

The City of Pasadena's Approach to Ending Homelessness

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Homelessness is a product of complex dynamics that has a widespread impact on communities across the nation, including Pasadena. It can be acute or chronic- lasting days, weeks, months or years, and can be associated with personal economic struggles or a sudden financial challenge, domestic disputes, traumatic experiences, substance use disorders or mental illness. Addressing homelessness requires continued cross-sector collaboration to strategically allocate resources and successfully implement long-term solutions.

To enact the vision of ending homelessness in Pasadena, the City supports the implementation of programs that are grounded in evidence-based best practices that have been acknowledged as effective in ending homelessness. Nearly \$7 million in federal, state, and local funding has been allocated to the City and is being used to support a diverse group of programs and interventions for people experiencing homelessness in Pasadena.

For more information, please visit pasadenapartnership.org or contact Jennifer O'Reilly-Jones, Homeless Program Coordinator at joreillyjones@cityofpasadena.net

Homelessness Prevention

Homelessness Prevention programs provide short-term assistance for participants who are at imminent-risk of homelessness to resolve a crisis so that they can maintain their housing or find a suitable housing alternative to avoid becoming homeless. The City primarily funds Friends In Deed, a local non-profit, to provide short-term financial assistance and housing stabilization planning to single adults and families that are at risk of eviction or homelessness in Pasadena.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) is an effective intervention for formerly chronic homeless individuals and families who are highly vulnerable, living with a disabling condition, and need long-term support to live stably in their communities. The City allocates approximately \$3 million annually to fund housing and supportive services for individuals, families and youth in Pasadena. There are currently three PSH apartment buildings in Pasadena providing permanent housing with intensive services for over 250 men, women and children.

Rapid Rehousing

Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) is a strategy that quickly re-houses people experiencing homelessness, though not chronically homeless, through time-limited financial assistance and targeted supportive services. Pasadena funds Union Station Homeless Services and Foothill Unity Center to lead this housing intervention for single adults and families, and Hathaway-Sycamores Child and Family Services administers a youth-specific intervention for individuals between the ages of 18-24.

Emergency Shelter

Emergency Shelter programs provide temporary shelter for people experiencing homelessness. Various year round emergency shelter beds are in operation throughout the city and specifically serve certain subpopulations, such as single adults, families with children, or youth. Pasadena also has a weather-activated winter shelter that is open on cold or wet nights from the day after

Thanksgiving to March 1st. The City also funds local nonprofit homeless service providers to use motel vouchers for those who will not or cannot use the shelters.

Street Outreach

Pasadena has five dedicated local outreach teams that collectively work to cover 100% of the city's geographic area, with the primary goal of quickly identifying and engaging people experiencing unsheltered homelessness. The City currently funds Friends In Deed's street-based outreach team, a Public Health Department outreach worker for the public libraries, and a Housing Works working specifically with Huntington Hospital patients who are experiencing homelessness. Street outreach teams are consistently on the front lines working to build trusting relationships to ultimately connect people with services to support the movement into permanent housing.

HOPE Teams

The Pasadena Police Department and the L.A. County Department of Mental Health collaborate to provide HOPE Teams consisting of one specially trained police officer and mental health care specialist from the Homeless Outreach Psychiatric Evaluation (HOPE) team provide crisis intervention to address the immediate mental health needs of people experiencing homelessness.

PORT Team

In partnership with the Fire Department, the Public Health Department's Pasadena Outreach Response Team (PORT) implements a field based approach to engage, assess and serve people experiencing homelessness with severe mental illness, substance use disorders, physical disabilities and chronic health conditions.

Pasadena Public Health Department Programs

The Pasadena Public Health Department's Social and Mental Health Division administers a program that aims to improve HIV health outcomes among people experiencing homelessness through the coordination of supportive employment and housing services. The department also has a stationed care navigator at the Pasadena Central Library to provide intense case management and linkages to care for all populations experiencing homelessness with chronic health conditions and/or mental health and substance use disorders.

Housing Locators

The City has recently prioritized investing in Housing Locators to identify available units for individuals, families and youth experiencing homelessness who are enrolled in Pasadena funded PSH and RRH programs. The primary role of housing locators is to engage, recruit, and establish relationships with landlords and property management companies in and around Pasadena to improve access to and availability of permanent housing.

Landlord Incentives

The City administers a Homeless Incentives Program (HIP) that provides financial incentives to private landlords who rent available units to rental assistance voucher holders who are experiencing homelessness. Incentives include holding fees, move-in assistance, vacancy loss payments, and damage claims.

Real Change Movement

This public education campaign on homelessness was developed by the City of Pasadena, Flintridge Center, and Art Center College of Design. It seeks to provide information about homeless programming and resources, as well as give the public an opportunity to make a meaningful difference. If you would like to invest in a real solution to end homelessness, please visit any of our orange donation meters throughout the City. All donations are leveraged by United Way of Greater Los Angeles. For more information, please visit www.realchangemovement.org