

Office of Care Coordination Newsletter NOVEMBER 2017



VOLUNTEERS SERVING A MEAL AT THE COURTY ARD TRANSITIONAL CENTER

Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

November 11 through 19, 2017, will be Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week sponsored by the National Coalition for Homeless and National Student Campaign against Hunger and Homelessness. The Office of Care Coordination recognizes that hunger and homelessness is a serious problem for many individuals and families and is committed to supporting solutions that address hunger and homelessness.

Every day with the help of community and faith-based organizations, the Courtyard Transitional Shelter and Bridges at Kraemer Place helps address both hunger and homelessness by providing respite from the streets and warm meals to hundreds of individuals experiencing homelessness.

With Thanksgiving upon us, the Office of Care Coordination would like to thank the community at-large for their continued support, contributions and investments being made as we work on building a System of Care that can best help address homelessness in our communities.

The Office of Care Coordination has prepared regional flyers in Ways the Community Can Assist listing local organizations that provide resources and supportive services to individuals and families experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness. To obtain PDF copies of the flyers visit: http://www.ocgov.com/gov/ceo/care/docs.



Give Back Around the Thanksgiving Holiday

The Courtyard Transitional Center provides shelter each night for about 400 members of the homeless community. There are opportunities to give back this holiday season through donating items to the Courtyard. Donations are accepted Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 400 W. Santa Ana Blvd., Santa Ana, CA 92701. Below is their current list of needed items:

- Bath towels
- Men's and women's undergarments
- Cases of water
- Gift cards to consignment stores
- Gift cards to warehouse stores

- Coffee percolators
- Rain ponchos
- Hair brushes
- Hand sanitizer
- Shelving units

For more information visit http://citynet.org/courtyard/.

Service Planning Areas

NORTH

Fourth District Elected Officials Roundtable on Homelessness



Supervisor Shawn Nelson, Fourth District, hosted a roundtable for Fourth District council members and city management to discuss solutions for homelessness. Susan Price, the director of Care Coordination, also attended to provide an update on the county's efforts. It was a venue for the cities to ask questions, receive feedback and collaborate with each other, along with the county. Supervisor Nelson looks forward to partnering with the cities in the Fourth District to implement solutions for individuals experiencing homelessness.

CENTRAL

Behavioral Health Services Training for City of Fountain Valley

Jason Austin, the division manager for the Behavioral Health Navigation, Innovation and Training, provided two one-hour training sessions to the City of Fountain Valley staff whose line of work requires they interact with individuals experiencing behavioral health concerns. The training was attended by approximately 55 individuals total, including staff from parks and public works departments. The trainings focused on self-awareness, helpful tips and guidance on how to interact with individuals experiencing a behavioral health concern in a way that you are comfortable, and an overview of available behavioral health resources in the community and how to best access them. The trainings were well received by the group and offered an opportunity for those in attendance to ask questions and work through various scenarios they frequently encounter.

SOUTH

Educational Forum on Homelessness

The County of Orange Director of Care Coordination, Susan Price, participated in the panel of speakers for Homelessness: What it is and Who are Our Homeless Citizens? Hosted by OC Alliance for Just Change (OCAFJC). The panel also included Brad Fieldhouse, president and founder of City Net and Karen Williams, president and chief executive officer, of 2-1-1 Orange County.

OCAFJC will be hosting three additional forums pertaining to homelessness in 2018. For more information about these events, please visit www.ocajc.org or contact admin@ocajc.org.

Progress on Homelessness in the News!

Below is a list of articles pertaining to homeless issues that were released in the last month:

- <u>Deputies launch regular patrols of riverbed encampments, a 'whole world within a world'</u> by Greg Hardesty, Behind the Badge OCSD
- To discourage homeless encampment, <u>Santa Ana is banning structures and other property at Civic Center</u> by Jonathan Winslow, OC Register
- Sheriff's deputies have made 180 arrest in Santa Ana River bed, and had 1,000 contacts with homeless people in an effort to help them —by Alma Fausto, OC Register
- Orange County to open winter shelters for the homeless at local armories beginning Monday by Theresa Walker, OC Register
- Is compassion giving away to anger over homelessness in Southern California? by Theresa Walker, OC Register
- County to restrict access to Santa Ana <u>Riverbed trail and shut down Fountain</u> <u>Valley homeless encampment</u> by Theresa Walker, OC Registry
- Construction delays prevent early opening of Fullerton armory as winter shelter for homeless by Theresa Walker, OC Register



State Affordable Housing Legislative Package

Funding for Affordable Homes

The affordable housing package included two funding components — a one-time general obligation bond subject to voter approval and a new tax on document recording. The recording tax will provide a permanent source of funding for affordable homes, with funding allocated specifically to homelessness programs and planning in the first year of the program.

• SB 2 (Atkins), the Building Homes and Jobs Act, establishes a new \$75 recording fee on real estate transactions (excluding new home purchases) to create a permanent source of state funding for affordable housing (up to \$225 per transaction). This new tax is expected to generate approximately \$225 – \$260 million per year in revenue.

In year one, half of the funding will go to address the state's homelessness epidemic on a competitive basis with geographic equity and the other half will be available for local governments for updating planning documents, including general plans and community plans. After the first year, 70 percent of funds will be allocated to local governments, 10 percent to farmworker housing, and 15 percent to the California Housing Finance Agency for mixed-income workforce housing.

• SB 3 (Beall), the Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2018, places a measure on the November 2018 statewide ballot asking the voters to approve the issuance of \$4 billion in general obligation bonds. Three billion dollars will be allocated to funding affordable housing development through existing state programs, all of which include counties as eligible applicants. The additional \$1 billion would be used to recapitalize an affordable homeownership program for veterans that would otherwise run out of capacity in 2018. This portion of the bond funds would be repaid back through veterans' mortgage payments.

A more complete summary of SB 2 and SB 3 funding allocations is available on the CSAC website here: http://www.counties.org/sites/main/files/file-

attachments/sb 2 and sb 3 csac analysis 102617.pdf.

CalOptima Prioritizes the Opioid Epidemic, Homeless Health and Children's Mental Health

For 2017, CalOptima's Board of Directors identified strategic priority areas, which include opioid abuse, homeless health and children's mental health. CalOptima will make funding available to our community partners through a community grant process.

The agency is requesting Letters of Interest to help them determine the funding levels for the three Priority Areas. For more information visit: https://www.caloptima.org/Community/CommunityGrants.aspx

Streamlining Legislation

The governor's support for new funding was contingent on the approval of streamlined permitting processes. The key "streamlining" bill approved as part of the package was SB 35 (Wiener), which requires local governments to offer a non-discretionary approval process for qualifying development projects when housing production for a particular income category of housing has not kept pace with the county's Regional Housing Needs Assessment.

Under SB 35, for a development to qualify for the streamlined process, it must comply with local zoning and/or general plan land use designations, must be located in Census-defined urbanized areas or urban clusters, may not be located on a variety of potentially environmentally-sensitive sites, must meet specified affordability thresholds, and must be built by a "skilled and trained" workforce paid prevailing wages, among other criteria.

A more detailed summary of the recently-passed streamlining and funding bills of importance to counties, including bills that provide optional tools for local governments, is available here: http://www.counties.org/csac-bulletin-article/new-laws-affecting-counties-housing-land-use-and-transportation.

Board of Supervisors' Action

On Tuesday, October 17, 2017, Vice Chair Andrew Do presented supplemental item 38 E which provided an update on the County's efforts to address homelessness and provided direction to staff. The item detailed the County's available resources, investments and successes to date in building a coordinated and regional System of Care that offers a comprehensive response to homelessness. Since the release of the October 2016 report, "An Assessment of Homeless Services in Orange County," the County has concentrated its approach on the following five areas:

- 1. Stabilizing housing
- 2. Offering needed services
- 3. Ensuring law enforcement and public safety
- 4. Land use development and management
- 5. Developing a regional approach with all stakeholders

The County of Orange recognizes that homelessness is a regional issue and will remain proactive, reaching out to cities and stakeholders to identify services needs and solutions. The County will continue to lead in these efforts and encourage the dialogue to continue on how to better address homelessness in Orange County. For more information visit:

http://cams.ocgov.com/Web_Publisher_Sam/Agenda10_17_2017_files/images/S38E-10172017_9850826.PDF



From Medical Home to Home Sweet Home

A Public Health Nurse (PHN) assisted a Courtyard couple with resolving a Medi-Cal problem and finding a source of medical care. Because the couple was anxious about establishing a new medical home, the PHN accompanied the couple to their first medical appointments to make sure all their medical needs were met. The PHN continued to follow the couple for several months and the clients told PHN they appreciated being linked to medical care, and had been referred by their primary care physician to several medical specialists to meet their medical needs. The PHN also linked the couple to resources, which resulted in them being housed. The PHN will continue to follow the couple as needed to ensure continued access to medical care and community resources.

Additional Staff Coming Soon!

The Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Outreach and Engagement (O&E) team is in the process of filling additional outreach positions to serve the homeless in all areas of the county. Outreach staff continue to provide outreach in the Civic Center, Courtyard, and Kraemer as well as in street sites across the county. In addition to conducting outreach to link individuals to behavioral health services, they also assess and assist individuals in accessing housing options, recuperative care if there is a medical need, and other supportive services. Employees and community members can call the BHS O&E team at 800-364-2221 to refer homeless individuals and to learn about available resources.

Whole Person Care

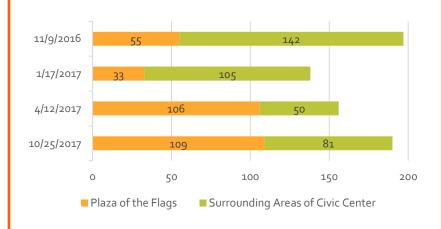
The Whole Person Care pilot focuses on the coordination of physical, behavioral health and social services in a patient-centered approach with the goals of improved health and well-being through more efficient and effective use of resources for Medi-Cal beneficiaries struggling with homelessness. The following is an update for WPC pilot with data submitted from WPC Participating Entities through September 30, 2017.

- **1,292** individuals have been reported as receiving outreach and navigation services at hospitals and community clinics.
- 373 individuals have been seen by Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Outreach & Engagement staff.
- 44 individuals have been admitted to recuperative care facilities.
 Recuperative care provides acute and post-acute medical care in a supportive transitional housing environment for eligible participants.
 - Of those admitted to recuperative care, 13 have been directly from the Courtyard Transitional Center.



Civic Center Homeless Count

Behavioral Health Services (BHS) Outreach & Engagement staff completed a follow-up count of the homeless individuals at the Civic Center area, using the same methodology and boundaries as before on October 25, 2017. The Civic Center area includes the area between Broadway to Flower and Civic Center to Santa Ana Boulevard. The count found 190 individuals – 109 in the Plaza of the Flags and 81 in the surrounding areas of the Civic Center.





Location	Courtyard Transitional Center	Bridges at Kraemer Place
Total Inquiries for Services	293	11
Type of Request*		
CalFresh Applications	41	1
General Relief Applications	55	2
Medi-Cal Applications	15	0
CalWORKs Applications	1	0
Inter-County Transfers	6	0
EBT Card Distribution	60	2
Bus Passes	54	0
Beneficiary Identification Card Distribution (Medi-Cal card)	37	2
Redeterminations	10	1

The Social Services Agency (SSA) deployed SSA staff to Bridges at Kraemer Place twice and its Mobile Response Vehicle (MRV) four to the Courtyard Transitional Center four times during the month of October 2017.

SSA received 304 inquiries for services including eligibility determinations and re-determinations, as applicable for CalFresh, Medi-Cal, CalWORKs and General Relief.

The chart to the left provides a brief summary of the SSA program requests received.

*This does not add up to the total number of inquiries as the total number of inquiries reflects each individual that approached SSA

Armory Emergency Shelter Opening

The County of Orange, in partnership with Mercy House, Inc. has opened the seasonal Armory Emergency Shelter in Santa Ana early on October 30, 2017, providing up to 200 beds for individuals experiencing homelessness more than a month earlier than usual. The Fullerton Armory Emergency Shelter is scheduled to open December 1, 2017. Individuals staying at the Armory Emergency Shelters receive a nutritious meal, a warm shower, and a safe place to sleep. Volunteers will make donations of warm clothing available to those who are interested and service provider from Orange County will be on site to provided support services.

Santa Ana Armory Information

Location

612 E. Warner Ave., Santa Ana, CA 92707 Nearest cross street is Main Street.

Doors open at 7 p.m.

Bus Pick Up Locations

Pick up #1 at 6 p.m. at Flower and Civic Center – near 6th Street in Santa Ana Pick up #2 at 6:15 p.m. at 1901 W. Walnut Street in Santa Ana

Additional Information

Serving adult clients only (must be 18 years of age or older)

No weapons, drugs or alcohol are permitted in or around the shelter

Clients are required to have their photos taken upon intake

Clients must exit the shelter at 6 a.m.

For More Details Contact

Armory Information Line at 714-836-7188 ext. 170 Alison Sanchez, Armory Program Manager at 714-836-7188 ext. 144 Michelle Riggan, Assistant Program Manager at 714-836-7188 ext. 143



Mr. and Mrs. Cruz pose for a picture with the gentleman who delivered the needed furniture to their new home.

Serving Those Who Served our Nation

On Friday, October 20, 2017, Mr. and Mrs. Cruz transitioned out of Courtyard Transitional Center and into their own apartment. Mr. Cruz is a United States Army veteran who served our country proudly. They sought emergency shelter at the Courtyard for over a month, where The Midnight Mission staff made them feel safe and comfortable. Almost immediately, Mr. and Mrs. Cruz were connected with 1736 Family Crisis Center. Both agencies pulled their resources and knowledge together to brainstorm on how best to help them, which led towards a smooth transition into permanent housing. The couple moved into their apartment with the little belongings they had, but lacked a bed and other basic home furnishings. Upon learning about their situation, City Net reached out to their support network through social media and were able to connect the with an Eastside Christian Church congregation member who had a queen size bed, mattress, and sheets for them. In collaborative spirit, a Calvary Christian East Anaheim congregation member offered to pick up the bed donation with his truck. At the end of the day, multiple agencies and Orange County residents were able to work together to serve this couple, a simple thank you to a veteran and his wife who served us all.

Flood Control Channel

Grateful for a Transition

A couple had been living in the flood control channel for the past three years. Tired and ready for change, they connected with a City Net case manager who facilitated their transition into the Courtyard Transitional Center. The City Net case manager connected with the Courtyard staff to ensure bed availability and coordinated transportation for the couple to take their belongings with them. At the Courtyard, the couple has begun the process of developing a housing plan with their case manager. They are both actively looking for employment and a housing opportunity. The couple is appreciative of the resources available at the Courtyard and often volunteers their time to give back to the Courtyard.

Veteran Continues Housing Search

A veteran facing homelessness recently moved to the flood control channel. He initially lost his housing due to ongoing medical issues. At the flood control channel, staff from the Veteran's Affairs Community Resource and Referral Center has been outreaching to him and connecting him to supportive services. Most recently, the veteran was awarded a US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) – Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) voucher, a rental assistance program with ongoing case management and clinical services. Through the Flood Control Channel Homeless Engagement Initiative, the veteran transitioned from the flood control channel and into bridge housing. With a roof over his head and his basic needs met, he is now focusing on his housing search.

105

Individuals have exited the Flood Control Channel and have connected with housing resources.



Successes to Celebrate

Newly Hired

Upon entry to the Bridges at Kraemer Place, a man was having difficulties obtaining employment. During his stay and as he worked through his housing plan, he obtained a California identification card and a copy of his social security card, both key documents needed during the hiring process. He also connected with Jobs for Life and received the needed assistance and coaching he needed to obtain employment. Because he had already obtained his identification documents, the hiring process was easily completed and he was able to start his job shortly after.



Bridging to Permanent Housing

A 53-year-old woman with a disability was one of the first individuals to come to Bridges at Kraemer Place in May 2017 is now permanently housed. She initially became homeless in the City of Fullerton after being unable to keep up with her rental payment after losing her Section 8 voucher. During her stay at Bridges at Kraemer Place, she worked to develop a housing plan and took advantage of the available supportive services provided by partner agencies who are onsite. This included developing a budget planned based on the disability income she received and meeting with a Dayle McIntosh case manager on a weekly basis. In late October 2017, she had a housing opportunity but had not yet saved enough money for the cost associated with moving into an apartment. Through partnership and collaboration lead by her housing navigator, she was able to receive security deposit assistance from Mercy House, home furnishing from Off the Streets. Today, she is proud to hold the keys for her own apartment.

Lowes' Never Stops Improving

On Thursday, October 26, 2017, a group of Lowe's store team members volunteered their time, materials, and resources to benefit Bridges at Kraemer Place. The team cleaned and cleared out the storage garage onsite. They emptied out the room, swept and sprayed it down as they went along. They cleared vines that had grown through the siding of the garage over the years, cut them back and then removed the remaining vines. To finish up their project at Bridges at Kraemer Place. they applied a fresh coat of clean white paint to the exterior of the building, and installed several new shelving units to use for storage. Additionally, they donated several other maintenance equipment and outdoor furniture including a ladder, new garden hose, several folding tables, trash bags and several new outdoor lawn chairs for the quests' outdoor common area.



Picture of the Lowe's store team members following their volunteer service at Bridges at



Picture above and below show the end result of the hard work by the Lowe's store team members, a clean storage garage with the donated shelving units and ladder.





Successes to Celebrate

Addressing Medical Needs

An elderly woman who was experiencing homelessness sought shelter in a church in Buena Park. During her stay at the church, she met with City Net who provided her supportive services and assisted her in linking to mainstream benefits. In June when the woman could no longer stay in the church, City Net referred her to the Courtyard Transitional Center. Upon her transition, City Net continued to provide supportive services and assisted her in exploring available housing options. As her health began to deteriorate, City Net ensured she was linked to services with the OC Health Care Agency. The OC Health Care Agency staff referred the woman to the Whole Person Care program, which offers recuperative care for those who are medically frail. The woman is now in the recuperative care addressing her health issues and continues to receive supportive services, too.

Ketchum Nursing Students

On October 23, 2017, a group of Ketchum University students spent two hours at the Courtyard Transitional Center sharing information on available supportive services and educating clients on where free services are being offered including flu shot clinics and local health fairs.



Together For Better or For Worse

An elderly couple first became homeless after being asked to leave their home at the time. Lacking a support system, they leaned on each other to get through this difficult time. Together, they arrived at the Courtyard Transitional Center in November 2017. There they found respite from the streets and a support system in all the nonprofits and agencies that provide supportive services. They started working with City Net and focused on developing a pathway out of homelessness, based on their own unique challenges and opportunities. In October, the couple was matched to a permanent supportive housing opportunity with Pathways of Hope. After completing the required paperwork, the couple was able to move into their new apartment where Pathways of Hope will continue to provide them the needed supportive services.

Home Just in Time for the Holidays

A longtime resident of both the Civic Center area and the Courtyard Transitional Center was matched to a permanent supportive housing opportunity. Through the housing process, it was discovered that this individual was a victim of identity theft in a different state. Due to issues relating to the identity theft, the housing provider could not house him. The OC Health Care Agency Outreach and Engagement team assisted in writing his appeal and began the process of clearing his name of the charges associated with the identity theft. Through collaboration with Mercy House and the Santa Ana Housing Authority, HCA staff were able to provide excellent support and advocacy. This required a large amount of research and coordination with multiple agencies in Orange County and Texas. The team worked tirelessly in support of the homeless participant stating that he was not the individual identified in the background checks resulting in his not being housed, but was the victim of identity theft. This support resulted in his name being cleared in both California and Texas. He is now housed and looking forward to the holidays.



Continuously Looking for Opportunities

A man in his mid-50s became homeless after losing his job and being unable to pay rent. The man came to the Courtyard in January 2017, where he connected with City Net just a few months later. The man worked with City Net to develop a housing plan and look for opportunities to secure stable housing. On October 27, 2017, the man reached out to the City Net case manager for assistance as he had an opportunity to secure a room for rent. Using the Whatever-It-Takes fund, City Net was able to assist with the rental deposit and first month's rent. The very next day, the man moved into the room he will be renting.



Ways the Community Can Assist Those Experiencing Homelessness

North

- Conduct a community drive for hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush), laundry soap, sunscreen, new socks and bus passes. Drop off the donated collection to a local community organization that serves those experiencing homelessness.
- If you are a doctor, lawyer, dentist, optometrist, hairdresser/barber, etc. volunteer time to provide pro-bono services to someone in need.
- Adopt a family or individual within a program and support them during their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.
- Donate time and/or money to a local community organization that provides food, clothing, or other services that promote self-sufficiency.

To get involved please contact any of the following organizations for more information

Bridges at Kraemer Place

(714) 678-5337 www.mercyhouse.net/portfoli os/bridges-at-kraemer-place/

Stanton Multi-Service Center

7855 Katella Avenue Stanton, CA 90680 (714) 507-2459 www.ifhomeless.org

City Net

(714) 494-9418 www.citynet.org

Pathway's Hub of Hope

611 S Ford Avenue Fullerton, CA 92832 (714) 680-3691 www.pathwaysofhope.us

Mary's Kitchen

517 W. Struck Ave Orange, CA 92867 (714) 633-0444 www.maryskitchen.org

For more information, please contact carecoordination@ocgov.com













Ways the Community Can Assist Those Experiencing Homelessness

Central

- Conduct a community drive for hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush), laundry soap, sunscreen, new socks and bus passes. Drop off the donated collection to a local community organization that serves those experiencing homelessness.
- If you are a doctor, lawyer, dentist, optometrist, hairdresser/barber, etc. volunteer time to provide pro-bono services to someone in need.
- Adopt a family or individual within a program and support them during their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.
- Donate time and/or money to a local community organization that provides food, clothing, or other services that promote self-sufficiency.

To get involved please contact any of the following organizations for more information

Courtyard Transitional Center

400 W. Santa Ana Blvd.
Santa Ana, CA 92701
www.midnightmission.org/programservices/thecourtyard/

Southwest Community Center

1601 W. 2nd Street Santa Ana, CA 92703 (714)547-4073

www.swcommunitycenter.org

OC Food Bank

11870 Monarch Street Garden Grove, CA 92841 (714) 897-6670 www.ocfoodbank.org

Serve the People

1206 East 17th Street, Suite 101 Santa Ana, CA 92701 (714)352-2911 www.serve-the-people.com (714) 494-9418

City Net

www.citynet.org

HomeAid Orange County Family CareCenter

(714) 263-1449

http://mercyhouse.net/portfolios/familycarecenter/

For more information, please contact carecoordination@ocgov.com













Ways the Community Can Assist Those Experiencing Homelessness

South

- Conduct a community drive for hygiene products (shampoo, conditioner, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush), laundry soap, sunscreen, new socks and bus passes. Drop off the donated collection to a local community organization that serves those experiencing homelessness.
- If you are a doctor, lawyer, dentist, optometrist, hairdresser/barber, etc. volunteer time to provide pro-bono services to someone in need.
- Adopt a family or individual within a program and support them during their transition from homelessness to self-sufficiency.
- Donate time and/or money to a local community organization that provides food, clothing, or other services that promote self-sufficiency.

To get involved please contact any of the following organizations for more information

Family Assistance Ministry

1030 Calle Negocio San Clemente, CA 92673 (949) 492-8477

www.family-assistance.org









Second Harvest Food Bank

8014 Marine Way, Irvine, CA 92618 (949) 653-2900

www.feedoc.org







Friendship Shelter

P.O. Box 4252 Laguna Beach, CA 92652 (949) 494-6928 www.friendshipshelter.org









Families Forward

8 Thomas Irvine, CA 92618 (949) 552-2727 www.families-forward.org







South County Outreach

7 Whatney B Irvine, CA 92618 (949) 380-8144 www.sco-oc.org









For more information, please contact carecoordination@ocgov.com









