

Street Perspective of Homeless Services

*Prepared for South Bay Cities Council of Governments
Board of Directors Meeting*



July 25, 2019

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Outline

- Services provided through LA County's Coordinated Entry System (CES)
- Deeper Look into "Street Outreach"
- CES Multi-Agency Collaboration: Client Story
- Homelessness Challenges
- Solutions Throughout South Bay Cities
- Closing Remarks

Providing Services through Coordinated Entry System (CES)

- CES is all about **moving people into housing** and working with them to ensure their stability so they do not become homeless again
- While all of our services are singularly focused toward this goal, we know:
 - There are several steps that take place before this can happen
 - ***Building trusting relationships with those experiencing homelessness is key to our collective success***

South Bay CES Structure

Service Planning Area (SPA) 8 South Bay

Coordinated Entry System (CES)

For youth, individuals, and families experiencing homelessness

A collaborative of



The image displays a grid of logos for various partner organizations. The logos include: HIS (Harbor Interfaith Services), MHA (Mental Health America of Los Angeles), Catholic Charities of Los Angeles, SHARE! (Share the Love), PATH (Making it Home), US VETS (United States Veterans Network), Providence Health & Services Southern California, Hathaway-Sycamores (Real Hope & Thrive), 1736 Family Crisis Center, Home Me Help You, Southern Social Services (Community Connections), South Bay Coalition (Youth and Homelessness), LAHSA (Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority), and United Way Greater Los Angeles.

- LA County's backbone for providing key services
- Began in 2014, now in its sixth year
- Funded through Measure H
- Collaborative of several community-based organizations
- Brings County and Federal resources to South Bay

CES Services

- **Interim Housing**
 - Short Term (typically 90-120 days) or Longer Term stays for domestic violence survivors, youth (typically 12-18 months)
- **Permanent Housing**
 - **Different options tailored to meet person's individual need**
 - Short-Term (measured in months) rental assistance: Rapid Re-Housing
 - Housing Voucher program (measured in years) often with supportive services, typically for the disabled
 - Relocation/Reunification with family; "Shared Housing"
- **Prevention**
 - Goal to keep person or family housed where currently living, or relocate to another unit if rent too high

CES Services: Street Outreach

- **Street Outreach's goals**
 - To build those meaningful, trusting relationships with those experiencing homelessness
 - We know 80% of those on the streets will not find their way to an access center, so we must go to them
- **“Proactive” vs “Reactive”** outreach
 - Local cities, law enforcement requests
 - LA-HOP.org requests
- **60 Outreach Staff** working across South Bay



Bringing It All Together: Client Story



- Charles & Deidre – Homeless 8 years
- Could no longer afford rent in the apartment they lived in for 12 years
- Received HACLA Voucher that helped them move into an ADA unit with their pet
- They moved into their new home 1 week before their voucher expired
- The couple both were postponing surgery until they secured housing and could recuperate in a healthy environment

Street Level Challenges

- **Lack of South Bay Shelters**
 - Moves people off the streets
 - Helps to stabilize their condition
 - Easier to stay connected with participants
- **Encampment Cleanups**
 - Timely communication and coordination of these events
 - “Hot Spot” multi-jurisdictional planning
- **Differing City-to-City Ordinances, How Enforced**
 - Overnight parking

Other Challenges

- **Public Perception**
 - Homeless is complex, not solved overnight
 - Need “myth buster” education to address community activists’ fears, NIMBY-ism
- **Regional Level**
 - Rising rents, evictions
 - Need for affordable housing, supportive housing
- **LA County System Level**
 - Measure H funding not a panacea, evolving each year
 - County policies do not take into account regional uniqueness

South Bay Solutions: New Housing, Shelter

- “Veteran’s Village at Carson” housing opening Fall 2019
- Hawthorne’s City Council approved housing on its city lot
- City of Los Angeles “A Bridge Home” temporary shelters opening in San Pedro, Wilmington



Veteran’s Village at Carson rendition: 51 units,
1-, 2- 3- bedrooms



San Pedro Bridge Home rendition: 100 beds

South Bay Solutions: Increased City Homelessness Focus

- Local law enforcement partnerships with CES
- South Bay Cities “Homelessness Plan Implementation” Measure H Grants
- Homelessness Focused at: City Task Forces, City Commission, Neighborhood Council Committees
- City participation at LA County Homeless Initiative Annual Conference
- Engagement with South Bay Council of Governments Homeless Services Task Force

Closing Remarks

South Bay CES FY18-19 Housing Outcomes for individuals, transitional age youth, and family units (as reported by Harbor Interfaith*):



- **Permanently Housed: 410**
- **Prevention: 144**

** Other SPA 8 agencies received Measure H funding but whose outcomes are not included (PATH, 1736 FCC)*



***“Alone we can do so little;
together we can do so much”***

- Helen Keller