

February
2020



A MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER TO
INFORM, EDUCATE, AND
PROVIDE UPDATES ON
HOMELESSNESS IN
FULLERTON

The Helping Hand

Homeless Services Update

this issue

Safe Parking Program **P.1**

HLOs **P.1**

Homeless Plan Committee **P.2**

Fullerton Safe Parking Program



On October 1, 2019 the City Council approved a temporary Safe Parking Program in partnership with the Illumination Foundation. The Safe Parking Program provides families and/or individuals who dwell in their vehicles with a safe and

legal place to park and sleep at night, a case manager works with the participants to access supportive services such as the Coordinated Entry System (CES).

The six-month pilot program commenced on November 12, 2019. Since commencement of the program, 18 people have participated; 13 of the participants remain in the program and are working with the Illumination Foundation to be connected to permanent housing.

Feedback from businesses adjacent to the safe parking lot has been positive as the presence of security at night and operating restrictions have substantially improved the parking lot and surrounding areas during the course of the program. The six-month program is funded until May, 2020 with a goal of transitioning the program from City-sponsored to a privately run program.



Pathways of Hope Service Update



In a recent letter to the community, Pathways of Hope's Executive Director David Gillanders provided an overview of what is to come for the organization.

In the Richman Neighborhood they have expanded the services at their HUB resource center to offer more resources for families and individuals on the brink of homelessness. Every day, they hear stories from community members about the struggle of simply paying the rent in this challenging housing market.

Pathways knows that keeping people from entering into homelessness – keeping people housed – should be a top priority. Pathways of Hope wants everyone to have a safe and stable place to call home.

In addition, Pathways launched their new College Food and Service Navigation programming at Fullerton College, Cypress College, and the North Orange Continuing Education (NOCE) campus in Anaheim. At Fullerton and Cypress, they amplified two pre-existing food pantries and added critical service navigation and linkage to housing services for students with unstable housing. At NOCE, they started a brand-new food pantry and service center entirely from scratch.

Together, these sites serve over 500 students per week. When they consider the number of family members impacted by these students' use of this program, they are touching as many as 1,500 lives each week.



Homeless Plan Committee Presents at City Council

On July 2, 2019 City Council directed the City Manager to establish an Ad Hoc Homelessness Task Force in order to develop a coordinated and collaborative response to homelessness in Fullerton. The Task Force, retitled the Fullerton Homeless Plan Committee (FHPC), was comprised of residents, service providers, faith leaders, business community, hospitals, and colleges. The culmination of the FHPC's work was the development of a Strategic Plan for Addressing Homelessness in Fullerton.

At the February 18, 2020 City Council meeting the Homeless Plan Committee presented their final report. City staff provided an overview of city efforts to address homelessness over the past two years. The Chair of the committee Rusty Kennedy introduced the committee members and presented the report. The report includes an executive summary with short term recommendations, comprehensive recommendations, key findings, and the committee process.

The City Council approved with a 4-1 vote to Receive and file the Fullerton Homeless Plan Committee's Strategic Plan for Addressing Homelessness and to adopt Resolution No. 2020-24. The resolution directs the city to consider amendments for religious institutions to have the ability to develop housing on its property. With a 4-1 vote Council approved directing the City Manager to bring back a process to prioritize the use of available City-owned land for development of Permanent Supportive Housing and / or Affordable Housing and to prepare Resolution of Intention for development of an affordable housing overlay zone by June 2020. The City Council directed with a 5-0 vote for the City Manager to negotiate an agreement with the Illumination Foundation for the Navigation and Recuperative Care Center.

Per the request of Council, city staff will be responding to each of the Plan Recommendations. The Homeless Plan Committee Report can be found at www.cityoffullerton/homeless.

Homeless Plan Committee Members

Rusty Kennedy, Chair, Fullerton Resident, former Chair of Fullerton Mentally Ill Homeless Task Force, retired non-profit CEO.

Allison Howell –Fullerton Resident, Local Business Owner

Barbara Johnson –Fullerton Resident, Pathways of Hope Founder, Full. Interfaith Ministerial Assn.

Barry Ross -Providence St. Joseph Health Regional Director, Fullerton Collaborative Board

David Gillanders, -CEO Pathways of Hope, Executive Comm. Family Solutions Collaborative

Deacon Richard Doubledde- Deacon, St. Philip Benizi, Tri-Parish Homelessness Collaborative

Harry Langenbacher -Fullerton Resident, Housing Is a Human Right OC

Rev. Jason Philips -Fullerton Resident, Fullerton ACT, Full. Collaborative Homeless Task Force

Rev. Jay Williams -Fullerton Resident, Executive Director of OC United

Karen Sharma -Fullerton Resident, Substitute School Teacher, FJUHSD, Business Owner

Lisa McPheron - Director of Campus Communications, Fullerton College

Matt Bates -VP, City Net, Continuum of Care Board, Commission to End Homelessness Board

Mitch Fierro -Fullerton Resident, Fullerton Free Church, OC United Board Member

Rev. Dr. Mandy Yates -Pastor of First Christian Church Fullerton, Chair, Fullerton Interfaith Ministerial Assn, Fullerton Collaborative Task Force on Homelessness

Theresa Harvey/Natalie Nuesca -North OC Chamber of Commerce

City Support Staff: Briana Stickney, Homeless Resources Coordinator

To learn more about how the City of Fullerton is addressing homelessness please visit www.cityoffullerton/homeless.

Contact: Briana Stickney- Homeless Resources Coordinator bstickney@cityoffullerton.com