



CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD


CITY HALL

8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA
90069-6216
TEL: (323) 848-6471
FAX: (323) 848-6565

**DEPARTMENT
OF HUMAN
SERVICES**

MEMORANDUM

TO: Mitchell Netburn, Executive Director
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

FROM: Lloyd Long, Director of Human Services
Daphne Dennis, Social Services Manager 

SUBJECT: Bring Los Angeles Home Survey

DATE: March 23, 2004

The City of West Hollywood received your survey request for information about homelessness.

How many and what percent of client load is homeless?

Outreach contacts are made and shelter provided to approximately 175 individual youth and adults who are homeless in West Hollywood. That is approximately 2.5% of the total clients who receive a City-funded Social Service annually.

2. What procedure do you use to identify homeless people?

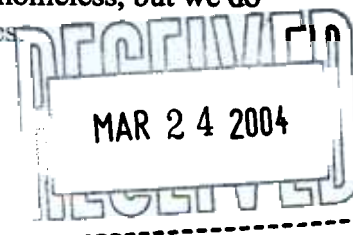
Outreach teams from several local service providers have outreach contracts with the City. The Sheriff's Department community oriented police team interacts with people who are homeless and several local religious organizations provide regular meals to people who are homeless.

3. How much is spent annual on services to homeless people?

\$50,000 for services for youth 18-24 at the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center for outreach and shelter.

\$339,366 for services for adults at PATH for outreach, shelter, and services at the regional homeless center's mall.

The City also provides funding to organizations such as the Los Angeles Free Clinic, SOVA food pantry, Jewish Family Services congregate meal programs, Van Ness Recovery House, the West Hollywood Recovery Center, and several AIDS organizations which have caseloads of people who are homeless, but we do not have an estimate of the costs associated with those services.



An estimate of the funds which are expended by the Sheriff's Department in its dealings with people who are homeless is not available.

4. What policies prevent or eliminate homelessness?

Prevent: The City's strict rent stabilization law helps people retain the affordable housing they currently occupy. A variety of Social Services programs also help sustain people in their own homes. The City develops affordable housing and requires that new housing development either contribute fees to build new affordable units or add affordable units to each development.

Eliminate: The City supports an array of services for people who are homeless and extensive street outreach to link people who need services to what is available.

5. What changes would reduce the number of homeless people?

More and different shelter resources--more small programs, programs for people who are mentally ill, and programs targeting specific populations--would better address the needs of the people who are homeless in our City. Most of the people who are homeless in our City are either mentally ill or are Gay men or transgendered people. Large shelter programs often can not address the unique needs of these populations.

Shelter programs with a strong substance abuse counseling and treatment link would have the potential to better address the problems faced by people who are homeless in our City.

6. What changes other places would reduce the number of homeless people?

Same as above--this is a regional issue and there are not enough beds in the County and not enough variety of programs to serve the diversity of people who are homeless.

7. What additional outcomes would be realized with changes?

More people would access shelter and more people would successfully complete programs.

