy E7, and continue the full funding of Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators (DVRC). These regional positions ensure that DV survivors are not systematically blocked from CES housing opportunities and are crucial to our systems of care. Vice versa, the DVRC is able to provide ongoing support to CES providers already serving victims/survivors, and assist with victim-specific support services, navigating victim resources, confidentiality, safety, and other case consultation to be sure there is adequate support.

As the CES and Victim Service Provision have a long way to go in terms of alignment and ensuring that marginalized populations (such as DV/SA/HT survivors) are holistically supported, the DVRC is able to work regionally to bridge connections, partnerships, and de-mystify systems. Rather than the goal being total integration, I believe that the goal is to honor each systems' specialties and areas of expertise, and to also honor each other as fellow service providers and to engage in collaboration. No single entity can encompass everything, but we can learn enough about each other to refer as appropriate and pertinent per client case. Through the collaboration, victims/survivors are far less likely to fall through cracks and the rate of homeless recidivism is greatly reduced.

Preserve the strategies related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation (while avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems).

Funding should be provided through this strategy directly to cities and councils of government to support homeless plan implementation and innovation. This should be in the amount of at least \$15 million, to renew the \$9 million originally allocated for city homelessness plans implementation and the \$6 million allocated to councils of governments for innovation. This funding currently provides for active, locally supported initiatives to address homelessness which will not be able to be sustained without additional funding. These programs have been successful at reducing homelessness, and a renewal of these funds is necessary to prevent a reduction of service in our communities.

Support Strategy E7, and continue the full funding of Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators (DVRC). These regional positions ensure that DV survivors are not systematically blocked from CES housing opportunities and are crucial to our systems of care. Additionally, fund training and technical assistance for the implementation of the LAHSA Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Emergency Transfer Policy for housing providers and local public housing authorities.

Absolutely and immediately. I live in DTLA / Skid Row and we do not enough (if any) out reach workers.

Support Strategy E7 and continue the full funding of Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators (DVRC). These regional positions ensure that DV survivors are not systematically blocked from CES housing opportunities and are critical to our system of care. In addition, fund training and technical assistance for the implementation of the LAHSA Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) Emergency Transfer Policy for housing providers & local public housing authorities.

Public Comments on Strategy E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System

Do what we do in other countries: Set up camps that provide shelter, food and medical aid OUTSIDE OF URBAN AREAS. There is no reason why our state / country allows camping out on sidewalks, under bridges, parking lots and other areas where the housed have to commute, work and shop. Utilizing empty plots of land to house the unhoused (whether they are refusing help or want help) outside of the cities benefits everyone. If they want to camp out and refuse services, set up tents for that away from those that want help. Maybe they'll change their minds. For the ones that want help, having everything accessible in one consolidated space makes it easy. But the rest of us should not have to be subjected to the mentally ill and drug addicted infestation that is happening in our once clean and uneventful neighborhoods. If the camps are good enough for refugees in other countries, it is good enough for our inhabitants. And all veterans should be given services as soon as they return from serving outside of the USA.

I'm curious how this actually working. The reason I say this is because I live in the Granada Hills/North Hills region. In the past two years since moving here, my husband and I have since an exponential growth of the homeless. Not only of people who can't afford housing but of the mentally ill who may refuse permanent/supportive housing. In our area, we have Hope of the Valley, a supposedly prominent homeless housing/shelter service. How is it that our area, a quiet neighborhood, has homeless tents along the major intersection of Devonshire and Balboa and have asked repeatedly of Hope of the Valley, our city council member John Lee and our neighborhood council to clean things up, and yet are told repeatedly that they can't be moved and their things can't be cleaned up because "of Covid". Where are the emergency services you are claiming are there for them? Where is the storage for their belongings that we want off our streets and where is the housing for them? Where are the beds? Myself and my neighbors are tired of driving around our neighborhood and seeing the homeless almost causing traffic accidents, causing fights and brandishing weapons in the local Ralphs, having fights among themselves on the street and causing trash to pile up on our streets. My husband and many people in this area moved here for the good schools, close-knit community and affordable housing prices. We want the city council, the mayor and whoever is in charge of The LA County Homeless Initiative to take REAL action. There are issues not just in our area but in the area we lived in. We used to live in Sherman Oaks which has had a homeless problem for YEARS. There had been a NIMBY initiative there which should have been thrown out to get the homeless into some sort of housing. What I dont understand though is why you wont create shelters in areas that are outside the city. There is city, state and federal land where homeless people can be housed. Especially the mentally ill people. The ones who are just down on their luck and need jobs should be able to stay in the communities but the ones who are a nuisance should be put into housing that is elsewhere. They have no interest in rejoining society and therefore should be placed in either hospitals or other facilities that can be built some other place. Why is that not an option? We as a community are BEGGING you to figure this out sooner than later. Are streets are over run and we cannot live like this anymore. Many of us are seriously considering moving to other states that dont have the problems. You need to figure this out NOW.

I live in Long Beach, CA. I notice daily 3 huge Cruse Ships in the Harbor. It is my understanding they currently are not in service due to COVID. I also read on January 11 2021, in Part: The company said it has sufficient liquidity to survive the ongoing crisis, even if it has zero revenue coming in, as it ended the quarter with \$9.5 billion in cash resulting from opportunistic cash-raising events. I cannot understand why women with children are living on the streets, when we have resources like this available. The opportunity to control who comes on the ship can be monitored to protect against the spread of the disease. Children would have access to internet, so they could attend school. More people off the street. Some government funding could be available. Also if the hospitals are so overcrowded why can't non COVID patients be treated in a similar manner.

American Crisis. Hungry homeless children, why not. ?

We work with college youth, some of whom find themselves homeless. When they seek shelter, they feel as though this is often not an adequate option available to them given restrictions around keeping personal items (e.g. laptops for school, notebooks for school, etc.) with them and strict restrictions around coming/going from shelters that prohibit their involvement in activities for betterment (e.g. classes, school, internships, jobs, etc.). There must be a better way to allow those who need shelter to seek shelter and it be a realistic/viable option. Of course, we also need increased shelter options for those who have specific circumstances, such as those with pets/animals or those with large families/multiple children, etc. These resources have been extremely difficult to connect those in need with on a day-to-day basis, even with support of options like 211, who generally given very vague recommendations.

There are thousands of office buildings not being used in part or in whole due to covid. We also know that the majority of office work can be done remotely. This leaves a surplus of empty, now useless space. These offices can provide near immediate shelter for homeless people. Find a way to manage security. Find a way to manage charitable causes for building owners that don't take advantage of the people in need. Perhaps the building owners would also supply security as part of a community benefit package. Even if it's only a few nights to a few weeks - it gets people out of the rain and cold.

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Increase/Fund subsidies for emergency housing in motels, create safer /more inclusive /low barrier options for people seeking shelter

There is a need for emergency shelters everyday. They shouldn't just be available when the weather gets to a specific temperature.

Stop cooperating with the City of LA's LA Sanitation/LAPD sweeps of homelessness encampments.

Much more capacity needed

Seventy percent of Los Angeles County voters approved spending large amounts their tax dollars to provide housing for the homeless. Clearly they care about the welfare of the homeless and want them to have housing. Yet it is also clear that they don't want that housing in their own neighborhood. Never have I seen homeowners and renters protesting because they can't get housing for the homeless established in their neighborhood. But protests by homeowners and renters against having homeless-housing in their neighborhood are commonplace. Examples are the protests in Venice, Korea-Town, and Chatsworth. Many homeowners oppose homeless housing in their neighborhood because they fear it will significantly bring down the value of their homes – in which the majority of their life savings are invested.

I feel that both the interests of the homeless and homeowners and renters should be respected: Housing for the homeless should be built or otherwise established, but not in neighborhoods where the current homeowners and renters oppose it. This, I believe, would exclude most neighborhoods in Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4.

District 5, however, has a land mass greater than the other 4 Districts combined, most of it scarcely populated; and the land value in these areas is generally far less than the land value in the other 4 Districts. I believe homeless housing in these areas would meet far less opposition than in more populated areas.

I would recommend that the County explore the idea of having housing for the homeless in these areas. Large communities composed of small homes or travel-trailers that are heated and air conditioned, with a kitchen, a bathroom, and a living room, could be established in them. Each homeless person could be given exclusive use of such a home, and would, therefore, have both shelter and a degree of privacy. Food, counseling, healthcare, vocational training, and job placement services would be offered to the residents; and there would be common areas in the communities to be used for such purposes as meetings and recreation.

An effort would be made in these communities to prepare the residents to earn an income sufficient for them pay the rent and otherwise provide for themselves anywhere they choose in Los Angeles County or outside of it.

Eugene Pomerantz
13082 Mindanao Way, #36
Marina Del Rey, 90292

818 903 3610

Enhance coordination between shelters and other service providers so that people don't have to stay in a shelter for longer than a week. Group shelters are not effective at ending youth homelessness and their upkeep is a drain on funding and resources. Create clean pipelines from emergency shelter, to rapid rehousing, to independent living situations with supportive case management along the way

Good idea, but it I don't see this in practice. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and tent cities and illegal encampments are everywhere in LA County. It looks like a third world country. Offering beachfront parking for the homeless is not a solution and will simply attract more homeless. Emergency shelters and parking lots should be located inland, away from schools and residential areas, and must be secure for those using them, as well as those in surrounding areas.

This is a beautiful addition to our present system. These supports are so critically needed! More emphasis needs to also be placed on individuals, both female and male.

Domestic Violence is so bas and sad we humans need a lot of help overcoming all this. We want help as fast as we can get it.. Support we need a lot of economical support.

As taxpayers we know our tax dollars need to be spent in a wide variety of programs and this is one that specifically needs more attention. We the people can beautify our own neighborhoods consistently by alleviating much of the trash that is now being left by individuals and their need for shelter.

Warehouse space with sections would seem to provide Space with Basic amenities and Safety while at the same time drawing homeless individuals away from suburban neighborhoods.?

I encourage a solution that creates emergency shelter in every community and every neighborhood. I encourage shelters with space for pets and partners. A more inclusive shelter in every community would allow for enforcement of “no camping” ordinances and prevent the “not in my backyard“ resistance that many new shelters face in the community. If every neighborhood had a shelter, no one neighborhood would feel singled out. And in fact every neighborhood should have a shelter because every neighborhood has a homeless community. Persons without permanent shelter are spread all throughout the county.

A mandate to create shelter beds in every neighborhood even if only a few beds, would alleviate the concerns of certain resistant communities who feel that opening a shelter is an invitation to bear the burden disproportionate to neighboring areas.

Recent federal case law has slowed response to persons camping in public rights of way and parks. Now, these people must be given notice and an opportunity to collect their belongings and outreach to help them be housed, and social services and sanitation are dispatched. The entire process can take a month. As soon as a tent encampment area is cleared, more tents are put up and the entire process repeats itself.

Greater availability of temporary shelter in every community would allow better enforcement options in terms of outright prohibition of camping in certain pristine or sensitive areas such as parks and other wildlife areas. We have had quite a few fires caused by illegal camping in wildlife areas. An outright prohibition would permit more rapid enforcement.

It is one thing to have homeless community camping in commercial areas or on the side of freeways. It's quite another thing to have persons living in community nature areas such as parks which are resources specifically designed for all persons to appreciate nature and beauty.

In any event, the homeless crisis was caused by decades of government action or inaction at every level and in every branch—decisions were made that eliminated mental health services and treatment, increased incarceration, emptied overcrowded jails, hampered governmental efforts to clean and clear encampments, slowed the development of affordable housing, strangled the rental market, encouraged housing speculation and short term profit strategies such as Airbnb, encouraged developers to push out the problem from downtown, and geared new development towards only high-end residential construction. We created this problem. The taxpayers agreed to raise their own taxes to create the funds to make this problem go away. In a prosperous nation and a prosperous county, we should not have to see people huddled along every corridor in makeshift shanties. We can and must do better.

IMMEDIATELY BUILD FIELD HOSPITALS & TRIAGE CENTERS

- The response to natural disasters has taught us that temporary shelters can be created for 50,000+ people in days. See Red Cross's Katrina response (1,400 shelters in 27 states within days) and "Mobile Disaster Field Hospitals" set up by FEMA in 48-72 hours).
- Each Triage site will evaluate and refer persons to Program sites.
- Each person must sign on to and participate in a treatment or placement program.
- Allow the use of individual tents for those who prefer tents. Augment tents with adverse weather "warming" or "cooling" shelters.
- Dedicate Program Sites by age and/or need for services attempting to maintain friendship groups and communities previously developed.

IMMEDIATELY ENFORCE CAMPING LAWS

- Camping, including vehicles and RVs, is allowed only in designated areas which provide toilet, showering, food, medical and safety services. It's a zoning issue.

SET UP TRIAGE TEAMS

- Immediately set up triage teams to develop treatment plans that are tracked in a statewide database so each jurisdiction knows what was done previously. Plan for mobility.
- All Outreach workers are reassigned to centralized triage and program centers except for a small group to direct people to triage centers.
- Appoint California State Homeless Czar with sufficient administrative flexibility to quickly change rules and programs if they prove to be unsuccessful and to remove legal obstacles to solving the many problems of the homeless.

We need to get rid of the red tape and bureaucracy and just get everyone that is experiencing homelessness off the streets now. We need more shelters to triage EVERYONE NOW and stop allowing politics to allow 4 people to die on the streets of LA Co everyday. We need to allow funding to go to the most effective and efficient shelter solutions with little overhead, reporting, and restrictions. Many times these are faith based and the harm reduction model is preventing them to do what they do best. Harm reduction is causing more than just harm but death. Listen to Judge Carter and get people sheltered NOW.

Rapidly expanding emergency shelters ASAP (followed by interim and bridge home shelters followed by permanent supportive housing) should be the number one priority so that a modicum of services can be provided to every homeless person and they can have a designated space to go. That way, the city and county can FINALLY enforce laws on anti-camping and petty crime that have turned our streets, parks, freeways, and public life into absolute cesspools of neglect. If the UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights likened conditions in California to worse than those in Syrian refugee camps, then the first order of business should be to use emergency powers to tap FEMA for all they're worth to set up refugee camp-like accommodations using vacant city and county parking lots as well as open spaces in locations like the Antelope Valley. This seems like the quickest, most cost-effective way to ensure that the greatest number of people possible are helped as quickly as possible while meeting the settlement criteria from the 9th Circuit Court Boise case to be able to re-regulate our public spaces. I know the optics of moving people into camps in one fell swoop like this don't look good, but please, how is the status quo better?? The longer that city and county officials wait to take drastic action like this, then the more people who will die on the streets, more buildings will burn down, more people (housed and unhoused) will be exposed to crime (whether from gangs exploiting homeless, homeless addicts stealing to fuel their habit, or people on drugs or having mental breakdowns committing violent acts), more businesses near encampments will be impacted negatively, more tourists will be forever convinced to stay away from Los Angeles, and more taxpayers will flee. Angelenos, unhoused and housed, deserve a response that marks a sea change from how this crisis has been handled up to this point. It is long past due that drastic action was taken to address this national tragedy and travesty.

Expand the Winter Shelter program to accommodate young adults and transition age youth at sites that are separate from adults, as many TAY and young adults refrain from using these shelters due to safety concerns.

At the same time, it is imperative to expand youth/TAY shelters to operate year-round – rather than only from November to March – to ensure these youth have a safe place to sleep.

Work in cooperation with faith base communities in providing temporary emergency shelters

Sleep Stations that provide private sleeping modules, toilets, a shower, personal private storage and a stand alone steel locking container where they could safeguard their stuff everyday while they are away.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

I am happy to see that availability to partners and pets is included, as well as storage for belongings. I feel like more public campsites should be made available. In the 1950s, Chavez Ravine was eminent domained to build affordable housing. This housing was never built. I believe that a portion of Elysian Park should be set aside as a campground with public showers and lockers for valuables. There is no reason why people should not be provided with a place to stay-- for a modest fee, that offers security for their belongings and a hot shower, laundry, community kitchen, etc. There need to be more affordable options for legal housing such as SROs and public campgrounds and trailer parks in the city.

Yes. Better than the street, but it must be managed for drugs.

Utilize this funding to extend Project Safe Haven and Project Roomkey. Over 3,000 DV survivors were supported through Safe Haven, nearly tripling the number of available DV beds in LA and representing the largest COVID-related DV survivor program in the country. The success of Project Safe Haven points to a clear need to permanently expand the size of the county's available DV beds, particularly in non-congregant settings. Safe Haven Hotels also relieve congestion from DV confidential shelters, reserving them exclusively for those whose safety it necessitates. Additionally, level funding for Bridge Housing for Trauma Survivors, with its focus on Trauma-Informed Care, must be maintained through Strategy E8. According to the November 2019 HMA Community Strategies draft report on the effectiveness of Strategies B7/E8, there remains a critical need to more fully support survivors of domestic and intimate partner violence. "Shelter staff expressed concern that survivors of domestic violence are not prioritized in the system," notes the report, "and stated that their clients are in particular need of trauma-informed care."

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Per the 9/29/20 County Board motion recognizing the unique needs of unaccompanied women and the mandated 12/28/20 CEO's office report back, set aside funding through Strategy E8 should be contemplated for increased bridge and other interim housing beds for unaccompanied women.

It is imperative that this be the top priority. It is the only way the City of Lancaster will be allowed to enforce no trespassing and no loitering ordinances. Motel money is a waste of money. If motel money would have been spent in the last 4 years on building a shelter, the problem would be closer to being solved.

I am a primary care physician serving the homeless population in SPA2, in clinic as well as part of the E6 outreach program. I am relatively new, but have significant concerns regarding the current performance of several strategies in SPA2. Most of my patients are in SPA2.

As mentioned in my response to Strategy E6 and Strategy B3, it seems that rapid rehousing and permanent supportive housing have better returns on investment than shelters and temporary housing. This is supported by a USC literature review (<https://socialinnovation.usc.edu/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Outcomes-Re-Entry-Literature-Review.pdf>). In my experience, this can be for a multiplicity of reasons.

Shelters and interim housing function as cover from the environment. Perhaps, more importantly they are stepping stones to permanent supportive housing. However, this can only occur with proactive rapid rehousing programs; otherwise, these clients end up back on the street or suffer other poor outcomes.

The shelters and other close congregate settings have a variety of drawbacks that, for some, deter them from participation in the homeless system. The most common concern is that they do not do well in crowds. There are real safety concerns. And perhaps most concerning from a medical perspective, drugs are distributed freely among some individuals. I had a patient who upon leaving a motel and entering a shelter, ended up rapidly developing heart failure due to increased substance use from the peer pressure of the environment. She was prior to this without chronic conditions; however after being in the shelter for only a few months, required a 1 week hospitalization. Innovative solutions would need to be trialed – outcomes would need to be measured in attempt to mitigate some of these concerns. Nevertheless, I would not propose shelters or interim housing having preconditions.

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Public Comments on Strategy E14: Enhance Services for Transition Age Youth

I think this is REALLY helpful because there wasn't any help for me when I was a youth and those years are VERY IMPORTANT when u want to build a solid foundation.

In Long Beach, we have The Good Seed, which we frequently refer our TAY and college young adults to for support. We have been advised by those who seek support that these services are often overwhelmed or only able to offer limited referrals and support. Ideally, it would be optimal to have expanded services for TAY experiencing housing instability or homelessness, particularly before the point of crisis. We simply need more access to timely, viable resources.

This area is so important. I recommend focusing housing for TAY youth in areas close to transportation and areas where youth can grow their opportunities such as community colleges and trade schools.

Fund and build youth centers in more areas- esp that serve LGBTQ population that are in lower income and rural areas

Collaborate with innovative, grassroots organizations

Increase funding for Host Homes programs, specifically so that programs can recruit and pay more hosts so that these programs can serve more youth. Provide more LGBTQ+ identity affirming services and training for all providers in the county, and center BIPOC voices in all decision making for TAY. Hire more people with marginalized identities and lived experience in service agencies, and pay them well enough to survive in LA County. Starting salary for a case manager should be \$65k plus full benefits for someone to do their job effectively here.

This is critical. Too many youth fall between the cracks and are discarded or overlooked by society. It is our responsibility to care for our most vulnerable, which includes our children coming of age.

Look at 2021 new generation all kids want to do is WORK...Expand job opportunities for all the teenagers.

Ensure access to pathways for young people that include education. Education is the way to sustain housing; whether it is access to high school diploma, post secondary options or work training programs. Access to pathways for growth and training will help to support young people to sustain housing and move out of the cycle of homelessness and forward in their lives.

There's sober, bridge, supportive and independent living options available to house individuals, but our agencies which aren't eligible for licensure are not invited to participate. We are viable agencies who house disabled men and women on ssi, disability and social security. Please have us as part of the conversation. 818-585-7956

Referrals for substance use and mental health are well known to service providers. A lot of focus has been given to the effects of substance use and mental health as they relate to homelessness. However, a determining factor among the success of a TAY client is behavior. TAY are one of the most difficult populations to engage. Many do not have an issue with substance use or mental health, they have an issue with their behavior. Addressing those issues in a transitional housing program will help their success in the future. Traditional transitional housing programs dealt with toxic behaviors that impeded their graduation from the program. I would advocate to bring some of those group therapy and individual therapy requirements back into the program model.

Yes, yes and yes. I see soooo many young - and i mean kids - who are homeless. i always buy them some water and something to eat. its so sad.

Train them in a trade in order to obtain job skills that will be beneficial for themselves and the community. The feeling of accomplishment is not only self rewarding but it also promotes motivation to pay it forward to help other youths in desperate need of belonging. For the most part the ones whom have experience the hardship are the most indicated ones to make a true difference in the world by putting their love and energy into tasks at hand.

Set up system that proactively meets with youth coming out of foster care and provides services.

Again, LA might not be best fit for all youth and look to a 50 State solution re programs and placement.

Consider AmeriCorps and other programs.

To maximize utilization of FYI vouchers, the Los Angeles Office of Homeless Initiative should collaborate with HUD and the housing authorities to designate how the FYI vouchers can be applied for and implemented. Alternatively, the housing authorities can implement (like Pomona).

a. Braiding resources to make the best use of resources and further take advantage of supports which might otherwise be unused. The Board of Supervisors should effectuate the collaboration of housing authorities to apply for available vouchers.

b. Provide administrative support to eligible public housing authorities to develop and manage the FYI program for FY 2021/22 to alleviate concerns expressed by eligible PHAs

i. Minimal Measure H funding could be used to support this collaborative strategy through funding for administrative costs which could have outsized impact for those able to access previously unavailable vouchers.

Increase funding to Los Angeles County Development Authority's (LACDA) Homeless Incentive Program (HIP) – a collaborative effort between multiple County agencies supported by funding from Los Angeles County Measure H which offers monetary incentives to encourage landlords to rent their available units to LACDA's homeless Section 8 voucher holders to provide support to FYI eligible PHA's.

YCES and ILP housing providers should expedite the intake process for youth who are ILP-eligible, when there are available ILP beds in their service planning area.

Promoting placement stability and transition to independence by:

a. Restructuring the host family transitional housing model to allow families already licensed as a resource family to be eligible to serve as a host family and to divide the THP payment between the caregiver, young adult and provider, and

b. Provide targeted safe and appropriate housing and supports to young adults who need additional supportive services, including LGBTQ.

partner with faith base communities in mentoring programs and developing inter-relationships between church youth groups and homeless youths

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

See previous section on providing more affordable housing options such as SROs, Trailer Parks, Campgrounds, etc.

This comment may be best applied to Strategy E14 and should be applied to any effort involving those expected to have continuing improvement in their situation or improve to a sustainable plateau followed by long-term involvement with services funded by Measure H.

The comment: The County of Los Angeles years ago chose what is at the moment called Microsoft 365 for use by County employees conducting County business. Microsoft 365 is an Internet cloud service sold as a subscription. It is sometime identified as a collaboration service to assign a simple phrase for a variety of digital services. Microsoft 365 has been good enough for County government work. With the 2021 addition of Microsoft Viva to Microsoft 365, it will be good enough for digital communication among all routinely involved in any way with projects receiving Measure H funding. As long as Microsoft 365 is the Internet collaboration service used by all Los Angeles County employees it should be funded first for Strategy E14 participants or one or more other strategies to help identify subscription selection for various roles including participants who are not paid but routinely involved with those receiving services.

Need for various levels of support and housing options. Student housing should be provided to young adults experiencing various hardships including financial, domestic violence, mental health, etc. along with services. Need to bridge gap between community colleges and service providers. Also a need to expand on access centers in each SPA. SPA 3 only has 1 access center, but several drop in centers that are unfunded. Need for funding of peer mentors at drop in centers for community connection to young adults. Rapid Rehousing is limited in SPA 3 as well. Only 2 service providers in SPA 3. There needs to be consideration to fund providers who can provide a continuum of care including THP, PSH, RRH, drop in center, mental health, workforce training, etc. Workforce Training is an unfunded mandate. These services should be included with housing.

The young adult population is most of the time overlooked. These strategies provide great opportunities for TAY to be provided more resources to ultimately be successful and independent.

The current high school system has no system in place for technological jobs or careers beyond minimum wage for anyone that is not bound for a 4 year college. This makes it impossible for high school graduates in entry level jobs to afford housing. Similar to the financial aid FAFSA system, a housing financial aid can be set up on a application basis for those that are graduating high school - 100% for those who have DCFS involvement. The current COVID crisis has highlighted the need for this as the places where homeless TAY took showers and got internet access such as AV College has disappeared and they have dropped out of school. Prevention is key to the next generation of homelessness.

Dear Mr. Ansell,

Hathaway-Sycamores appreciates the opportunity to offer public comment as the Homeless Initiative Team develops the Measure H Funding Recommendations for Fiscal Year 2021-2022. The upcoming funding cycle offers another opportunity to review the continuum of housing options serving Transition Age Youth, notably those who have or will exit the foster care and juvenile justice systems. As a long-standing community mental health and child services provider and a lead YCES provider, Hathaway-Sycamores is outlining its recommendations on system-level improvements in the below paragraphs.

Los Angeles County operates several housing placements and housing programs that target youth as they exit foster care and probation systems into adulthood. Yet, across the youth's lifespan, these programs are frequently siloed, with different eligibility and age requirements, and do not offer adequate rates so that community-based providers with expertise serving this population can remain financially sustainable in the long-term. If Los Angeles County wants to truly prevent foster care or justice involved youth from becoming unsheltered so they will not need to access the Coordinated Entry System later on, LAHSA needs to set aside Measure H funds, in partnership with DCFS, to increase the reimbursement rates of DCFS' housing placement programs including ILP, THP-NMD and THP Plus. While there continues to be advocacy at the state level for greater housing stability for foster youth, the discussion is limited in scope and will require decisions made at the local level. Without raising reimbursement rates across all housing placement options/programs and creating parity across these rates, Los Angeles County risks persistent gaps across the continuum of affordable housing options for a subset of transition age youth who need more support.

As we reflect on the Youth Coordinated Entry System (YCES), we urge LAHSA to allocate funding for additional Access Center(s) in the Service Planning Area 3. Currently, SPA 3 only has one Access Center, located in Pasadena. Given the diversity of communities in SPA 3, there should be at least one additional Access Center for the eastern region. While COVID-19 has touched all our lives, young adults have been deeply affected. In the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention's (CDC) survey disseminated in June 2020, approximately 25% of respondents (18-24 years old) indicated that they had seriously contemplated suicide in the month prior to the survey. Compared to their cohort in the general population, transition age youth experiencing homelessness have even less support and stability, particularly from their families. For these reasons, we recommend improved coordination and timing of contracts to ensure that there is adequate mental health services funding to complement Measure H TAY housing programs. With regards to the use of the NextStep Tool to prioritize youth in YCES, we suggest scheduling a series of meetings with YCES providers and county partners to discuss opportunities to improve the tool and allow YCES providers flexibility to strengthen the "matching" process so that youth are matched with provider best suited for their needs. For example, some youth may not provide candid response about their mental health or substance use when completing the NextStep Tool. In these instances, the youth's scores do not accurately reflect all their needs for services; the "deflated" scores mean they are placed as a lower priority in the YCES queue. Although we understand the need for a standardized tool, determining what additional data or assessment tool can inform and complement the NextStep Tool would be prudent.

Finally given the COVID Recession, LA County should increase its investment in employment programs and job placements for young people. The COVID Recession has led to reduce work hours and unemployment for millions of individuals in California, including young adults. In December 2020, Los Angeles County's unemployment rate, after factoring in seasonality, stood at 11%. Historic data reveals that when the economy is in decline, young people, particularly those from communities of color, struggle the most to find work. In the last Great Recession, the unemployment rate for black teens reached 43% compared to the rate for all young people, 20%. In looking at the race/ethnic breakdown of youth homeless in Los Angeles County, we reasonably deduce that during the current COVID Recession, the majority of these youth and others are struggling to retain their existing jobs or finding work. Thus, Hathaway-Sycamores believes that additional vocational programs and internships to prepare and support TAY to find employment with adequate living wages will be crucial in the current and following budget years. These programs and internships should include case management so that TAY who are struggling to keep their jobs can receive quality and high touch support by community-based providers that they trust.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments.

Sincerely
Wendy

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wrap around services, including workforce development and employment programs. We believe that if we make the investments in the fight to end youth homelessness now with ongoing support and resources, we could stop the pipeline into chronic adult homelessness.

We believe that in the face of difficult decisions, it is in the best interest of the homeless youth we serve. We also understand that as there may be cuts, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crises levels. They are:

- Preserving the strategies funded in E7 related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation (while avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems);
- Preserving TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing in Strategy B3;
- Preserving the funded Access Centers for TAY; and
- Using the additional \$4 million that is being allocated to strategy E14 to prevent cuts to the youth system.

I am writing in support and advocacy of preserving and enhancing services for Transition Age Youth. It is imperative that Los Angeles County invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wrap around services, including workforce development and employment programs if we are truly going to be able to stem the growing tide of homelessness that affects our County. We know that the longer a person is homeless, the more chronic and pervasive their homeless situation becomes. By addressing homelessness at its inception, we stand a chance at curbing this wave. We know that most homeless adults indicate that their first episode of homelessness began in their early 20s so it makes fiscal sense to pour resources into this population.

In the face of difficult decisions needed to be made with growing need and shrinking resources, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crises levels. They are:

- Preserving the strategies funded in E7 related to Regional Coordination, Matching, and Housing Navigation
- Avoiding any consolidation of the TAY CES infrastructure with the adult and family systems);
- Preserving TAY allocations for Rapid Rehousing in Strategy B3;
- Using the additional \$4 million that is being allocated to strategy E14 to prevent cuts to the youth system.
- Continuing to fund Transitional Living Programs that provide stability while youth obtain necessary education/employment skills to successfully live on their own.
- Preserving the funded Access Centers for TAY; and
- Providing funding for mental health services so we can stabilize these young people and have a greater chance at successfully stabilizing them.

We are still in the midst of an unprecedented pandemic event that has not only killed over 20,000 residents of Los Angeles County, but has also devastated our economy. We understand that difficult decisions are ahead in terms of budgets and potential cuts. However, as more and more Angelenos fall into homelessness, now is not the time to cut programs for people experiencing homelessness, especially youth.

Now is the time for Los Angeles County to invest in a wide spectrum of housing models and integrated wraparound services, including workforce development and employment programs.

We also understand that as there may be cuts, there are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with these crisis levels. They are:

- Maintain or increase the current funding level being allocated to strategy E14. With many of the resources being dedicated to COVID-vulnerable adults and the increase in youth homelessness, it is more important than ever to ensure there are adequate resources and housing for youth. Investing in youth experiencing homelessness now, prevents them from becoming the next generation of chronically homeless adults.

Since 1969, the Los Angeles LGBT Center (Center) has cared for, championed, and celebrated LGBT individuals and families in Los Angeles and beyond. Today the Center's over 800 employees provide services for more LGBT people than any other organization in the world. We offer residential services for youth and seniors, drop-in services for people experiencing homelessness, immigration assistance, meal services, and so much more. Across all our programs, we see over 50,000 clients per month; or, over half a million visits each year. We are also the lead agency for the TAY CES system in SPA 4 and work with a wide variety of coalitions responding to and working towards ending homelessness. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have questions.

Thank you,
Lisa Phillips
Children, Youth and Family Services Department
Director
Los Angeles LGBT Center

Preserving the funded Access Centers for TAY; and Using the additional \$4 million that is being allocated to strategy E14 to prevent cuts to the youth system.

An often overlooked subpopulation among the homeless is college students. In 2019 the Board of Supervisors created a Peer Navigator program to help link homeless community college students to community resources. This funding should, at a minimum, be maintained, and expansion should be considered to strengthen the support available to students even further.

At a time when youth homelessness in Los Angeles County is at crisis levels, it is unacceptable that existing resources remain underutilized. The Housing and Urban Development Department (HUD) created Foster Youth Initiative (FYI) Vouchers to provide Housing Choice Vouchers to youth exiting the foster care system. The Board of Supervisors approved a motion authored by Los Angeles County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis, and co-authored by Supervisor Kathryn Barger, directing the County Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to participate in this federal program after identifying local housing authorities eligible to receive these vouchers, and housing authorities across the county cited low administration reimbursement and lack of capacity as reasons the vouchers could not be implemented. To date, only Pomona has implemented five vouchers in LA County.

The Los Angeles Office of Homeless Initiative should collaborate with local housing authorities and DCFS to identify and mitigate the barriers to applying for FYI vouchers. If necessary, administrative support should be provided to eligible public housing authorities to develop and manage the FYI program. Minimal Measure H funding could be used to support this collaborative strategy through funding for administrative costs, which could have outsized impact for those able to access previously unavailable vouchers. In addition, funds from the Los Angeles County Development Authority's (LACDA) Homeless Incentive Program should be targeted to youth with these vouchers once available to ensure an adequate supply of units.

Strategy E 14 Education Coordinator is a Strategy that has been in places since Measure H was passed in 2017. The Strategy consists of hiring credentialed Education Counselors who are specifically trained to support families and youth who seek out services and assistance from LAHSA's Access Points. This is currently one Education Coordinator per SPA supporting the FCES and YCES. The Educational Counselors/Coordinators assist with ensuring all children and youth ages 0-24 are either connected to a school to meet compulsory education laws or are exposed to information about higher education. This work integrates efforts between HUD and McKinney-Vento, and the eight Educational Coordinators currently are the only individuals who maintain this type of work within the Measure H Strategies.

This work is a true partnership and integration of multiple systems and services that are offered county-wide. Education Coordinators often interact with families, children and youth who have not been connected to school for months or even years. These families, children and youth often have no stable address and no current enrollment thus falling under the radar of school districts. These families, children, and youth often find themselves moving between schools and district boundaries, and find themselves lost in this confusing space of understanding school systems or how to reintegrate into their local school district or charter.

Education is one of the most effective strategies to reduced homelessness and create sustainability. Education is a data and research driven strategy that is shown to change the lives of both youth and families. Education not only has a lot of versatility to it, it is the only way that individuals can increase their income. Additionally, the work done by the Educational Coordinators serves as both intervention and prevention work, both of which are fiscally sound practices and focus on reducing the number of families, children, and youth who repeatedly accesses the CES system thus reducing the high cost associated with intensive intervention.

Education Coordinators are credentialed experts who can advocate and help remove barriers to break the cycle of poverty, create sustainability, reduced dependency on the system, and ensure that individuals do not contribute to the CES system. The work of the eight Education Coordinator produced over 3000 interactions during the 19-20 school year.

Currently the eight education coordinators are not fully funded and our funding this past year was shifted to one-time HAPP funds. The work that Education Coordinators do is vital to reducing and limiting the number of times that families, children, and youth are accessing the CES system. We are requesting that funding be stabilized under Measure H and that additional funding be provided to fully fund eight Education Coordinators. Additionally, our Strategy is located under E14 and we are asking for consideration to be funded under additional strategies such as A1. Our Education Coordinators often interact and work with families due to youth being part of a family system and because of our work under McKinney-Vento and supplemental funding. Working under A1 would reinforce that education is meant for the whole child and a support for the whole family.

Promoting placement stability and transition to independence by:

- a. Restructuring the host family transitional housing model to allow families already licensed as a resource family to be eligible to serve as a host family and to divide the THP payment between the caregiver, young adult and provider, and
- b. Provide targeted safe and appropriate housing and supports to young adults who need additional supportive services, including LGBTQ.

There are some critical functions that must remain fully funded if we are to keep up with the homelessness crisis, so we are advocating that funding levels for E14 are preserved. Youth currently have limited access to age-specific resources including prevention, outreach, bridge housing, workforce development and affordable housing. This makes it incredibly hard for them to safely and successfully exit homelessness. Only targeted, youth- specific interventions will create measurable progress in preventing and reducing youth homelessness.

Having worked in TAY services, I've seen first hand how having multiple points of entry into housing works. Some young adults need support reconnecting with family, some need transitional housing paper with collaborative work opportunities. Yet there are still not enough access points to these programs. Every day that TAY are waiting for an opportunity leaves them vulnerable on the streets. Keep finding diverse points of entry into the coordinated entry system.

This is very important, the adults need counseling/therapist to help with tools when the children are youth reunify together. Give them resources that can actually help in a quick manner

To maximize utilization of FYI vouchers, the Los Angeles Office of Homeless Initiative should collaborate with HUD and the housing authorities to designate how the FYI vouchers can be applied for and implemented. Alternatively, the housing authorities can implement (like Pomona).

a. Braiding resources to make the best use of resources and further take advantage of supports which might otherwise be unused. The Board of Supervisors should effectuate the collaboration of housing authorities to apply for available vouchers.

b. Provide administrative support to eligible public housing authorities to develop and manage the FYI program for FY 2021/22 to alleviate concerns expressed by eligible PHAs

i. Minimal Measure H funding could be used to support this collaborative strategy through funding for administrative costs which could have outsized impact for those able to access previously unavailable vouchers.

2. Increase funding to Los Angeles County Development Authority's (LACDA) Homeless Incentive Program (HIP)

5 – a collaborative effort between multiple County agencies supported by funding from Los Angeles County Measure H which offers monetary incentives to encourage landlords to rent their available units to LACDA's homeless Section 8 voucher holders to provide support to FYI eligible PHA's. YCES and ILP housing providers should expedite the intake process for youth who are ILP-eligible, when there are available ILP beds in their service planning area.

4. Promoting placement stability and transition to independence by:

a. Restructuring the host family transitional housing model to allow families already licensed as a resource family to be eligible to serve as a host family and to divide the THP payment between the caregiver, young adult and provider, and

b. Provide targeted safe and appropriate housing and supports to young adults who need additional supportive services, including LGBTQ.

Public Comments on Strategy F7: Preserve and Promote the Development of Affordable Housing for Homeless Families and Individuals

Cluster boxcars around a courtyard with greenery, laundry area and meeting rooms that house homeless outreach services for residents and provide meetings rooms for residents too.

new technologies exists to build fast and affordable homes like the 3D-printed homes / tiny homes. they can be printed in 24 hours and cost effective.
<https://www.housebeautiful.com/design-inspiration/a26887231/tiny-house-3d-printed/>

The single most important thing Los Angeles County can do is to update the zoning code- the framework within which we build, to incentivize an increase in by-right density near transit and amenities and do this with/for all cities within LA County. Secondly, update the definition of a dwelling unit (at the state and local level) to include shared housing models. Third, repeal Prop U, which halved the allowable density on all of our mixed-use commercial boulevards in 1986- this was a mistake and needs to be fixed. We need inclusionary zoning, and private developers are for this, but only if they have consistency and streamlined processes (non-existent currently). Help cities (like LA) reconstruct their political framework so we don't have silos of departments and councils. This is dysfunctional/byzantine and is preventing us from making the big systemic moves necessary.

"I" CAN HELP !!! AND, HERE'S HOW :

Notes From the Mind Of :

"A 62 year old Vietnam Veteran"

Richard Edward Peters, Jr.

"Genius@Large"!!!

richardepetersjr419@gmail.com

Telephone @/ (716) 338-7270

To Whom It Might Concern, "Things That "I" Could Accomplish" !!! Passive Energy : Sources, Systems, & Utilization Technologies :

Note(s) -"Recycle, Reduce, Reuse" aka "Repurpose" !!!

Repurpose - Offshore Oil Rig Platform Technologies Into Fresh Water Collection & Transportation Platforms (Ask Me How) ?

Note(s) The "production" of Electricity can also be accomplished utilizing these technologies

Residential (Full) Basement Foundations - Into - "Ground Based" Heating / Cooling Sources ***

Note(s) - This Passive Energy Tech. can save the average homeowner 50 %, 75 % or more on Heating costs !!! And, up to 100 % on Cooling costs These Tech.s are Non-Polluting *** Thus, helping to eliminate Polluting Tech.s *** These Tech.s use "No" moving parts ***Thus, "No" to very little Maintenance costs These Tech.s have "No" outside Energy Requirements And, these Tech.s operate 24 hr.s day / 7 days wk. / 365 days yr. w/o fail !!!

The average construction costs can be as low as \$5,000.00 Plus per Residential Customer..."Far" below comparable Technology Costs ***

i.e. "Finish Work" is not included !!! (Ask Me How) ? Residential South Facing Porches Into: Heat Producing, Heat Storing Greenhouse Additions

These Tech.s are Non-Polluting *** Thus, helping to eliminate Polluting Tech.s ***These Tech.s use "No" moving parts ***Thus, "No" to very little Maintenance costs These Tech.s have "No" outside Energy Requirements

(Ask Me How) ? Mini-Blind Technologies Into : Portable Thermosiphon Solar Collectors These Tech.s are Non-Polluting *** Thus, helping to eliminate Polluting Tech.s *** "No" to very little Maintenance costs These Tech.s have "No" outside Energy Requirements (Ask Me How) ? "Insulated" Vacuum Panels *** aka

An "R-100" Building &/or Container Insulation Alternative "Zero" Heat Loss Water Heaters *** "Vacuum" Insulated Space Based Habitation &/or Storage Pod(s)

Bulk Organic Waste Mitigation * Process : Step (1.) "Freeze" all /any incoming Bulk Organic Waste utilizing "the 3rd most abundant element in this universe" i.e. Nitrogen...

Step (2.) "Grind" all /any incoming Bulk Organic Waste (in it's still frozen form) * (ice crystalline structures penetrate cellular membranes)

Step (3.) "Dry" !!! And, utilize this "Reduced Bulk" Ground Organic Waste Product as a Soil Amendment...

"Vacuum" Insulated Space Based / Zero Atmosphere :

Solar Wind Turbine Technology Via Repurposed Radiometer Technology Solar Farms Wind Farms Note(s) Use Updated Shaft Bearings Technology ***

"Self-Designed" Other Technology Possibilities : "Deep Learning" Via Sensory Deprivation & Enhancement Note(s) - Sensory Deprivation could also be used as a treatment protocol in : Certain Mental Illnesses As well as : Stress Mitigation etc., etc., etc... The Production Of : Magnetic &/or ElectroMagnetic Bearings *

Don't send \$760,000+ per unit for homeless housing. Consider innovative solutions being created by college students and designers that cost in some cases under \$10,000 a unit.

Build..build.. Build...negotiate lower prices with mobile home manufacturers...purchase existing mobile home parks..create more mobile home parks... What we have been doing is not working...think outside the box involve more nonprofits

Expand your Small House projects. Make just a little bigger to include bathrooms, lofts for kids sleeping quarters and they can be used for families. Make different communities. Smaller houses for individuals in their own community. i really feel this is so much better than buying condos for people. I feel the goal should be for people to purchase their own homes eventually maybe offer at a later time small homes that they can purchase on small lots.

The creation of more tiny houses that are substantial in terms of quality, and that are built around a community space would be of great help to individuals who are homeless, in the place of the many SROs that no longer exist for them.

Provide permanent public housing for all unhoused families. Stop violating Article 25 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of the UN General Assembly and provide housing for all residents of Los Angeles County.

Please ensure funds for this type of housing go to areas where there is most NEED, not areas of least RESISTANCE.

They all get 200,000. a year allowance.. Now they are not poor.

Seventy percent of Los Angeles County voters approved spending large amounts their tax dollars to provide housing for the homeless. Clearly they care about the welfare of the homeless and want them to have housing. Yet it is also clear that they don't want that housing in their own neighborhood. Never have I seen homeowners and renters protesting because they can't get housing for the homeless established in their neighborhood. But protests by homeowners and renters against having homeless-housing in their neighborhood are commonplace. Examples are the protests in Venice, Korea-Town, and Chatsworth. Many homeowners oppose homeless housing in their neighborhood because they fear it will significantly bring down the value of their homes – in which the majority of their life savings are invested.

I feel that both the interests of the homeless and homeowners and renters should be respected: Housing for the homeless should be built or otherwise established, but not in neighborhoods where the current homeowners and renters oppose it. This, I believe, would exclude most neighborhoods in Supervisorial Districts 1, 2, 3, and 4.

District 5, however, has a land mass greater than the other 4 Districts combined, most of it scarcely populated; and the land value in these areas is generally far less than the land value in the other 4 Districts. I believe homeless housing in these areas would meet far less opposition than in more populated areas.

I would recommend that the County explore the idea of having housing for the homeless in these areas. Large communities composed of small homes or travel-trailers that are heated and air conditioned, with a kitchen, a bathroom, and a living room, could be established in them. Each homeless person could be given exclusive use of such a home, and would, therefore, have both shelter and a degree of privacy. Food, counseling, healthcare, vocational training, and job placement services would be offered to the residents; and there would be common areas in the communities to be used for such purposes as meetings and recreation.

An effort would be made in these communities to prepare the residents to earn an income sufficient for them pay the rent and otherwise provide for themselves anywhere they choose in Los Angeles County or outside of it.

Eugene Pomerantz
13082 Mindanao Way, #36
Marina Del Rey, 90292

818 903 3610

I have assisted two developers in creating over 1500 affordable/homeless units without government funds. Comprehensive strategies need to be developed to encourage this movement ie: property tax exemptions should be extended to covenanted units especially when built without government funds, 80% of AMI rents to allow builders to finance a larger portion of the projects, attach project based vouchers to builders willing to build affordable projects, waive sewer and school fees for builders not using public funds, provide objective, streamlined planning standards (give builders goalposts for predictability), create a simple fund for builders to build 9 unit projects just under the 10 unit prevailing wage threshold (that way your funding will go to \$225K/unit builders), etc. Create a real dignified strategy to house the 60% of unsheltered citizens which will not be able to live independently. Create 15 unit supportive, congregate facilities with a bedroom and bathroom for each resident and an ICMS case worker to manage this reasonable case load. This will also give residents that fall out of retention somewhere to go other than the street.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment (562) 331-7971. I am formally homeless.

Good idea, but it I don't see this in practice. The number of homeless people has skyrocketed and tent cities and illegal encampments are everywhere in LA County. It looks like a third world country.

Make the Development of Affordable Housing less complicated in finding resources for homeless families and individuals

I've read a lot about the tiny homes projects. I would like to see those types of projects pursued immediate to help address the problems of encampments along the San Gabriel River. Once the homes are available we need the encampments cleared out and these individuals need to move into a supportive housing environment to get the help they need. Individuals at these encampments started the fires in 2020 and endangered thousands of lives and homes. They need help and an alternative to campsites immediately for their safety and the community at large.

Provide Trailers to be placed in outlying areas within reach of walking or bussing for grocery shops etc. Provide these trailer parks to have an on-site security guard and visiting caseworkers to help with connecting persons to mental health and getting their monetary benefits like cash aid or SSDI etc.

Also allow section 8 money to include trailer parks as rent runs around \$500 to \$1100 or \$1200 which is more affordable than an apartment with the going rate of \$1600 for a studio or a one bedroom.

Get these large motor home companies and Ford and GM companies to help donate trailers to those in need to be placed in an existing or on a new trailer park..Gently used like new trailers can go as low as \$10,000 to 25,000 which is a lot cheaper than building new dwellings. Even new trailers can be built for less. Let the companies who build at cost get a tax write-off.

Lower cost construction and housing type innovation....no more investment in expensive luxury PSH. We need simple, cost effective solutions. Invest CAPITAL in preserving and expanding Board and Cares

Please allocate money for affordable housing development! We need new housing!

The homeless near me in Mar Vista/Culver City are hoarders which is a mental disease or a manifestation. All of the solutions I read about do not consider and plan for this. If their hoarding is ignore these folks will be back with all their stuff.

not just for homeless people everyone needs help.

Hello,

I would like to know what is being done to use the land that was acquired by the state of california for the bullet train to repurpose that for affordable housing?

Don't forget the use of some Prop H for a separate source of operating subsidies when there is no Section 8

The first wave of Measure H funding allowed service providers to expand their current interim housing facilities. However, we now need to expand our affordable housing inventory. There is a need for permanent housing for individuals that are currently staying in interim housing. Setting aside funds for service providers to build affordable housing units would allow us to fully assist the individuals that have a subsidy but cannot find an affordable unit. Bringing this opportunity to an experienced service provider would also be more beneficial to the tenant who may be better served than a private party/landlord.

Utilize vacant, closed buildings, and make them habitable for housing individuals and families.

Eliminate outdated Suburban planning and code that prevent multiple affordable housing options to be provided : everyone should have safe, affordable place to live in LA County

There are thousands upon thousands of our homeless population who populate the streets they either grew up in or have travelled to because they are not thrown out of a prominent City like Santa Monica or Beverly Hills. It is known that other cities from states across the country are shipping their homeless to the shores of CALI by the hundreds through Bus tickets or Train tickets and when they get here, there are left to fend for themselves with no knowledge of the inner workings of the city. We also know homelessness in Los Angeles has grown tremendously as a result of the incarcerated being released from jail and prison on early releases due to the Pandemic. And then there are others who are hopelessly giving up because the odds of them getting back into mainstream Society is just as difficult if not more so than just taking it day by day living in the streets. The problem with the homeless is the efforts many Los Angelean's are taking with donations which eventually are thrown out in the streets because they are no longer usable. Debris is cluttering our streets, highways, landscapes and sidewalks. We need a serious clean-up effort on a weekly basis to handle the problem. I am all for pulling funds away from permanent housing solutions to clean-up our trashy City. We need a "Beautify LA County" initiative. Every Church in the County has constituents who are more than willing to adopt an area for clean-up and assistance. Charity is what they do. A Coalition with all Churches not just in the areas most affected would be the optimal. That said, affordable housing is hard to come by. This initiatives of creating housing units affordable is great but we have some very dilapidated buildings through out LA County that are abandoned. Instead of creating new buildings, can't we reinvest in those areas and have owners of those buildings donate them for tax credits that can then be rehabilitated for use for short-term living arrangements until permanent housing is made available. And for temporary shelter, for those who are in tents or "mig-shift" cardboard housing, can't we donate uniform tents that are placed on pallets that are arranged, lined up and issued to every homeless person who signs up and designate areas under free-way paths, alongside of parks in designated areas where there are stationery and then have those areas assigned with policing and clean-up details and have the city issue porta-potties in those areas that get picked up each week or more frequently with city workers who are hired from this same population. You need rehab homeless people helping the homeless. These people know what it's like out there and they know the various types of homeless people are filling up our neighborhoods. But if you don't get a grip, people will start exiting Los Angeles and going to the suburbs even migrating out of state because our county and city are not getting the homelessness under control. They are now controlling the streets and bringing home values down and business foot tracker down causing many small businesses to relocate and move which leaves abandoned buildings and another township in distress. This can't be the norm. News outlets need to focus on the homeless, who they are, why they are homeless, where they come from, etc., so that we can start segregating the populations based on needs. We don't want LA to become the homeless capitol of the CONUS encouraging others to migrate here so a monitoring system such as ID card or something should be issued to these people and the type of help they qualify for after professional assessment. Other things that really help them are rolling suitcases and backpacks, water bottles, hygienics, socks, shoes, backpacks or carrying bags, belts, and wet wipes. Don't forget to continue to ask the homeless directly what can you do to help them. I remember passing out food from our Church Outreach Ministry and we asked the people who we were feeding on the streets what they needed. With much surprise, we heard people yelling out; blankets, warm coats, pillows, mattresses, socks, belts, bottled water. At that moment I realized these people were set on staying out in the cold in the streets. Not one of them asked for assistance to get a job or assistance with getting them low income housing. It was a reminder that not everyone who is homeless wants to get back into the mainstream of society but yet they are human, deserve decency, and need whatever help we can lend them. The harvest is great but the laborers are few. We need a mass movement to rally around our most vulnerable. I am willing to do more. Please reach out to me when my ideas are in consideration as I would love to be in coalition with our Church and others in the fight against homelessness. I believe this is where the heart of God is in this present time and moment. So let's get busy.

It is imperative that we begin to create a culture, a consciousness, a value within our society to not use property as a means to oppress people. We must redefine our goal as a culture, that we are not about some people purchasing a home but rather everyone's right to a home, and that we are willing to sacrifice for each other in order to make this happen. This means, for example, that developers build more affordable housing and make less profit; this means we keep property values lower; this means we raise wages to match the ability to purchase a home; and this means we make less from our stock portfolios. I don't think we mice words here, but rather lift people up to see what is before us. What we give up is our own greed; what we gain is a just community that does not allow people to be homeless. What we gain is the pride that we take care of our own, that we are here for one another, and that we are willing to do whatever it takes for each other to build a city without homelessness. Thank you.

work in cooperation with non-profit developers and faith base organizations to build more tiny houses and expand locations beyond cities.

The amount of garbage created by homeless persons creates a bio-hazard risk for the homeless persons, as well as the rest of the members of the community. The threat to public health should be remedied by providing homeless areas with trash bags and trash bins to collect waste. Homeless persons can do their part by exchanging a bag of trash for a meal ticket. The local agency (County/cities) need to provide the trash receptacles and collection.

yes this one we definitely needs

I reside in unincorporated San Gabriel. I shop mainly within a 5 mile radius that takes me into Arcadia, Temple City, San Marino and Pasadena. I see many very large empty buildings that once housed major businesses, such as the empty K-Mart on the corner of Las Tunas and Rosemead in Temple City to name one. It seems they could be modified for homeless housing and I'm not thinking of barracks style housing but modified into tiny home type quarters. These could provide temporary but long-term temporary housing.

Affordable Housing should be a priority. The lack of affordable units in the County is absolutely crushing community members' ability to secure safe, adequate, healthy housing. Too many Angelinos are experiencing unsafe living conditions due to overcrowding, environmental concerns, or lack of structural integrity of illegal structures. They are susceptible to harassment or exploitation by less than scrupulous landlords. Preventing low-income families from losing their housing means less community members becoming unhoused and needing expensive emergency medical attention and immediate intervention. Angelinos need safety and they need support.

No

Need to provide funding to service providers who have the land and unit availability to offer subsidized housing for various populations. Supervised Independent Living Programs and Rapid Rehousing Programs often struggle to find a landlord that offers affordable housing. Is there a database of landlords they can reach out to?

Affordable housing is difficult for everyone in California, well almost everyone. That is a contributing factor is homelessness. If builders were granted a tax and regulation incentive to build, it might increase construction. The funds from measure H should be distributed more equitably so that those cities with the most homeless get the larger share of funds.

I find it fascinating and hypocritical that here in Skid Row people have been pathologized through displacement and containment all while re-zoning and gentrification is amplified in the midst of poverty, displacement and homelessness. It truly sheds light on the cognitive dissonance of privilege which could overlook vulnerable poor people unhoused while intentionally creating a path for others. We must do better. Doing better requires accountability to elected officials and high end developers who are provided tax breaks and exemptions while never being held to the fire with being truly being a major player in the solutions. This work towards ending homelessness requires all hands on deck.

When we don't preserve the sustainability for our most vulnerable individuals and families we then create a caste system. We can no longer talk about equality and empowerment while continuing to enforce inequities.

In my work with a number of leading community organizations in LA County, I am constantly amazed at how many community leaders and stakeholders know NOTHING about the work that the LA County Housing Initiative partners are doing to address and prevent homelessness! I recommend that you develop a broad-based marketing and communications campaign to inform the larger public about your important work, particularly since this work is funded by taxpayers. In particular, I think you need to include in this campaign the "why" about the high cost per unit of construction, and what is being done to bring this cost down. I hear a LOT of complaints about this, which, sadly, has resulted in a general negativity about the homeless initiative.

There is a great need for permanent supportive housing and subsidized housing overall. Within the field, it is clear that the underlying issue is that market rent is too high and no one can afford the cost of living; this is especially true for single parents, for those facing varying immigration statuses, for those that are experiencing language barriers, especially as they belong to the Asian Pacific-Islander (API) community. The underlying cause of homelessness speaks to a deeper level of need, to intergenerational and systemic issues of poverty and marginalization, which affects a persons ability to contain wealth and resource. As DV affects every single facet of someone's life, there is a deep level of support that is needed. Given current market rent, few people are able to afford single-income homes, and for DV/SA/HT survivors in particular, staying with an abusive partner to avoid homelessness is not an option, is life-risking. Because abusive partners often know all the intimate details of a victim's life, friends and family are not typically safe options. Additionally, moving in with a stranger and random roommate may be too re-traumatizing or unsafe, especially if children are involved. Subsidized and affordable housing, for many, would solve a huge barrier.

Stop raising the rent and explore the property before sending families to dumps. Fine the slum landlords! Pass a bill.