

Council District 9 – Focused Outreach Event

Purpose

Employ a multidisciplinary outreach team consisting of City funded outreach personnel and the County of San Diego to engage individuals experiencing unsheltered homelessness in identified priority areas.

Location

Council District 9

- Fairmount Park/Open Space (30 40 individuals)
 - o ARCO Gas Station/Pearl Car Wash/ Goodwill
 - Juniper Gardens Apartments
 - Hollywood Park
 - o Clay Park
- El Cajon Blvd (Euclid Ave Montezuma Rd)

<u>Site Description – Azalea Park Neighborhood</u>





#4, #5, #6 - Hollywood Park

Located within the Azalea Park Neighborhood of City Heights, Hollywood park includes a baseball field, public restroom, picnic areas and a large open space park. Public access is by way of Juniper St. This park is one of multiple locations utilized by a population of unsheltered residents throughout this neighborhood.



#4, #5, #6. - Juniper Gardens Apartments

Located at 3101 Juniper St, San Diego CA 92105 and within the Azalea Park Neighborhood of City Heights, Juniper Garden Apartments sits adjacent to Hollywood Park. Foot trails are used through the wooded terrain north of Home Ave and east of I-805 below Juniper Garden Apartments and frequented by a population of unsheltered residents throughout this neighborhood.





#4, #5, #6 - Juniper Vacant Lot

Located at 2305 Modesto St, San Diego CA 92105 and within the Azalea Park Neighborhood of City Heights. The vacant lot is one of multiple locations frequented by a population of unsheltered residents throughout the neighborhood.



#3 - ARCO Gas Station/Pearl Car Wash/ Goodwill

Located along the 4300 block of Home Ave, San Diego CA 92105. Multiple structures and encampments along the flood plain span I-805 to Federal Ave and parallel to the southeast side of Home Ave. It is estimated 30-40 unsheltered reside in this area.



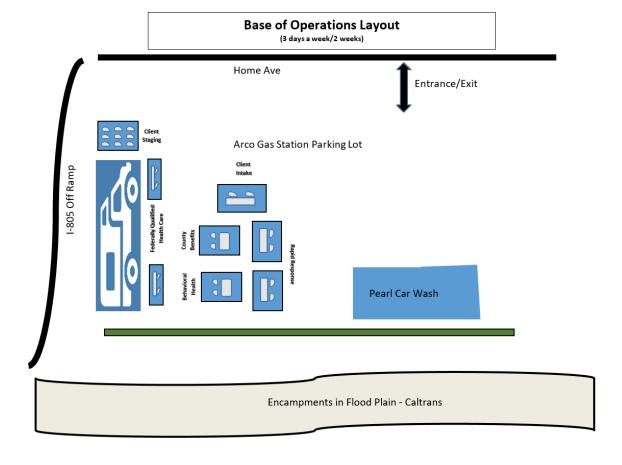


Base of Operations

Located in the Arco Gas Station Parking Lot, 4333 Home Ave, San Diego CA92105









Timeline

TASK	START DATE	END DATE
Planning Meetings	10/11/2021	10/15/2021
Conduct Outreach Activities – Fairmount Community	10/19/2021	10/28/2021

Schedule

Start Date: Tuesday, October 19th
 End Date: Thursday, October 28th

■ Coverage: Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays (8:00am – 11:00am)

Service Partners

AGENCY/ORGANIZATION	ROLE
San Diego Housing Commission	Lead Agency and Operations Coordinator
County of San Diego – Office of Homeless Solutions	Benefits Specialist (CalFresh, General Relief, MediCal)
County of San Diego – Health & Human Services	Public Health Nurses (Health Education, COVID-19 Vaccinations, COVID-19 Testing)
People Assisting the Homeless	Outreach Specialist (Rapid Response Team)
Alpha Project for the Homeless	Outreach Specialist Team (Street Based Case Management)
Regional Task Force on Homelessness	Community Outreach Specialist
La Maestra Community Health Center – Mobile Clinic	Mobile Clinic (wellness exams, vision, hearing, mental health and referral to PCP)
Neighborhood Policing Division Homeless Outreach Team	Homeless Outreach Team (provide safety support as needed, and provided transportation)



Summary

After completing a field assessment that utilized feedback from the Council Office, Outreach Staff, Community Members and Get-It-Done Service Requests, two clusters of locations were identified as being appropriate for a coordinated outreach response. The first location was along El Cajon Blvd between Euclid Ave & Montezuma Rd and the second being along Home Ave between I-805 and Fairmount Ave. During the site evaluation staff identified multiple open space encampments as well as evidence of drug use and potential criminal activity. A few days before the outreach activities were scheduled to begin (and not related to the outreach planning) both sites were abated displacing the largest population of unsheltered individuals along El Cajon Blvd. There were still a substantive population at the second location and the focus of the two week initiative was shifted to this site, although staff continued to visit known hot spots along El Cajon Blvd and around Clay Park.

Each day of the event, a multidisciplinary team comprised of Outreach Specialist, County Benefit Specialist and a Public Health nurse would canvas the target areas to engage individuals experiencing homelessness. Resources included access to public benefits, primary care, mental health, substance abuse treatment, emergency shelter, hygiene kits, health education and transportation. In total, 16 staff from 8 separate organizations participated in the Focused Outreach event.

Although most clients opened up and were happy to receive resources from support staff, there was a general hesitancy to leave the area in favor of shelter or other longer term programs. Substance abuse and co-occurring mental health issues were common. The encampment was comprised of single adults, couples or households with familial relations and a majority of the clients staff spoke with identified the surrounding community as their primary place of residence. Twenty clients have been enrolled into street based case management and will continue to work with an outreach specialist to address their instance of homelessness. During the daily field assessments, outreach staff identified a growing amount of occupied oversize vehicles along Home Ave as well as an encampment that has relocated to an area within the CalTrans right of way. SDHC will coordinate with City Staff and CityNet to make them aware of these findings.



OUTCOMES

Client Interactions and Shelter Placements

Client Interactions	Totals
Street Outreach	91
Walk Up	27
Total Client Interactions	118
Clients enrolled in Outreach	
Case Management	20

Shelter Enrollments on	
Event Days	Totals
Single Adult Shelter	10
Family Shelter	0
TAY Shelter	0
Total Persons Entering	
Shelter	10

Benefits and Supportive Services

County of San Diego Office of Homeless Solutions	
Public Assistance Applications	Totals
County General Relief (monthly cash aid for individuals in need)	5
Cal Fresh (formerly food stamps)	15
MediCal (medical insurance)	5

County of San Diego Public Health	Totals
COVID-19 Vaccines Administered	4
Flu Vaccinations Administered	9
Public Health Education Regarding COVID-19 Vaccines	57
Clients Already Vaccinated	23



^{*}Client engagements are not de-duplicated