

**Summary**

The Welcome Home Project seeks to engage Angelenos in conversations about homelessness to educate them on the City’s solutions and mobilize them toward action. This project reminds us that homeless Angelenos are not statistics: they are people, with stories, families, and dreams of building a future. By gathering in private homes, community centers, faith-based sanctuaries, and places of business, and talking frankly about homelessness, the Welcome Home Project creates a cultural shift in the way we treat those experiencing homelessness. Angelenos are encouraged to sign-up as volunteer hosts, invite friends, family, and neighbors to a gathering, and guide them through a conversation on homelessness. The Mayor’s Office will supply talking points and reference materials so that hosts are comfortable leading the discussion.

When gathered, participants are invited to take direct action through the creation of a Welcome Home Basket. The host encourages guests to purchase new household items such as a set of dishes, bedding, kitchen-ware, personal hygiene items, and cleaning supplies prior to the gathering to assemble the basket. Laundry baskets make a great base in which to assemble items into for new apartment dwellers. Assembled Welcome Home Baskets can be dropped off at designated fire stations scattered across the City. On September 17th, volunteers from across the City will participate in the Mayor’s second Big Move-In and deliver the baskets to recently housed individuals and families.

At the end of each gathering, guests can provide their emails at [lamayor.org/WHPSignIn](http://lamayor.org/WHPSignIn) to:

* Keep informed about homelessness in Los Angeles
* Connect to volunteer opportunities
* Learn how to support upcoming ballot initiatives that will ensure sustained funding for permanent supportive housing

**Goals for September 17th**

During the first Welcome Home Project, we surpassed our goal of assembling 100 Welcome Home Baskets. This time around, we’re growing our efforts:

* 500 gatherings
* 500 baskets assembled
* 500 deliveries to recently housed individuals and families

**Process**

1. Volunteers register at [lamayor.org/WHPRegister](http://lamayor.org/WHPRegister) to host a gathering.
2. Mayor’s Volunteer Corps confirms receipt of registration with an email that includes a Host Handbook as well as the host’s Area Representative contact information
3. The Mayor’s Area Representative makes a personal phone call to the volunteer to thank them and offer assistance if they have any questions prior to their gathering
4. The Host delivers the Welcome Home Basket to a participating fire stations located throughout the City, up until September 10th.
5. On September 17th, Big Move-In volunteers pick up the baskets from participating fire stations and deliver them to homes