

# Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness Update

Tina Cherry, Community Services Director May 2, 2023

## Objective

- Provide a history & background on the City's Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness ("Plan")
- Provide an update on the current Plan
- Report on the results of the Plan to date
- Provide recommendations on the next steps in our Plan to Prevents and Combat Homelessness

## Background

- The City has been engaged in strategies to prevent and combat homelessness for many years
- In 2014, the City established the *Homeless and Park Conduct Committee* to discuss strategies to manage this community challenge and developed the following action items:
  - Continue to be relentless in our contact with those experiencing homelessness
  - Educate the community on those who are resistant to services
    - Work to re-direct any contributions to services and providers such as Foothill Unity Center
  - Creating activity in the parks to deter illicit and vagrant activity
    - Populate the Park Program
  - Installed cameras in City parks

## Background

- July 2017, Los Angeles County launched a program to invite cities to develop a plan to prevent homelessness
- The City applied for and secured funding to formalize the plan developed in 2014
- In 2018, the City began community outreach and in July 2018, City Council adopted the Plan
  - · San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments
  - Monrovia Unified School District
  - Azusa Pacific University
  - Foothill Unity Center
  - Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health
  - Los Angeles Housing Services Authority
  - Pasadena Union Station

- Monrovia Foothills Kitchen
- St. Vincent De Paul Society
- Pasadena Humane Society
- . Baldwin Park Housing Authority Section 8
- Flintridge Center, Salvation Army
- · Santa Anita Family Services
- Pasadena Superior Court.

### Plan Overview

- The Plan outlines the process used to develop the action items
- Includes clearly stated goals and action items under each goal
- The complete plan can be found on the <u>City's website</u> and has been provided to you this evening
- Residents can also find additional information on the <u>City's website</u> such as the Point-in-Time Count



### Plan Goals

- 1. Be relentless in our contact with anyone suffering from homelessness.
  - Create connection with those experiencing homelessness
  - Develop an enhanced understanding of their needs and unique circumstances
  - Be accessible to provide services when they are ready
- 2. Expand community coordination in support of ending homelessness.
  - Develop relationships with key stakeholders in the community to leverage the partnerships to better meet the needs
- 3. Promote the use of the Coordinated Entry System (CES).
  - Ensures we are supporting the regional effort to enter all clients into the CES
  - Provide training to service organization on the CES

### Plan Goals

- 4. Develop educational materials in partnership with LA County.
  - Develop and distribute material to better inform the community on ways to promote a health and safety
  - "Tool Kit" Resources to Prevent and End Homelessness
- 5. Develop a Monrovia-centric directed giving campaign.
  - Educate the community through print material, signage, and social media on the importance of giving to service providers
- 6. Develop a Housing Displacement Response Plan.
  - Finalize the development of the HDRP program and implement the service
  - It is more cost effective to keep people in their homes than it is to rehouse
  - Protecting a family and ensuring children sustain their community and support system

Be relentless in our contact with anyone suffering from homelessness.

- Community Activist Policing ("CAP") Team continues to thrive and meet this goal
- Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health Clinician
  - Every other week on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, Clinician working 10 hours shift
  - Making contact with known clients
  - Following up on new cases identified by MPD
  - Makes connections as needed with other services providers for those with sever mental health challenges to provide more long term care = Goal to encourage client to accept treatment
- Every Monday LA CADA (Los Angeles Center for Alcohol and Drug Abuse) sends a 3 person team to Monrovia to conduct outreach
  - While this has been a good resource, the data on the actual results is limited
  - To date we are unaware of a Monrovian being placed in a bed; this could be due to no available beds or the clients refuse the service
- CAP team responds to calls for service related to transient activity when available

Expand community coordination in support of ending homelessness.

- Continue to partner and outreach to Faith Community about HDRP
- Develop an enhanced relationship between MPD and LACDMH
- Continue our coordination with Foothill Unity Center
- Recently made contact with MUSD Social Worker overseeing the McKinney Vento Grant

Promote the use of the Coordinated Entry System (CES).

- CES is the network that aligns homeless services in LA County. CES comes together through a data-base called the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS), and is accessible to service providers like Foothill Unity Center.
- HMIS holds the information of CES participants and is integral to how homeless individuals are prioritized, referred and tracked as they move on their journey toward housing.
- Essentially the CES system aims to coordinate resources by matching client needs with resources available.
- The City does not have access to CES.

Develop educational materials in partnership with LA County.

- Robust webpage under the City Managers
   Page with a ton of resources
- Created the Tool Kit
  - Who can help
  - Where you can help
  - Where to get help
  - Where to give help
- Updated last in 2022



#### HELP SUPPORT COORDINATE

City of Monrovia
Homeless Response Kit

Resources to Prevent and End Homelessness

Develop a Monrovia-centric directed giving campaign.

- Unable to secure Pay Pedestals through the company who previously donated them
- Difficulty in coordinating with service providers
  - Due to COVID the program slowed
- Goal was more about community education rather than the actual fund raising

Develop a Housing Displacement Response Plan.

- Successfully implemented and grown over the last 5 years due to grant funding through the SGVCOG and Measure H funding
  - Housing Displacement Response Plan (HDRP)
  - Emergency COVID Housing Impact Program (eCHIP)
  - Family and Advocate Support Services (FASS)

#### HDRP Results since 2018

- Total Funding = \$154,960
- 63 Households served
- 167 people served
  - 71 adults
  - 78 children
  - 18 Seniors

63 Families Served \$2,460 per family to keep them housed

### eCHIP Results since October 2022

- Total Funding = \$193,500
- 110 Households served
- 406 people served
  - 231 adults
  - 167 children
  - 8 seniors

110 Families served \$1,760 per family to keep them housed

## FASS Program Since July 2022

- Total Funding = \$50,000
- 39 Households served
- 63 people served
  - 35 adults
  - 20 children
  - 8 seniors

39 Families served

\$1,282 per family to provide wrap-around care to reduce housing insecurity

Current Status = Funding to end May 31, 2023

• Requesting an additional allocation of \$5,000 to continue the program through FY 22/23

### Lessons Learned

- Those experiencing homelessness all have unique stories and circumstances
  - One solution will not fit all circumstances
- It is more cost effective to keep families in their homes than it is to rehouse families
  - Keeping people in their community with their support system is vital to their overall well-being (children, seniors, teenagers, veterans)
- There continues to be a large number of individuals who are resistant to services
- Case management works
  - Wrap-around care with food insecurity, financial literacy, job training and housing navigation are all critical
  - Follow through and coordination requires more time and resources than anticipated

### Recommendations

Staff have met with our community partners and discussed what should we focus on moving forward based on what we have learned.

- Continue to be relentless in our contact with anyone suffering from homelessness
- 2. Continue to expand community coordination and partnerships to address the need
- 3. Continue to promote the use of the CES
- 4. Continue to update our information and share educational materials with the community
- 5. Continue to provide HDRP and FASS

## Funding Recommendations

Included in the upcoming two-year budget (FY 23/24 & 24/25), staff will recommend funding to support ongoing services

- HDRP = \$60,000 / annually
- FASS = \$75,000 / annually





This program is funded through a San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments Grant Program

#### **Need Assistance?**

Foothill Unity Center, Inc. in partnership with the City of Monrovia will now be providing Case Management Services at the Monrovia Community Center

#### **PARTNERSHIP DETAILS:**

#### WHEN:

Monday 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm Tuesday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm 12:30 pm - 4:30 pm Wednesday Thursday 8:00 am - 2:00 pm

Walk-ins are welcomed Appointments are preferred

#### WHERE:

Monrovia Community Center 119 W Palm Ave. Monrovia, CA. 91016 (626) 256-8135

#### Case Management Services

- · Crisis Case Management
- · Homeless/Housing Referrals
- · Eviction Prevention Support Services
- · Advocate Support Services
- Food Services Assistance

#### Job Development

- Resume Building
- Mock Interviews
- Employee Referrals
- · Senior Employment Opportunities

#### **Health Services**

- · Dental and Glasses Referrals
- · Medi-Cal and CalFresh Assistance
- . In-Home Support Services Enrollment Assistance

For more details, please contact sondra@foothillunitycenter.org

"Be the **HEART** of **HOPE** 



## Questions / Discussions