

December 05, 2023

**MOTION BY SUPERVISORS LINDSEY P. HORVATH
AND KATHRYN BARGER**

Demonstrating Support for Homeless Count Week 2024

The 2024 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count (Count) will take place on January 23, 24, and 25, 2024. The Count is a federally-mandated Point-in-Time enumeration of the number of individuals experiencing homelessness across Los Angeles County. Each year, thousands of volunteers, service providers, government officials, and other stakeholders partner with the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to conduct the Count. In 2023, over 6,000 volunteers turned out to count our neighbors experiencing homelessness. The 2023 Count revealed an estimated 75,518 people are experiencing homelessness within Los Angeles County, a 10% increase from the previous year.

However, the purpose and benefits of conducting the Count go far beyond meeting the federal requirement. The data gathered informs efforts to combat homelessness across Los Angeles County. Last year, the Count illuminated the positive impacts of new policies on the population experiencing and at-risk of homelessness, such as the federal and County-mandated moratorium on evictions. This year, Count data also helped stakeholders understand demographic trends in the population, allowing our system to make key investments and coordinate a targeted response.

Additionally, LAHSA and the County are exploring more frequent data reporting to

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increase accountability and provide a fuller picture of the impact of the policies and investments to better respond to the needs of people experiencing homelessness.

The Count is a point-in-time snapshot of the population, and the system is actively looking to other methods and metrics and including Key Performance Indicators to both analyze its population and to show progress. The federally-mandated Count data can still help inform the County's efforts to address and prevent homelessness through the emergency declaration on homelessness; the Homeless Initiative strategies, which were recently reimagined and revised last year; and Measure H funding approved by Los Angeles County voters in 2017. We must make every effort to support this process and encourage volunteer participation.

WE, THEREFORE, MOVE that the Board of Supervisors:

- 1) Proclaim the week of January 22, 2024 as Homeless Count Week 2024; and
- 2) Direct the Chief Executive Officer to work with the Chief Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority and every County Department to ensure support for the 2024 Homeless Count and encourage staff to volunteer.

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