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Vulnerability Report Fact Sheet

November 2, 2011

Community Mobilization

Silver Lake Connections is an initiative led by People Assisting The Homeless (PATH) to identify and house Silver Lake's homeless residents who are at-risk of premature death if they remain living on the streets. By building public will and garnering grassroots community support, Silver Lake Connections has set a goal to house a minimum of 26 of our most vulnerable homeless neighbors by July 2012. Stakeholders in the collaboration include Silver Lake residents, local government, community associations, faith-based organizations, nonprofit organizations, educational institutions, individual volunteers, and businesses.

Silver Lake Connections is one of 100 communities nationwide participating in the **100,000 Homes Campaign**, a national movement to identify and house 100,000 of the most vulnerable homeless individuals. Silver Lake Connections is proud to contribute to the 100,000 Homes Campaign's running total of 11,147 people housed.

Registry Week

On October 22-24, between the hours of 5 and 9 am, 100 community volunteers divided up into 14 teams to canvass the streets of Silver Lake. Target regions, called "hot spots," within Silver Lake were identified in advance of Registry Week through the collaborative efforts of local stakeholders, including: PATH's street outreach workers, social service partners, Silver Lake Neighborhood Council, Los Angeles Police Department, and individuals who called and wrote voicing their concerns about homeless individuals in Silver Lake. The volunteer teams surveyed people living on the streets in these 14 designated areas using Community Solutions (formerly Common Ground)'s **Vulnerability Index**, which creates a by-name list, including photos, of individuals experiencing street homelessness.

In addition to systematically gathering the names, pictures, and dates of birth of individuals sleeping on the streets and in shelters, the teams also captured data on their health status, institutional history, length of homelessness, patterns of shelter use, and previous housing situations. This data was collected by use of a 39-item questionnaire. The Vulnerability Index was used to identify those who have been homeless the longest and those living with specific health conditions associated with a high mortality risk.

Housing - Next Steps

Information gathered through the Vulnerability Index will be used to target new and available housing and service resources to the most vulnerable homeless individuals in Silver Lake. Many of these resources have already been committed through various public and private entities.

PATH Ventures has committed 25 permanent supportive housing units at the Villas at Juanita, a 48-unit housing complex developed adjacent to the PATH Los Angeles Center. These are subsidized through Project-Based Section 8 vouchers provided by the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles. Individuals will begin moving in to the Villas in January of 2012.

PATH is a **100,000 HOMES** Campaign Contributor.

Through an ongoing partnership between PATH and the Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles, an additional 25 Tenant-Based Section 8 vouchers have been designated for individuals identified through the Silver Lake Vulnerability Index. PATH will work with landlords and property management teams in the surrounding area to identify housing for Registry clients once they have received their vouchers.

PATH is also working closely with the Veterans Administration of Greater Los Angeles to identify and enroll eligible veterans for HUD-VASH Vouchers. Additionally, PATH has an agreement with the California Department of Veterans Affairs to secure housing for disabled and/or senior veterans at the Veterans Home of California - West Los Angeles.

Finally, A Community of Friends (ACOF) has committed up to 10 additional units at a newly constructed project, the Vendome Palms in Silver Lake.

Significant Findings

Demographics

- 112 individuals experiencing homelessness were surveyed on the streets of Silver Lake (175 total individuals were counted).
- 52% (58) are considered “vulnerable,” defined as having health conditions associated with a high mortality risk.
- 92% (100) are considered “chronically homeless,” defined as a person with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or more, or has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.
- 13.4% (15) are Veterans. 11 of the 15 Veterans surveyed are considered “vulnerable.”
- 77% (86) are male and 21% (24) are female.
- The oldest person surveyed is 81 years old. The youngest is 18 years old.

Health System Impacts

- 68% (76) individuals reported having no health insurance.
- **136 separate inpatient hospital visits** were reported over the previous year.
 - The average **cost per inpatient hospitalization** for a homeless individual is **\$37,482**.
 - Estimated annual cost to the local healthcare system for inpatient visits is **\$5,097,552**.
- **69 separate emergency room** visits were reported in the last 3 months (this equates to 276 annual visits).
 - The average cost per emergency room visit is **\$1,639**.
 - Estimated annual cost to the local healthcare system for ER visits is **\$452,364**.
- ***Total estimated homelessness-related costs to the local healthcare system are over \$5,549,916.***

Chronic Homelessness

- 27.7% (31) individuals reported being **homeless 10 years** or more.
- The longest reported length of homelessness was **49 years**.
- Average length of homelessness is **seven years**.
- 43.8% (49) reported they had been the victim of a violent attack since becoming homeless.

Older Adults

- 13.4% (15) are over **60 years old**, the **median age is 49** years old
- The oldest respondent was **81** years old.

Significant Findings (continued)

Service Needs

- 70% (78) people reported a history of substance abuse.
- 54% (60) people reported signs or symptoms of mental illness.

Youth & Foster Care

- 13% (15) respondents report having a history of foster care.
- 2% (2) respondents were under 25 years old.
- The youngest respondent was **18** years old.

Income Sources

- 20% (22) receive public assistance welfare.
- 38% (42) earn an income from recycling.
- 22% (25) earn an income from panhandling.
- 16% (18) receive social security income.
- 13% (14) receive food stamps.

Vulnerability Indicator	% of vulnerable people (58 total)
Tri-Morbid	23% (26)
ER Three Times or more in Three Months	62% (69)
Hospitalized Over Three Times in Last Year	98% (110)
Age Over 60	13% (15)
HIV/AIDS	5% (5)
Serious Health Condition	55% (62)
No Health Insurance	68% (76)

For more information on Silver Lake Connections and ways that you can be involved, please contact:

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100,000 Homes Campaign

www.100khomes.org

The 100,000 Campaign is a project of Community Solutions. Community Solutions’ mission is to strengthen communities to end homelessness by building partnerships, sharing innovations, and connecting vulnerable people to homes and support.

People Assisting The Homeless (PATH)

www.epath.org

Founded in 1984, PATH works to address homelessness in Southern California through a combination of services leading to housing, including rapid re-housing assistance, strategic outreach, permanent supportive housing development, and supportive services for the most vulnerable populations. PATH serves more than 4,000 people in need each year.

Special Thanks



Los Angeles Police Department

Office of Council President Eric Garcetti

Office of Councilmember Tom LaBonge

Silver Lake Improvement Association

Silver Lake Neighborhood Council

