



Dear friends,

Everywhere I go, people ask how they can help end the homelessness crisis. I launched the Welcome Home Project to give Angelenos an opportunity to make a direct impact. The project reminds us that homeless residents are not statistics. They are people with stories, families, and dreams for their futures. The Welcome Home Project will provide basic necessities for our formerly unsheltered neighbors, encourage dialogue, and contribute to a cultural shift in the way we treat those experiencing homelessness. We can do this, but we must do it together. I am asking everyone to do their part.

Since taking office, I have made it my priority to address this crisis. I have a three pillar approach: housing those who are homeless; preventing people at risk for homelessness from landing on the streets; and balancing health and safety concerns with the rights and needs of people who are living in unacceptable conditions.

In February of this year, the City adopted a Comprehensive Homelessness Strategy, which gives us the blueprint we need to take immediate action, and plan for the future. Its recommendations helped us allocate an unprecedented \$138 million dollars in this year's budget—a ten-fold increase in funding for homelessness services and housing since I took office. A portion of that funding will be directed to support a new “No Wrong Door” approach to homelessness in every City department, which will ensure that every City employee is equipped to connect homeless Angelenos with housing and services. Every time a homeless person comes into contact with the City—whether through Animal Services or Sanitation—they will have access to the help they need.

By hosting a Welcome Home Project gathering, you are doing your part by discussing the issue and sharing information and resources with others. I encourage you to spread the word using the hashtag [#welcomehomeproject](#) on social media.

Be sure to sign up at lamayor.org/WHPSignIn for us to follow up with you about ways to continue to help, including:

- Keeping up-to-date on homelessness news and our efforts
- Connecting to volunteer opportunities
- Supporting sustainable funding for housing and supportive services

If you would like to help sort and label baskets for families, or participate in the Big Move-In on September 17th, please visit lamayor.org/WHPRegister With thanks and in partnership,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'E. Garcetti'.

Eric Garcetti, your mayor.

WELCOME HOME PROJECT

HOST HANDBOOK

- ◆ **CHECKLIST:** Items for your guests to bring for the Welcome Home Move-In Kit
- ◆ **FACILITATION TIPS:** Ideas to foster great conversation around the topic of homelessness
- ◆ **ACTIVITY GUIDE:** Ways to encourage dialogue among your guests
- ◆ **FACT SHEET:** Information about homelessness in Los Angeles
- ◆ **RESOURCE CARDS:** Handy information for your guests to keep in their wallets
- ◆ **DROP-OFF LOCATIONS:** A map and contact information for a basket drop-off location near you is on the way! Please look out for a follow up email soon.

WELCOME HOME BASKET CHECKLIST

ALL ITEMS MUST BE NEW

- Upright 60 Liter Laundry Basket

At safe place to sleep

- 1 Pillow
- 1 Set of size full sheets w/ 1-2 pillow cases
- 1 Blanket

At place to cook dinner

- 1 Can opener
- 2-4 Sets of utensils
- 2-4 Plates and Bowles
- 2-4 Cups
- 1 Pot
- Dish soap and sponges
- Dust pan and broom

At place to wash up

- 1 Shower curtain
- 1-2 Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- 1-2 Towels and washcloths
- 1-2 Shampoo and body soap
- 1-2 Deodorant
- Toilet paper
- Cleaning wipes or all purpose cleaning spray

FACILITATION TIPS

FOR YOUR

WELCOME HOME GATHERING

The following guidelines can help you facilitate discussion around the topic of homelessness. Please feel free to organize your "Welcome Home" gathering as you and your guests see fit.

Reminders:

- To help facilitate discussion, encourage guests to sit in a circle or semi-circle.
- Understand that participants will have different levels of understandings about homelessness
- Provide all participants with the time and space to share their own thoughts, feelings, or experiences.
- Encourage participants to use "I" statements. For example, instead of saying "Most people think that all homeless people have a mental illness," encourage participants to reframe by stating: "I have heard (or seen) a lot of public misconception about homeless people and mental illness".
- Encourage participants to speak thoughtfully and truthfully.
- Encourage participants to actively listen and be respectful of one another.
- Ask participants to avoid assumptions about any social group.

This space is a good time for people to be able to discuss common misconceptions in a constructive manner. Below is a recommended agenda for your gathering.

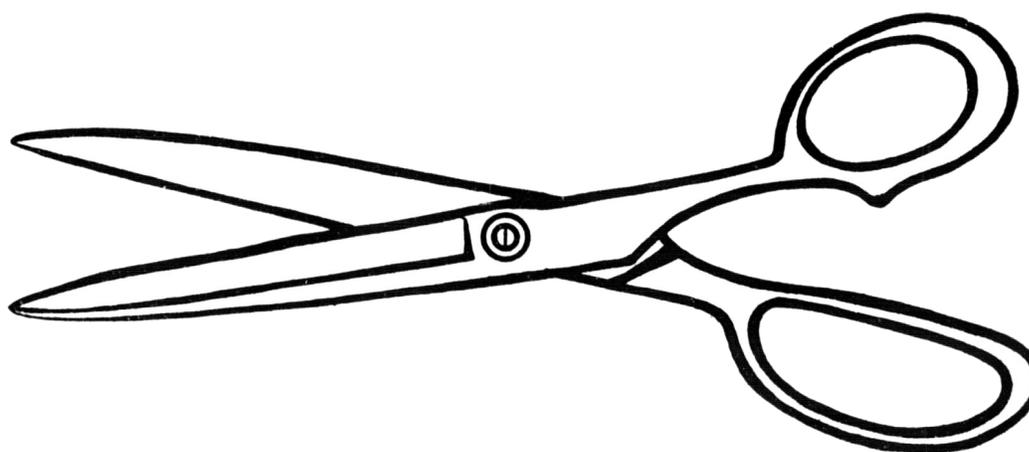
1. **Introductions:** Allow everyone to introduce themselves, and encourage participants to talk briefly about why they wanted to attend your gathering.
2. **Activity cards:** Follow the instructions on the card activity provided, and use this activity to facilitate discussion.
3. **Fact Sheet:** Encourage guests to spend 5-10 minutes reviewing the fact sheets. Remind guests that the fact sheet is theirs to keep.

Follow-up question for group to consider:

- What information stood out to you the most?
4. **Resource cards:** Review cards provided and discuss where you will keep them for future use.
 5. **Welcome Home Basket:** Fill the laundry basket with the essential move-in items you and your guests have gathered. Write a note to the recently-housed, formerly-homeless Angeleno who will receive the basket, and it off at your nearest drop-off location.
 6. **Sign-in sheet:** Go to lamayor.org/WHPSignIn and ask your guests to register their email address to keep informed about homelessness in Los Angeles, connect to volunteer opportunities, and learn how to support upcoming ballot initiatives that will ensure sustained funding for permanent supportive housing

INFORMATION & DISCUSSION

This activity will ask you to consider the issue of homelessness in a variety of ways. Cut out each of the cards, and place them on a table or flat surface with the blue side up. Start by having someone pick a card, and read the question or statement. Talk about the card for a few minutes, before flipping it over to read the back side. You may then want to allow for another minute or two of discussion before another member of your group picks up a new card.



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**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Do all
homeless
people have a
mental illness?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Does
homelessness
impact all
populations?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Can
homelessness
actually be
solved?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Where are our
homeless
neighbors from?**

Homelessness affects everyone. Homeless people, like the general population, are very diverse. The 2016 Point-in-Time Count for the City of Los Angeles revealed that the homeless population is made up of:

- Men (66%)
- Women (33%)
- Transgender individuals (1%)
- Individuals (87%)
- Families (13%).
- All races and ethnicities

The last two Point-In-Time Counts for the City of Los Angeles revealed that around 30% of homeless individuals experience a mental illness (32% in 2015, 31% in 2016). The National Alliance on Mental Illness, estimates that about 20% of adults in this country experience mental illness.

According to the 2013 and 2015 Los Angeles Point-In-Time Counts:

- 71% lived in Los Angeles County before becoming homeless
- 83% reported living in LA County more than 3 years
- 77% reported living in LA County more than 10 years.

Although homelessness is a complex issue, collective efforts from citizens like you, government agencies, and so forth can end it. Proven strategies to ending homelessness for good include:

- Adequate affordable housing
- Assistance to prevent people from losing their housing
- Permanent supportive housing for people with the most significant needs
- Supportive services and early intervention for those who fall into homelessness

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

MYTH or FACT
**All we need is
more shelters for
our
homeless
population.**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

MYTH or FACT
**Some people just
want to live on
the street.**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**How does
housing help
people get jobs
and lead healthi-
er lives?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**How can you
help end
homelessness in
Los Angeles?**

Some individuals experiencing homelessness may resist moving into emergency or temporary shelter; this is often because moving into that shelter requires them to be separated from their family or property, or follow specific rules that they are not used to. LAHSA reports that from 2011 to 2014, over 84% of those experiencing chronic homelessness retained their housing status after moving into permanent supportive housing. When people are provided with safe, feasible housing options, they *stay housed*.

While shelters are an important part of providing homeless individuals with temporary refuge and safety, they are not a long-term solution to providing people with permanent homes. While emergency shelter may be necessary for short-term crises, it is not a solution to giving people long-term housing.

There are so many ways to help your community end homelessness. You can volunteer with a non-profit organization, provide feedback to your local City representative on how to best serve your neighborhood, vote on a permanent funding stream to address homelessness long term, stay informed on the topic, and help educate others.

Most of all, you can remind our homeless neighbors that they are **INDEED** a part of our community by talking with them, getting to know them, and assisting them when possible as you would with any housed neighbor.

Safe and stable housing provides an abundance of advantages to job-seekers and employees. Housing provides people with comfort and the opportunity to physically and mentally relax. Anyone who is forced to constantly worry about where they're sleeping that night would find it challenging to successfully hold down a job.

Additionally, safe and stable housing is crucial to the health and wellbeing of people; we all need shelter from weather, a clean environment to care for health needs, and a space for positive wellbeing.

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**What room in your
home do you
spend the most
time in?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**List every step of
your
morning
routine.**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**What experiences
have you had with
homelessness?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**What additional
questions do you
have?**

Consider how your routine would be different if you didn't have a home. What activities could you not do?

How would your life be different if you did not have this room?

Take initiative to find the answers to your questions. Homelessness is something we all play a part in addressing.

For example:

- Interactions with someone experiencing homelessness in your neighborhood
- A news article you read
- Someone you know who lost their home.

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**How can compa-
nies help
address the needs
of
those
experiencing
Homelessness?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Would it be
helpful to have a
safe place to
park for
individuals
residing in their
cars?**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Who is your
basket for?**

**Please leave this card with your
basket upon delivery.**

**Eric
Garcetti**
#lamayor

**Who joined you
at your
gathering?**

**Please leave this card with your
basket upon delivery.**

Eric
Garcetti
#lamayor

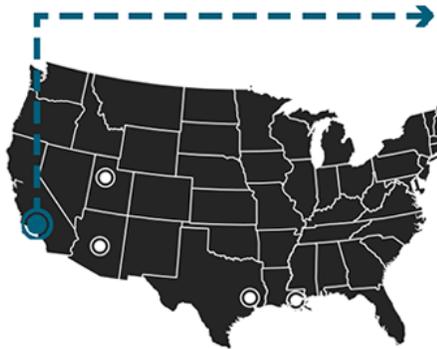
HELPING HOMELESS ANGELENOS



OVER 9,670
INDIVIDUALS PLACED INTO
HOUSING IN 2015



RECORD FUNDING
— IN OUR —
BUDGET TO HELP
END HOMELESSNESS



L.A. HAS HOUSED
6,000+
VETERANS SINCE
JANUARY 2014

THAT'S MORE THAN
HOUSTON
PHOENIX
SALT LAKE CITY
NEW ORLEANS
COMBINED!

7,800 JOB PLACEMENTS FOR VETS



COST OF HOMELESSNESS

Focus of City Strategies	Prevention.....	\$3,500
	Rapid Re-Housing.....	\$11,500
	Permanent Supportive Housing.....	\$15,500
	Emergency Shelter.....	\$18,250
	Transitional Housing.....	\$29,200

Supportive housing is a cost-saving measure for the City and County. Public services for a homeless person **costs \$2,897**, but drops to **only \$605** per person when supportive housing and services are provided. ²

HOMELESSNESS & MENTAL HEALTH

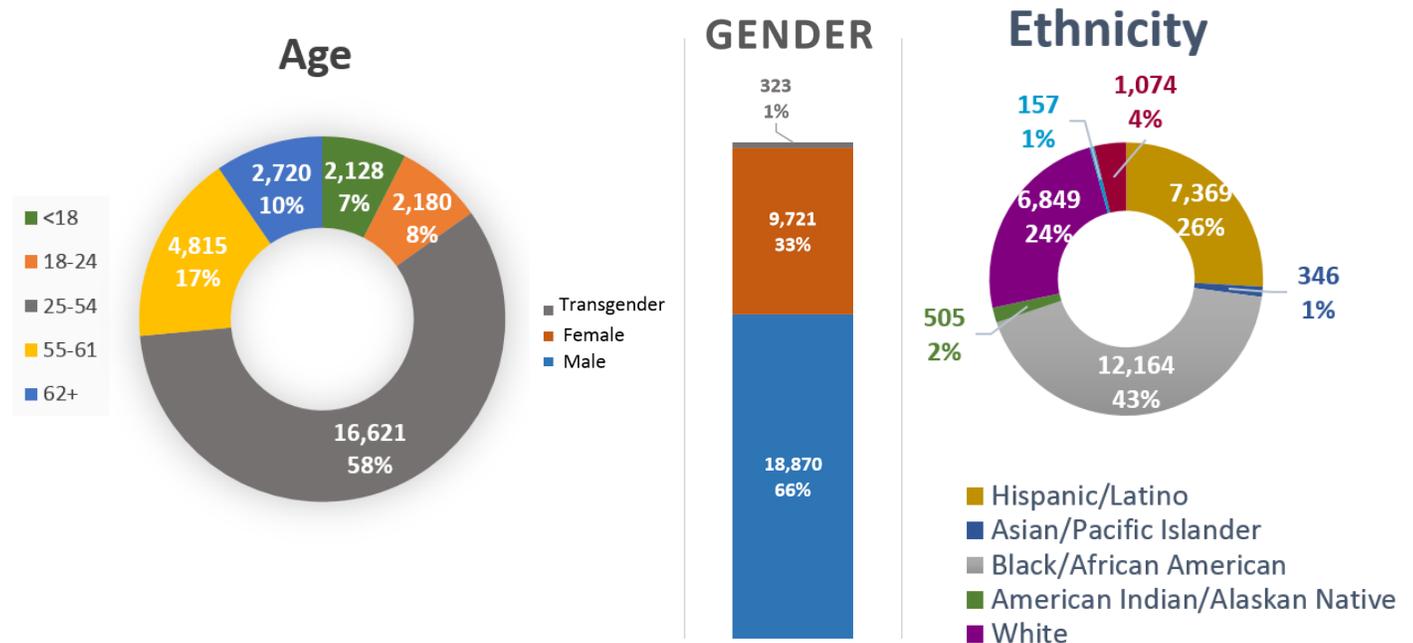
31% of homeless people in LA City report living with mental illness.³

18.5% of adults in the U.S. experiences mental illness in a given year.⁴

23% of homeless people in LA City report living with substance abuse issues.³

12.4% of individuals aged 12+ in the U.S. report using an illicit substance in the past month.⁵

2016 LA CITY HOMELESS COUNT RESULTS



¹ Annual cost per household of interventions. City of Los Angeles (2016). *Los Angeles Comprehensive Homeless Strategy*

² Economic Roundtable (2009). *Where We Sleep: Costs when Homeless and Housed in Los Angeles*

³ 2016 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Results, reported by Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority.

⁴ National Institute of Mental Health. *Any Mental Illness (AMI) Among Adults 2015*

WHO DO I CALL

SFV 818-982-4091

IF I AM HOMELESS?

DOWNTOWN 213-624-4663



CALL YOUR LOCAL COORDINATOR FOR HOUSING OR OTHER SUPPORT

HOLLYWOOD 323-462-6311

EAST LA 323-221-2591

SILVERLAKE, WESTLAKE, 213-744-0724

WEST LA 310-396-6468

SOUTH LA 323-948-0444

SOUTH BAY 310-831-9123

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IF YOU ENCOUNTER SOMEONE IN A MENTAL HEALTH CRISIS

Remove yourself from a situation in which someone is agitated, raising their voice, or invading your personal space.

Cross the street if you need to create distance between yourself and the other person. If you feel unsafe, trust your gut.

Resist the urge to calm or reason with an agitated person; remain calm and collected. Leave it to the professionals.

Call 911 if the situation is life-threatening. If you are in or near Skid Row, you can also call a specially trained outreach team at 213.680.6333.

Describe the situation and emphasize you're calling for help.

If you are able to wait for the responders, stay at a safe distance and do not attempt to engage or subdue a person.



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