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February 8, 2018

To: Supervisor Sheila Kuehl, Chair
Supervisor Hilda L. Solis
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Janice Hahn
Supervisor Kathryn Barger

From: Sachi A. Hamai
Chief Executive Officer

HOMELESS INITIATIVE QUARTERLY REPORT NO. 8

On February 9, 2016, the Board of Supervisors (Board) approved the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative (HI) recommendations, which included 47 Strategies to combat homelessness, and instructed the Chief Executive Office (CEO) to report back to the Board on a quarterly basis regarding the implementation status and outcomes of each Strategy. On December 6, 2016, the Board approved four new Strategies as part of the Measure H ordinance and those Strategies are now also included in the CEO's quarterly reports.

This is the Homeless Initiative's eighth quarterly report. It shows that Measure H is already gaining traction across all dimensions of the County's fight against homelessness.

Thousands of families and individuals—including veterans and young people—have been directly helped with permanent housing, rental subsidies, benefits assistance, intensive case management, and much more. At the same time, shelter beds have been increased and new outreach teams have hit the streets to connect our most vulnerable residents with a broadening array of services.

While the numbers are encouraging, a humanitarian crisis of such complexity will require sustained focus and collaboration with the County's partners and stakeholders. There are no quick fixes. But this report shows that we're making measurable progress today and building capacity to serve many more of our homeless neighbors in the future.

Status Update on HI Strategies, Impact Stories, Implementation Highlights, and Metrics

Of the 51 HI Strategies approved by the Board, 45 have been fully or partially implemented, as reflected in Attachment I, Implementation Status At-A-Glance. Of the 21 Strategies funded through Measure H, all except two have been partially or fully implemented. Implementation status and next steps for the 51 HI Strategies can be found in Attachment II.

The impact of the HI is illustrated in Attachment III, which includes impact stories of formerly homeless families and individuals who have received assistance through HI Strategies. Implementation highlights for selected Strategies include:

A1: Homeless Prevention Program for Families

From July through December 2017, 658 families were assisted with prevention services through the Family Solutions Centers. Of those 658 families, 143 families exited the program and 92 (64 percent) either retained their housing or transitioned into other permanent housing.

B1: Provide Subsidized Housing to Homeless Disabled Individuals Pursuing Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

From July through December 2017, 483 homeless, disabled adults pursuing SSI were housed.

B3: Partner with Cities to Expand Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

From July through December 2017, 1,385 RRH participants were placed in permanent housing.

B4: Facilitate Utilization of Federal Housing Subsidies

From July through December 2017, the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles received 193 requests to participate in the Homeless Incentive Program and provided \$233,998 in incentives to landlords to help secure 157 units for housing voucher holders.

B7: Interim/Bridge Housing for Those Exiting Institutions

From July through December 2017, the Department of Health Services (DHS) provided interim housing to 811 individuals who were discharged from institutions.

C4/C5/C6: Establish a Countywide SSI and Veterans Benefits Advocacy Program for People Experiencing Homelessness or At Risk of Homelessness

From July through December 2017, Countywide Benefits Entitlement Services Teams assisted 4,261 disabled individuals with applications for SSI and Veterans Disability Benefits.

D2: Expansion of Jail In-Reach

From July through December 2017, 2,556 inmates received D2 Jail In-Reach services.

D6: Criminal Record Clearing Project

The Public Defender held the initial record clearing services event at the Los Angeles Mission on January 8, 2018 and initiated expungement services for 29 clients.

D7: Provide Services and Rental Subsidies for Permanent Supportive Housing

From July through December 2017, 1,280 clients were linked to new Intensive Case Management Services slots, 637 clients were approved for federal rental subsidies, 354 clients received local rental subsidies, and 248 clients were placed in permanent housing.

E4: First Responder Training

As of December 31, 2017, 33 First Responder Trainings were convened for Sheriff personnel, for a total of approximately 948 deputies and sergeants who have been trained since the inception of the First Responders Training on October 26, 2016.

E6: Countywide Outreach System

During the last quarter, Multidisciplinary Teams (MDTs) connected more than 2,738 individuals to services, placed 441 individuals into interim housing, and linked 359 individuals to a permanent housing program.

E8: Enhance the Emergency Shelter System

Since July 2017, contracts have been awarded to service providers for 302 new Crisis and Bridge Housing beds for Youth and Single Adults. From July 2017 through December 2017, 7,297 individuals entered crisis, bridge, and interim housing. During this same time period, 1,064 individuals were placed in permanent housing. Data includes all participants served in programs funded in whole or in part by Measure H.

E14: Enhanced Services for Transition Age Youth

From July 2016 through December 2017, 3,143 youth were assessed using the Next Step Tool.

Attachment IV contains data on performance metrics for various HI Strategies. The data is from the first two quarters of Fiscal Year (FY) 2017-18, unless otherwise indicated.

Responses to Board Directives and Motions

During the last quarter, the CEO responded to nine Board Motions related to the Homeless Initiative. For summaries of these reports, please see Attachment V.

Other Key Homeless Initiative Activities

Measure H Funding Recommendations for FY 2018-19

On January 30, 2018, the Board instructed the CEO HI to implement a process to review and finalize the Measure H Funding Recommendations for FY 2018-19. The HI is working closely with the lead County departments and agencies for each Strategy to review and develop funding recommendations for each of the 21 Measure H funded HI Strategies. There will be an opportunity for the public to provide comments on draft recommendations at a public hearing scheduled for March 14, 2018, and on-line through the HI website. The HI plans to submit final recommendations for FY 2018-19 for consideration at the May 15, 2018 Board meeting.

Collaboration with Continua of Care (COC)

On June 13, 2017, the Board approved the allocation of Measure H funding to the Glendale and Long Beach COC and instructed the CEO to work with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and DHS to provide funding to the COCs for certain Measure H funded Strategies. On October 24, 2017, the Board approved the allocation of Measure H funding for certain strategies to the Pasadena COC. The HI is working with LAHSA and the three city COCs to complete their contracts.

In addition, the Board instructed the CEO to engage the three city COCs in meaningful partnerships to ensure the successful implementation of Measure H. Accordingly, the HI, LAHSA, and the three COCs agreed to meet on a quarterly basis. The first meeting was convened on January 29, 2018, and the next meeting is scheduled for April 30, 2018.

Coordination with Cities and Councils of Government (COGs)

On June 13, 2017 and October 17, 2017, the Board of Supervisors allocated over \$2,500,000 for homelessness planning grants for cities in the Los Angeles COC and regional coordination services by COGs. Forty-seven cities applied and were approved for grants to develop customized city plans to prevent and combat homelessness.

Below are key efforts and milestones in working with cities and COGs:

- **Grantees' Orientation:** The HI and United Way Home for Good's Funders Collaborative (Funders Collaborative) co-hosted a Grantees' Orientation with the 47 grantee cities on November 29, 2017, to establish a mutual understanding of the project goals, process, and desired outcomes. A

Homelessness Plan template and complementary Planning Guide were provided and discussed.

- **Technical Assistance:** On January 31, 2018, the HI hosted the first of a series of technical assistance sessions, in collaboration with the Corporation for Supportive Housing, United Way Home for Good, and LAHSA. The first session focused on the homeless service delivery system in Los Angeles County to assist the cities in developing the foundation and framework for their Homelessness Plans. Participants included cities (project directors, elected officials, other relevant department representatives, and public housing authorities), COGs, technical advisors, and County departments.
- **Agreements with cities and COGs:** Eight city agreements have been executed and all remaining contracts are under review with anticipated execution within the next month. Final city plans to prevent and combat homelessness are due by the end of June. Additionally, agreements for regional coordination services have been executed with the San Gabriel Valley, South Bay, and Gateway COGs, while agreements with the Westside, San Fernando Valley, and Las Virgenes COGs are in process.

Assembly Bill 210 Implementation and Prioritization of Housing and Services for Heaviest Users of County Services

County-sponsored AB 210 was signed into law by the Governor on October 7, 2017. AB 210 authorizes counties to establish homeless adult and family multidisciplinary teams to facilitate the expedited identification, assessment, and linkage of homeless individuals and families to housing and supportive services within the County. It allows participating agencies to share confidential information (both verbally and electronically) to coordinate housing and supportive services, ensure continuity of care, and reduce duplication of services.

- AB 210 became effective January 1, 2018. HI is working with County Counsel and participating County departments and agencies to develop a protocol, which will govern the sharing of confidential information within these teams. The protocol is expected to be finalized in February 2018, with initial implementation of AB 210 beginning in March 2018. The Chief Information Office is developing a mobile/computer application to facilitate information sharing authorized by AB 210, with roll-out targeted for August 2018.
- The new law will considerably aid in the County's efforts to prioritize the care of high-cost homeless single adults. Since December 2016, the CEO has made available to eligible County departments files with the names of their clients who are among the five percent of homeless single adults identified as the heaviest users of County services. These files have not included any past or current service information due to confidentiality restrictions. However,

following the execution of the AB 210 protocol, in March 2018, the CEO plans to release the next version of the five percent list with past and current service information included; as a result, participating County departments will know if individuals on that list are utilizing other departments' services. AB 210 will greatly enhance the County's ability to prioritize housing and related services for heavy users of County services, as directed by the Board on February 9, 2016.

Measure H Citizens Oversight Advisory Board

The second meeting of the Measure H Citizens' Oversight Advisory Board (COAB) took place on December 7, 2017, and included the newest member, Greg Morrow, appointed on December 5, 2017, to represent Supervisorial District Five. The next COAB meeting will take place on March 8, 2018, and is open to the public. Information regarding COAB meetings and other related information is posted at: <http://homeless.lacounty.gov/coab/>.

Collaboration with Faith Organizations

Collaboration, outreach, and technical assistance to faith communities continues to be a key focus of the HI. HI staff regularly provides one-on-one HI and Measure H education and technical guidance to faith leaders interested in collaboration. Additionally, through our continued partnership with LA Voice and USC, planning is in progress for a one-time event for faith leaders across the County that covers the following topics: Applying for Measure H funding, integration into the Coordinated Entry System, and advocating for supportive housing. In addition, training slots are being reserved for faith partners in the Homeless Services Training Academy to help strengthen the knowledge and capacity of faith organizations serving people experiencing homelessness.

Job Fairs and Website

The first City-County Homeless Service Provider Job Fair took place in front of Los Angeles City Hall on December 7, 2017. Due to the significant increase in funding from Measure H for homeless services, over 1,000 new positions are currently available across the homeless service delivery system in Los Angeles County. The job fair was well attended with approximately 30 employers participating and over 750 individuals seeking jobs. The City and County of Los Angeles workforce development organizations provided on-site assistance to help build interviewing and résumé skills for job seekers. The County and the City continue to work together to develop future job fairs throughout the County, with the next job fair targeted for March 2018.

Additionally, the HI is pleased to announce the launch of a jobs resource webpage for job seekers who want to work in the homeless services field. Connections to homeless service jobs throughout the County are now available at: www.jobscombattinghomelessness.org; this page is also available on the HI website.

Strategic Communications

The HI has implemented several new and augmented communications strategies to: demonstrate the progress of the HI and Measure H; maximize accountability and transparency; and maintain and expand public engagement in the dynamic countywide movement to prevent and combat homelessness. These communications strategies include:

- o Increased proactive communications, with consistent media outreach around both data and qualitative success stories;
- o Media campaigns around upcoming HI and Measure H milestones;
- o Increased direct outreach to the general public; and
- o Creation of new and amplified communications tools, including: a dedicated HI Facebook page; a refreshed HI website (in progress); and a new quarterly newsletter "*From Homelessness to Housing: Measure H Quarterly Update.*" The first newsletter was issued at the Second Annual Homeless Initiative Conference on February 8, 2018 and via electronic/social media distribution channels.

The next HI quarterly report will be submitted on May 9, 2018. If you have any questions, please contact Phil Ansell, Director of the Homeless Initiative, at (213) 974-1752 or at pansell@ceo.lacounty.gov.

SAH:JJ:FAD
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Attachments

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors Human Resources
 County Counsel Mental Health
 District Attorney Military and Veterans Affairs
 Sheriff Parks and Recreation
 Alternate Public Defender Probation
 Animal Care and Control Public Library
 Arts Commission Public Health
 Beaches and Harbors Public Social Services
 Child Support Services Public Works
 Children and Family Services Regional Planning
 Community Development Commission Registrar-Recorder/County Clerk
 Consumer and Business Affairs Superior Court
 Fire Workforce Development,
 Health Agency Aging and Community Services
 Health Services LAHSA