

OCTOBER 2019



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

# The Helping Hand

## Homeless Services Update

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### Success Stories

**9/13/19:**

Client made an appointment to meet with City Net on 9/12/19 at St. Mary's Church. Client shared that he has been homeless for about two years. After family difficulties, client was living in his pick-up truck and found it difficult to keep his job. Client is currently applying for SSI and is awaiting results. On 9/13/19 case managers completed his VISPDAT. Case managers were informed that day that there were not any male beds left at Bridges at Kraemer. Later, a bed was reserved through collaboration with case managers and Fullerton Homeless Liaison Officers. Client remains sheltered and is very grateful for the shelter opportunity.

**9/11/19:**

Male client has been homeless on and off for 15 years. City Net met client in March 2019 at the St. Philip Benizi encampment. The client was initially hesitant to receive services from City Net. After many months of building rapport with the client, he came up to case managers and said that he was ready to get off the streets and would like to go to Kraemer, so City Net arranged referral, transport and entry.



### Mercy House Opens Armory Cold Weather Shelter



The County of Orange, in partnership with Mercy House Inc. and the California National Guard, has opened the seasonal Armory Emergency Shelter (armory) in Fullerton more than a month earlier than usual, providing up to 200 beds for individuals experiencing homelessness.

The armory typically runs operations during the cold weather season and provides shelter along with a nutritious meal, warm shower, safe place to sleep and a wide variety of supportive services. Doors will open at 7 p.m., and shuttles will begin pick-ups at 6 p.m. from multiple locations to transport program participants to the facility at 400 S. Brookhurst Road. Walk-ups will not be permitted.

As in previous years, many agencies will provide on-site services aimed at breaking the cycle of homelessness and moving individuals to self-sufficiency and independent living. These agencies include, but are not limited to, Orange County Health Care Agency, Orange County Social Services Agency, Mental Health Association of Orange County and Orange County Rescue Mission. Donations from nonprofit organizations, churches and individuals add to the available resources to make this program a success.

"Homelessness is a critical and prioritized issue in Orange County," says Chairwoman Lisa Bartlett, Fifth District Supervisor. "Through our community's efforts, the Armory Emergency Shelter program is able to provide a wide range of services which play an important role in the County's System of Care."

The Armory Emergency Shelter program is operated by Mercy House through a contract and funding allocated by the County's OC Community Resources department.

For further information about the Fullerton armory including shuttle pick-up locations, visit the Mercy House webpage or contact Mercy House at (714) 836-7188 ext. 170. For volunteer information, contact (714) 836-7188 ext. 168 or [AlyssaS@mercyhouse.net](mailto:AlyssaS@mercyhouse.net).

For additional information about the County's shelters, visit the OC Housing & Homeless Services webpage.

## Community Meetings

### *Fullerton Collaborative Task Force on Homelessness*

**When:** 3rd Monday of the month

**Location:** First Lutheran Church (215 N Lemon St, Fullerton, CA 92832)

**Time:** 12:30pm-1:30pm

**Purpose:** Advocate towards solutions. Educate the community on the issue and the solutions.

### *Fullerton Homeless Plan Committee*

**When:** Next meeting is Nov 11th. Meeting is held every other Tuesday from Aug 20th – Nov 26th

**Location:** Fullerton Community Center (Grand Hall)

**Time:** 10am-11:30pm

**Purpose:** To create a comprehensive strategic plan addressing homelessness on a collective impact level.

*Select Committee on Orange County Chronic Homelessness*  
Sharon Quirk-Silva, Chair

CALIFORNIA'S HOMELESSNESS  
CRISIS

Assembly Select Committee on Orange County Chronic Homelessness Hearing

Buena Park City Council Chambers  
6650 Beach Blvd

## Homeless Liaison Officers Featured In OC Register Article

Homeless Liaison Officers Matt Kalscheuer and Jesus Salazar were interviewed by the OC Register to discuss the changes law enforcement has made when working with the homeless community. The article shares from the lens of how the city has grown from the Kelly Thomas incident and has taken strides best practices. Below are photos and excerpts from the article.



“Fullerton police Officer Matt Kalscheuer watches as Officer Jesus Salazar -bumps Jose Romero at a homeless camp on Gilbert Street in Fullerton this month. The two officers are homeless liaisons on the Delta Unit. They receive training on how to interact with people with mental issues and the homeless.”

“Fullerton police Officer Jesus Salazar talks with Lucy Madrigal, 38, at a homeless camp on Gilbert Street in Fullerton. Madrigal’s six kids, ages 7 to 17, live with her sister. Salazar is a homeless liaison for the city.”



To read the article by Tony Saavedra of the OC Register please visit [ocregister.com](http://ocregister.com).



## Fullerton Armory Cold Weather

### Snapshot

Below are the stats the City of Fullerton has received regarding the clients currently staying at the Fullerton Armory Cold-Weather Shelter. The shelter opened on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Shelter Stay	10/22/19	10/28/19	10/29/19
	Total Clients: 50	Total Clients: 56	Total Clients: 65
	Single Men: 36	Single Men: 38	Single Men: 40
	Single Woman: 14	Single Women: 18	Single Women: 25
	Families: 0	Families: 0	Families: 0

  

Fullerton Bus Pick-up	10/18/19	10/19/19	10/20/19	10/22/19	10/23/19
	28	29	24	33	45

For more information: [www.cityoffullerton.com/homelessness](http://www.cityoffullerton.com/homelessness)