HOME FOR GOOD

An initiative of United Way of Greater Los Angeles
& L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce

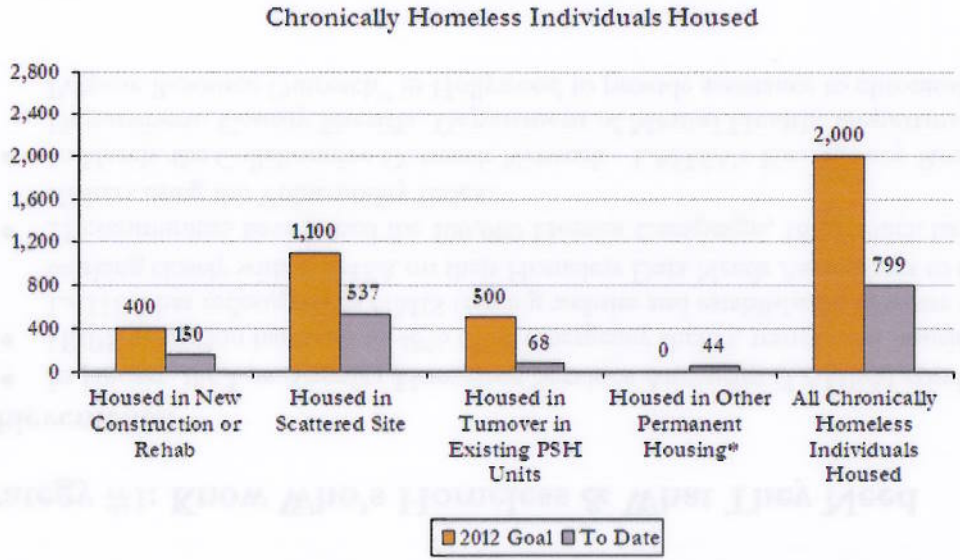
April 2012 Progress Report / Year Two, Quarter One

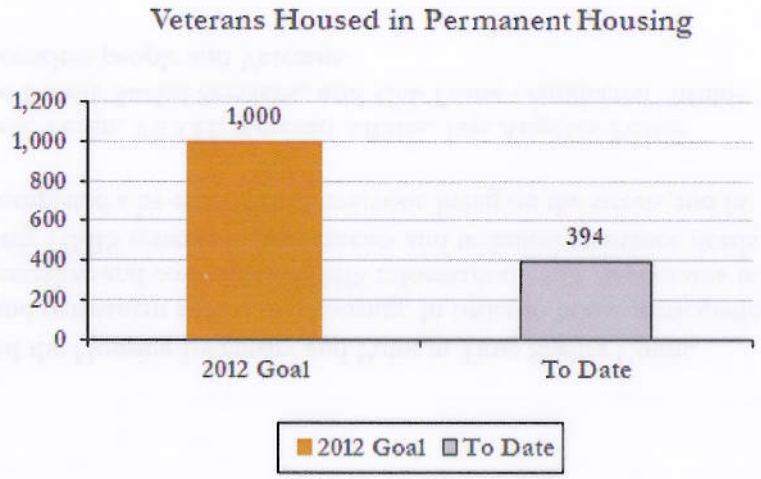
OVERARCHING ACHIEVEMENTS

1. 111 cross-sector leaders have signed on to Home For Good.

   New signatories this quarter include the City of Beverly Hills, City of Burbank, City of Glendale, Interfaith Communities United for Justice and Peace, Public Counsel, Kingdom Causes Bellflower and Our Place Housing Solutions.

2. The community has made significant progress toward Home For Good's 2012 housing goals:





Individuals were housed with the support of A Community of Friends, Ascencia, Century Villages, Clifford Beers Housing, Downtown Women's Center, Exodus Recovery, Gettlove, Greater Los Angeles Veterans Affairs, Hollywood 4WRD, Homeless Health Care Los Angeles, Housing Authorities of the City of Los Angeles, County of Los Angeles, Glendale, Long Beach, Pasadena, Santa Monica, West Hollywood, Housing Works, L.A. County Board of Supervisors, L.A. County Departments of Health, Mental Health, and Public Social Services, L.A. Housing Department, L.A. Family Housing, Lamp Community, Long Beach Homeless Connections Initiative, LTSC Community Development Corp., Mental Health America of Los Angeles, Ocean Park Community Center, Our Place Housing Solutions, PATH, PATH Ventures, Project 60, New Directions, New Image, San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Center, Skid Row Housing Trust, St. Joseph Center, Step Up on Second, Venice Community Housing Corporation, Watts Healthcare Corporation, Watts Labor Community Action Committee, Weingart Center Association, Whittier's First Day.

* "Other Permanent Housing" includes options such as family reunifications and skilled nursing facilities.

PROGRESS ON OUR FOUR STRATEGIES:

Strategy #1: Know Who's Homeless & What They Need

Achievements:

- In January, the **Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)** conducted the Housing Inventory and Point in Time Shelter Count.
- HMIS utilization has risen to 48% of all emergency shelter, transitional housing, and permanent supportive housing. In order to boost participation, **LAHSA** has redesigned its HMIS training website and established a new site to centralize and consolidate HMIS information. **Abt Associates** is also working closely with **LAHSA** on their Homeless Data Needs Assessment to identify HMIS systems improvements and technical assistance needs.
- 23 communities have joined the **100,000 Homes Campaign**, 18 of which have completed a by-name list of everyone living on the streets and in shelters using the Vulnerability Index.
- In March, the Collaborative Outreach Network - **LAHSA's Emergency Response Team, PATH, Veteran Affairs, Los Angeles Police Department, County Sheriffs, Department of Mental Health, Department of Public Social Services, and Cal-Trans** - conducted "Multi-Purpose Resource Outreach" in Hollywood to provide assistance to chronically homeless people and Veterans.

Shortfalls:

- **LAHSA** determined they would not conduct a 2012 Street Homeless Count.

High Priority Next Steps:

- **LAHSA** works with Abt Associates and providers to continue to increase HMIS utilization.
- **LAHSA** and the **Homeless Count Advisory Committee** begin planning and opt-in city recruitment for the 2013 Homeless Count.

Strategy #2: Create the Housing & Services to Help People Thrive

Achievements:

- In March, the **Home For Good Funders Collaborative** released its first Request for Proposals, representing over $75 million in public and private resources for permanent supportive housing. The RFP was made possible through the collaboration of 19 public and private funders.

Private Funders
Aileen Getty Foundation
Annenberg Foundation
Cedars Sinai
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
Corporation for Supportive Housing (CSH)
Kaiser Permanente
W.M. Keck Foundation
The California Endowment
The Carl and Roberta Deutsch Foundation
UniHealth Foundation
United Way of Greater Los Angeles
Weingart Foundation

Public Funders
City of Pasadena
Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles
Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles
Los Angeles Housing Department
L.A. County Department of Mental Health
L.A. County Department of Health Services
L.A. County Department of Public Health

- The **Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA)** created a new program of 500 tenant-based Section 8 housing vouchers for chronically homeless people. This set aside serving chronically homeless people is the first of its kind in Los Angeles County.
- The **Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors** approved several shifts to target resources and remove barriers to serving people who are homeless through the **Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles (HACoLA)**:
  - Removed the ban on people who are on probation or parole for the homeless Section 8 program.
  - Reduced the criminal ban period for violent and drug-related crimes from three years to two years for the homeless Section 8 program.
  - Set aside an additional 150 vouchers for its homeless programs, including 50 project-based vouchers.
- U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs awarded the greater Los Angeles region 875 VASH vouchers, a dramatic increase over last year's allocation of 350 vouchers. 2012 awards include: 600 vouchers to **HACLA**, 200 vouchers to **HACoLA**, 50 vouchers to **Long Beach Housing Authority**, and 25 vouchers to the **Pasadena Housing Authority**.
- In March, **LAHSA** was awarded over $13.6 million in new funding, which LAHSA's Commission and Coordinating Council allocated to support 194 units of permanent supportive housing serving chronically homeless people and veterans.
- In January, **LA Family Housing (LAFH)** opened its first permanent supportive housing site, Palo Verde, a 60-unit building in Sun Valley.

Shortfalls:

- 68 chronically homeless people were housed in turnover permanent supportive housing, short of the 125 unit benchmark needed for this quarter.

High Priority Next Steps:

- Funders Collaborative members review applications and notify applicants of grant awards by June 2012.
- Community leaders including United Homeless Healthcare Partners, CSH, Disability Rights CA, and Inner City Law Center continue working to defeat the City of Los Angeles' Community Care Facilities Ordinance, which greatly threatens permanent supportive housing within the city.

Strategy #3: Shift to a Housing First System

Achievements:

- **Shelter Partnership** and **Corporation for Supportive Housing** hosted focus groups with providers to draft Standards of Excellence for outreach, shelter, and permanent supportive housing providers.
- **LAFH and Gettlove** dedicated new staff to support housing placement strategies. For LAFH, the increased number of staff support has reduced the average lengths of shelter stays from 9 months to 5 months.
- **Community Solutions** worked with key stakeholders to develop principles for Coordinated Entry and completed initial research on best practices.
- **100,000 Homes Campaign** facilitated a housing placement bootcamp with DMH, HACLA, Watts Labor Community Action Committee, A New Way of Life, and Watts Health Care, resulting in 25 housing applications from the Watts Registry.

High Priority Next Steps:

- **Shelter Partnership** and **Corporation for Supportive Housing** present draft Standards of Excellence to the Business Leaders Task Force.

Strategy #4: Get Involved, Involve Others

Achievements:

- 111 cross-sector leaders have signed on to Home For Good, including three new cities this quarter: **Glendale**, **Burbank**, and **Beverly Hills**.
- **United Way** and the **L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce** hosted the Home For Good Summit, engaging over 300 cross-sector leaders in celebrating the achievements of Year One, and sharing a roadmap of Year Two.
- **LAHSA** held elections to determine the 2012-2013 representatives for the **Coordinating Council**. The Coordinating Council members include one representative from each SPA as well as one formerly homeless person.

High Priority Next Steps:

- **Business Leaders Task Force** continues outreach to cities and Housing Authorities throughout the region to encourage sign on to Home For Good.

Home For Good is the action plan to end chronic and veteran homelessness in Los Angeles County by 2016. Launched in December 2010, Home For Good was created by the Business Leaders Task Force, 22 business leaders committed to ending homelessness in our region brought together by United Way of Greater Los Angeles and the L.A. Area Chamber of Commerce.

For more information on Home For Good, go to www.homeforgoodla.org, and join the conversation on Facebook and Twitter.