

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Communication from Chrysalis  
**Date Submitted:** 09/03/2019 01:48 PM  
**Council File No:** 19-0914  
**Comments for Public Posting:** See attached letter.

September 3, 2019

Re: Council File 19-0914 – Communication from Chrysalis

Dear Councilmember O’Farrell and Homelessness & Poverty Committee Members:

We are writing to weigh in as the City considers funding allocations under the State of California’s Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention Program (HHAPP) program. **Chrysalis is requesting consideration for using HHAPP funding for a pilot project now being considered by the City Council** called “Clean Streets Initiative / Homeless Individuals / Litter Cleanup / Public Right-of-Way / Pilot Program” (**Council File 17-1121**).

Chrysalis has been named in the pilot motion (Council File 17-1121) as the nonprofit service provider uniquely situated to implement the proposed project. We appreciate being considered in this capacity and **we stand ready to successfully work with the City to launch this critically-important pilot**. Founded in 1984, Chrysalis is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a pathway to self-sufficiency for homeless and low-income individuals by providing the resources and support needed to find and retain employment. Established in 1991, Chrysalis Enterprises provides **an evidence-based transitional jobs program** for clients who have the greatest barriers to employment. Through this social enterprise, our clients have the opportunity to gain real-world skills, build confidence, and develop the experience needed to find and retain long-term employment.

If approved, the pilot program would involve Chrysalis contracting with Los Angeles Sanitation & Environment (**LASAN**) to provide paid transitional job opportunities and critical supportive services to **300 individuals currently, or formerly, experiencing homelessness** in Los Angeles. The proposed pilot would fund six (6) crews of about 5 transitional workers each led by a supervisor.

The goal of the program, in addition to cleaning City sidewalks, curbs and alleyways, is to assist participants in securing full-time, competitive employment, which would enable them to get on **a pathway to self-sufficiency**. Chrysalis’ transitional employment program model serving individuals with barriers to reentering the mainstream workforce would be utilized in the pilot, allowing 300 individuals to have the opportunity to have the dignity of work while receiving a wide range of support services and resources to assist them in securing employment in the mainstream job market and helping them get back on their feet.

Chrysalis has **a proven track record** of successfully partnering with the City of Los Angeles. Currently, Chrysalis crews operate at each of the LASAN yards while managing the City of LA’s “Regional Unattended Property Storage” program. Chrysalis partners with the Mayor’s Office of Reentry’s New Roads to Second Chances program, a partnership with Caltrans. In addition, Chrysalis currently manages contracts with the City of LA’s Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD). Under the proposed pilot, Chrysalis would

operate the program in close coordination with EWDD, including the LA:RISE, Targeted Local Hire, and Metro's WIN-LA programs/initiatives.

On behalf of the individuals we serve – in particular those who are experiencing homelessness and attempting to secure employment and housing – ***we urge you to consider allocation of HHAPP funding for the Clean Streets Loose Litter pilot program (Council File 17-1121).***

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Loranger', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Mark Loranger  
President & CEO

Cc: Committee Clerk – Eric Villanueva, [eric.villanueva@lacity.org](mailto:eric.villanueva@lacity.org)

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Amy Turk

**Date Submitted:** 09/03/2019 12:16 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0914

**Comments for Public Posting:** Based on Downtown Women's Center's four decades of providing basic need and housing services in Skid Row, we know that the vulnerabilities of homeless women are unique; they require specific attention and services. However, the majority of services currently offered in the City and County of Los Angeles fail to address a woman's higher likelihood of having survived gender-based violence, her unique health care or job-training needs, or the ways in which her goals for her future may vary from those of a homeless man. In 2019, there was a 13 percent increase in women experiencing homelessness than the previous year. According to the Point in Time Count which, for many reasons likely undercounts the actual number of survivors who are actively fleeing violence makes up 7% (3,940 adults) of the homeless population overall. Moreover, across the LA Continuum of Care, the percentage of homeless adults reporting having experienced DV at some point in their lives jumps to 40 percent (40%). By way of comparison, veterans make up 7% of the overall homeless population, and there has been an important investment in a multitude of veteran-specific resources. Unfortunately, the same cannot be said for women and survivors of domestic violence. As such, we recommend an expansion of Los Angeles City and County strategies to serve this specific population through HHAPP. Attached, please find a letter with funding recommendations as supported by the Los Angeles Providers Alliance caucus for women and survivors of domestic violence.

# PROVIDER ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS

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1309 East Seventh Street • Los Angeles, CA 90021 • (213) 891-3224

Mayor Eric Garcetti  
City of Los Angeles  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

August 2, 2019

Dear Mayor Garcetti:

We, the undersigned, are members of the Domestic Violence Caucus of the Provider Alliance to End Homelessness. We have collectively agreed on these recommendations for Los Angeles County and City **Homeless Housing, Assistance, Prevention Program Funding to Address Survivors of DV and Women's Homelessness**.

## OVERVIEW

Based on our collective experience in providing services for women and survivors of domestic violence who are experiencing homelessness, we know that the vulnerabilities of this population are unique; they require specific attention and services. However, the majority of services currently offered in the City and County of Los Angeles fail to address a woman's higher likelihood of having survived gender-based violence, her unique health care or job-training needs, or the ways in which her goals for her future may vary from those of a homeless man.

- There was a 13 percent increase in women experiencing homelessness than the previous year.
- Across the county 18,000 women are experiencing homelessness.
- On any given night in Los Angeles City, there are enough shelter beds to accommodate one in 12 single women experiencing homelessness.
- Survivors who are actively fleeing violence makes up 7 percent (3,940 adults) of the homeless population overall (by way of comparison, veterans make up 7 percent of the overall homeless population).
- There are only 1,000 beds available for people fleeing DV in LA City and County.
- Across the LA Continuum of Care, the percentage of homeless adults reporting having experienced DV at some point in their lives jumps to 40 percent (40%).

**As such, we recommend an expansion of Los Angeles City and County strategies to serve this specific population.** We recommend an expansion of the existing LA City's *3.4 Vulnerable Population's Policy* to this more robust City strategy to address ending women's homelessness. As for the County of Los Angeles, we continue to advocate for this specific strategy to acknowledge the needs of women, especially since of the eight listening sessions that were held throughout the County prior to the

passage of the 19-20 Measure H budget, five sessions listed DV and women as priority populations in need of more focused interventions.

This recommended strategy follows analysis and recommendations made by the 2019 LA City Women's Housing Gap Analysis, Downtown Women's Needs Assessment, Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition 2018 Focus Group Report, and LAHSA's Ad Hoc Committee on Women's Homelessness.

## STRATEGIES

### **Data Collection and Tracking**

- Deepen analysis of women and homelessness from LAHSA in the annual demographic survey by disaggregating by gender data from the demographic surveys conducted alongside the PIT Count and reporting on gender parity of housing placements using HMIS data.
- Conduct a City and County housing gap analysis from annual LAHSA PIT count for homeless women annually.
- In addition to quantitative data, ensure that the qualitative voice of women with lived experience of homelessness is integrated into decision making via committee positions, focus groups, surveys, and other community-based opportunities.

### **Training and Technical Assistance**

- Require trauma-informed services in all contracts and establish monitoring mechanisms to determine that trauma-informed care is actually implemented in funded agencies.
- Require annual trauma-informed care training for service providers and first responders.

### **Basic Needs**

- Dedicate funding for Access Centers for women and survivors of DV to ensure that their basic needs are met in a trauma-informed atmosphere.
- Increase access to 24-hour safe hygiene services, especially in the Skid Row community, including showers, bathrooms, clean drinking water, cooling centers, and laundry. Ensure programs have funding to provide hygiene products to women.
- Ensure health clinics dedicated to homeless populations provide women's specific healthcare, including mental health treatment, family planning, breast health services, and cervical cancer screening.

### **Coordinated Entry System and Housing Navigation**

- Support the creation of a workable Coordinated Entry System for domestic violence survivors, either parallel or part of the mainstream homeless system.
- Acknowledging the unique vulnerabilities faced by women (e.g. lack of safety, higher likelihood of having survived violence/sexual assault) in vulnerability scoring of individuals entered into CES system. For example:
  - Gender alone could be factored into vulnerability scoring.
  - Gender paired with a past experience of trauma/violence could be factored into vulnerability scoring.

- Add co-located Domestic Violence Advocates to CES for Individuals. LAHSA has established co-located Domestic Violence Regional Coordinators in every Family CES. Replicate the model in CES lead agencies for Individuals (or subcontract out to a homeless service best situated for this collaborative work in each SPA).
- Provide additional funding for co-located specialty trauma services within homeless and domestic violence services. Domestic violence service staff are uniquely trained in empowerment models and trauma services. Homeless services staff are uniquely trained in Housing First and accessing permanent housing. Additional funding to co-locate these specialties would improve quality of care and access to needed services within each sector.
- Funding for field-based supportive services, including mobile case management supports (beyond housing navigation), mental health treatment, and nursing/occupational therapy support.

### **Bridge Housing**

- Increase funding for additional LAHSA Trauma Shelter Beds to replicate the model designed by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office. Funding at \$60 or higher per night is needed to meet the mental health and trauma needs of women in particular.
- Increase safety measures for winter shelter pick-up sites, including security staff around pick-up sites, adequate lighting, places to sit, and protection from weather elements.
- If all unsheltered individual women experiencing homelessness were to actively seek shelter, only one in twelve would be able to receive a bed assignment.
  - Ensure a proportionate amount of A Bridge Home beds are dedicated to women.
  - Increase funding for additional trauma informed, crisis bed shelter, bridge housing, and transitional beds to serve individual women and families and individuals fleeing Domestic Violence (DV).

### **Safe Parking**

- Dedicate a percentage of safe parking programs for women only, dispersed in proximity to where women are living in their vehicles.

### **Permanent Supportive Housing**

- Increase County D7 funding and create parallel City funding for existing Permanent Supportive Housing services; County D7 funding is not stretching far enough, leaving providers that want to add specialty care (e.g., Occupational Therapy and nursing supports) to support an aging population without enough funds. D7 only funds 1:40 case management ratio, but does not factor in additional support needed outside of the scope of case management.
- Increase the LA City proposed \$9 million towards permanent housing.

### **Rapid Rehousing**

- Loosen requirements for individuals vs families to qualify for this program. Some women regain custody of children after experiencing homelessness and no longer qualify for Rapid Rehousing dedicated to individuals. Conversely, some female-headed families are turned away from agencies that only provide Rapid Rehousing for families.

- Replicate the Domestic Violence Housing First (Rapid Rehousing) Program by setting aside Rapid Rehousing funding for this population to ensure that people experiencing homelessness and domestic violence have increased pipelines to permanent housing and mobile supportive services.
- Pilot a program to provide immediate use rental subsidies as administered through public housing agencies to help survivors of DV/IPV with acute economic housing needs (model after Federal VAWA program that was not implemented at the end of the Obama Administration).

**Workforce Development**

- Fund Workforce Development to pair with LAHSA funded Rapid Rehousing programs in order to help clients sustain their housing when the subsidy decreases or ends. Women in IPV or DV relationships tend to stay due to financial constraints, so pairing Rapid Rehousing with Workforce Development is crucial.
- Increase City and County support for the LA:RISE program

We are available to you and your staff to provide support and information regarding these proposed strategies.

Sincerely,

Center for the Pacific Asian Family (CPAF)  
Downtown Women’s Center  
Haven Hills  
Jenesse Center  
Jewish Family Services of Los Angeles

Little Tokyo Service Center  
Rainbow Services  
Sojourn  
Su Casa  
W.O.R.K.S.

## Communication from Public

**Name:** Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative

**Date Submitted:** 09/03/2019 12:10 PM

**Council File No:** 19-0914

**Comments for Public Posting:** Los Angeles Central Providers Collaborative (LACPC) is an alliance of 28 organizations and additional community members committed to addressing issues of poverty and homelessness in the Skid Row and Central City areas of Downtown Los Angeles through services and advocacy. Our input helped formulate the strategies and funding priorities for the Skid Row Community through the HEAP funding allocation. Given that Skid Row is home to nearly 5,000 people experiencing homelessness, we ask to maintain the funding dedicated to Skid Row at \$20 Million for HHAPP, to enhance the efforts started with the previous \$20 Million HEAP allocation. With the funds, we support the expansion of hygiene services, adequate access to water, outreach that includes appropriate levels of healthcare, additional crisis/bridge housing, and permanent housing. LACPC also supports the expansion of flex funds that lower barriers for people experiencing homelessness to pay for up-front housing costs (e.g., security deposits, utilities, 1st months rent, eviction prevention-related costs, etc). In every effort, LACPC requests that new projects increase work opportunities for residents of Skid Row, including jobs related to sanitation, peer specialists, and health advocates. We appreciate that the Mayor's office and Councilmember Huizar's office attend our LACPC meetings to ensure the needs of the community are met through these new funding streams.