

MAYOR KEVIN L. FAULCONER CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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NEWS RELEASE

Faulconer, Gloria Push for Technology Upgrade to Better Connect Homeless to Housing Opportunities

For First Time All Major Homeless Service Providers Will Coordinate Efforts Using Same System

San Diego, CA – Today Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer and City Council President Todd Gloria announced that all homeless service providers in San Diego will soon be using the same software system to coordinate care for the region's most vulnerable residents.

"By coordinating our efforts we will never miss an opportunity to connect a homeless individual or family with an open emergency bed or housing unit," Mayor Faulconer said. "We're using the power of technology to make real change in people's lives. I funded this initiative because it's a major leap forward in San Diego's mission to end homelessness."

The implementation of a uniform Homeless Management Information System will ensure that all providers are using compatible software and provide them with real-time data to enable the delivery of housing and critical services to the homeless. It also meets the recommendation of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to use a single system as a best practice.

"Investing in this system is essential to bringing more annual federal funds to the City and County of San Diego for homeless programs and is a critical step in delivering coordinated and efficient services to the homeless," Council President Gloria said.

Most homeless service providers use ServicePoint software that is administered by the Regional Task Force on the Homeless to coordinate services. Three major providers – Episcopal Community Services, Father Joe's Villages and Veterans Village of San Diego – currently use different systems and therefore can't readily share information.

Mayor Faulconer included a one-time allocation of \$400,000 in the current fiscal year's budget to convert those three providers to ServicePoint and transfer their historical data to the new system. The San Diego Housing Commission will use those funds to execute an agreement with the Regional Task on the Homeless to switch those providers to ServicePoint. The City Council is scheduled to vote Tuesday to authorize the arrangement.

"The San Diego Housing Commission is pleased to collaborate with our partners to support the 'Housing First' model in the City of San Diego, which is to provide housing as quickly as possible, with supportive services as needed," said Richard C. Gentry, president and CEO of the San Diego Housing Commission.

All providers are expected to be using the same system by June 30, the end of the current fiscal year.