

NEIGHBORHOOD POLICING DIVISION

Outreach

The City of San Diego and the Police Department created the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT), to provide homeless citizens a liaison to available social services.

The HOT team consists of **police officers, mental health professionals and social workers** who go out into the community seven days a week. They contact homeless individuals to **build trust, provide education and assist them with available resources.**



Progressive Enforcement

The San Diego Police Department's Neighborhood Policing Division uses a **"progressive enforcement" model** that provides a consistent approach that is compassionate yet firm. Officers are trained to **always offer services** to individuals with whom they come in contact, encourage homeless individuals to accept services and educate them on the law when necessary.



Diversion

San Diego works to offer a variety of diversionary options for individuals facing certain quality of life offenses. In 2019, the Neighborhood Policing Division began a **Direct Placement Diversion** pilot program to provide individuals a shelter bed and access to services. Under the program, if an individual **accepts placement** and stays in a shelter or subsequent housing solution for **30 days**, their citation will **not be filed**. This along with other mental health and substance abuse treatment programs are vital first steps to ending the cycle of homelessness for many.

