

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



JAMES K. HAHN
MAYOR

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT

215 W. 6TH STREET
LOS ANGELES, CA 90014

January 29, 2004

Mitchell Netburn
Executive Director
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
548 South Spring Street, Suite 400
Los Angeles, Ca 90013

Dear Mr. Netburn,

The Community Development Department of the City of Los Angeles would like to congratulate the *Bring LA HOME: The Partnership to End Homelessness* panel for starting the collaboration and dialogue among partners of the community to aid our homeless population. The mission of the Community Development Department is to improve the quality of life in the City of Los Angeles by creating economic, social and employment opportunities for individuals, families and neighborhoods in need. CDD has managed and allocated federal, state and local funding earmarked for community and economic development in Los Angeles for over 20 years. The Department works to invest or distribute these funds in order to help LA's lower-income residents meet basic survival needs and achieve a higher level of self-sufficiency. The Department also works to help businesses grow and prosper.

The Community Development Department services the homeless individuals and families. We do not have a concrete number on the percentage of annual client load of homeless individuals and families we service due to voluntary information. When an assessment is performed, the individual has the right to withhold this specific type of information. However, the Community Development Department invests about \$3,000 for every client that is placed and completes vocational training through our WorkSource Centers.

The City of Los Angeles WorkSource California system, funded by the Department of Labor Workforce Investment Act, consists of 22 centers citywide. Each center provides an array of employment services including a full-service employment resource center, computerized job listings and skilled placement specialists. Job candidates who may require more intensive services are assisted in completing an enrollment form that includes personal data and employment history. This information is used to develop a customized employment plan that identifies the necessary support services needed to ensure employment success. It is during this process that homelessness would be identified as a barrier to employment.

The cost per placement will vary depending on services provided and the additional supportive services needed or available from other agencies.

The Workforce Investment Board has adopted the policies in it's annual plan that emphasizes on the hard-to-serve and the under-served, both employed and unemployed.

While CDD already services the homeless population, we believe that with greater partnerships and linkages with Community Based Organizations, homeless shelters and homeless service organizations, we could use our resources more efficiently and develop services to outreach and connect them with our WorkSource Centers, which provide employment training, resume workshops, vocational training, and job placement.

We recognize that there is a lack of housing in the City of Los Angeles. We believe that with greater partnerships with the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles Mental Health and Health Services we would be able to start reducing the number of homeless people in the City of Los Angeles.



The additional outcomes in preventing and eliminating homelessness that could be achieved if specific policies and practices were implemented could be; stopping the cycle of homelessness and families, reducing prostitution, domestic violence, substance dependence, health issues which could ultimately provide for the cleanest and safest city of America.

We appreciate this opportunity to be part of the initial collaboration to *Bring LA HOME: The Partnership to End Homelessness*. We would like to continue being part of the roundtable discussion. If you have any questions please feel free to contact: Sue Quigley at (213) 473-0371, or Brissa Sotelo at (213) 485-1512.

Thank you,

Brissa Sotelo
Sue Quigley
