

Community Forum on Homelessness

Hosted By Pomona's Promise Partners

Welcome and Introductions

City of Pomona

Homelessness: Taking a Collective Impact Approach for Solutions

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The Fletcher Jones Foundation Endowed Chair for Safety &
Quality

Pomona's Promise: Stopping Violence, Stimulating Success Summit

- February 2014
- In response to increase in violence in Pomona, community partners met to discuss the issue of public safety.
- Five categories of public concern contributing to violence were identified:
 - Academic Success
 - Health
 - Economic Development
 - Public Safety/Crime Prevention
 - Community Engagement/Communication
- The Collective Impact process was introduced to address these issues.

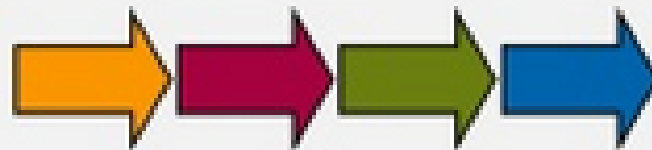
Collective Impact

Collective Impact is the commitment of a group of important actors from different sectors to a common agenda for solving a specific social problem.

Isolated Impact



Collective Impact



Five Conditions of Collective Impact

Common
Agenda

Shared
Measurement

Mutually
Reinforcing
Activities

Continuous
Communication

Backbone
Support

Pomona's Promise

Backbone Organizations
City of Pomona & PUSD

Education &
Academic
Success

Healthy in
Pomona

Community
Engagement &
Communication

Economic
Development
&
Employment

Crime
Prevention &
Public Safety

Common Agenda

Safe Neighborhoods, Strong Families, and a Healthy Quality of Life!

Education

People in Pomona succeed in education from cradle through career.

Healthy in Pomona

People in Pomona have a healthy quality of life.

Community Engagement & Communication

The community is the solution for a vibrant Pomona.

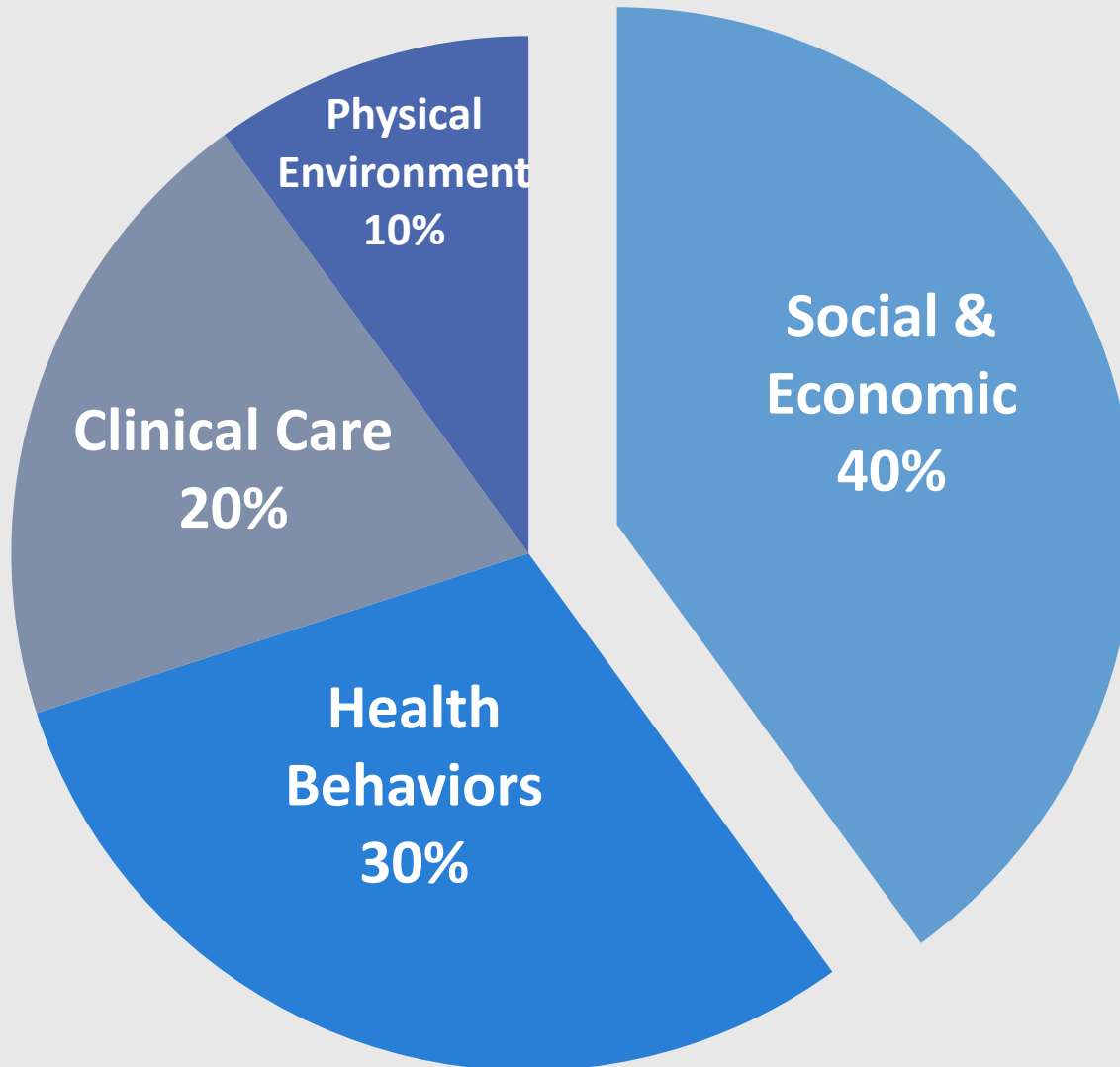
Economic Development

Pomona's economy is thriving and prosperous.

Public Safety

People feel safe in Pomona.

So What Does Homelessness Have to Do With Health? Health Factors



Homelessness in Pomona

Linda Lowry
City Manager
City of Pomona

City of Pomona Overview

Population, 2013 estimate	151,348
Population 2010	149,058
Number of housing units	40,685
Median household income	\$49,474
Persons living below poverty level	21.6%
Families living below poverty level	22.3%
Families with children on public assistance	34.2%
Unemployment Rate January 2015	9.1%
Female Head of Household Family in Poverty	39.7%

Source: U.S. Census 2010 and American Community Survey

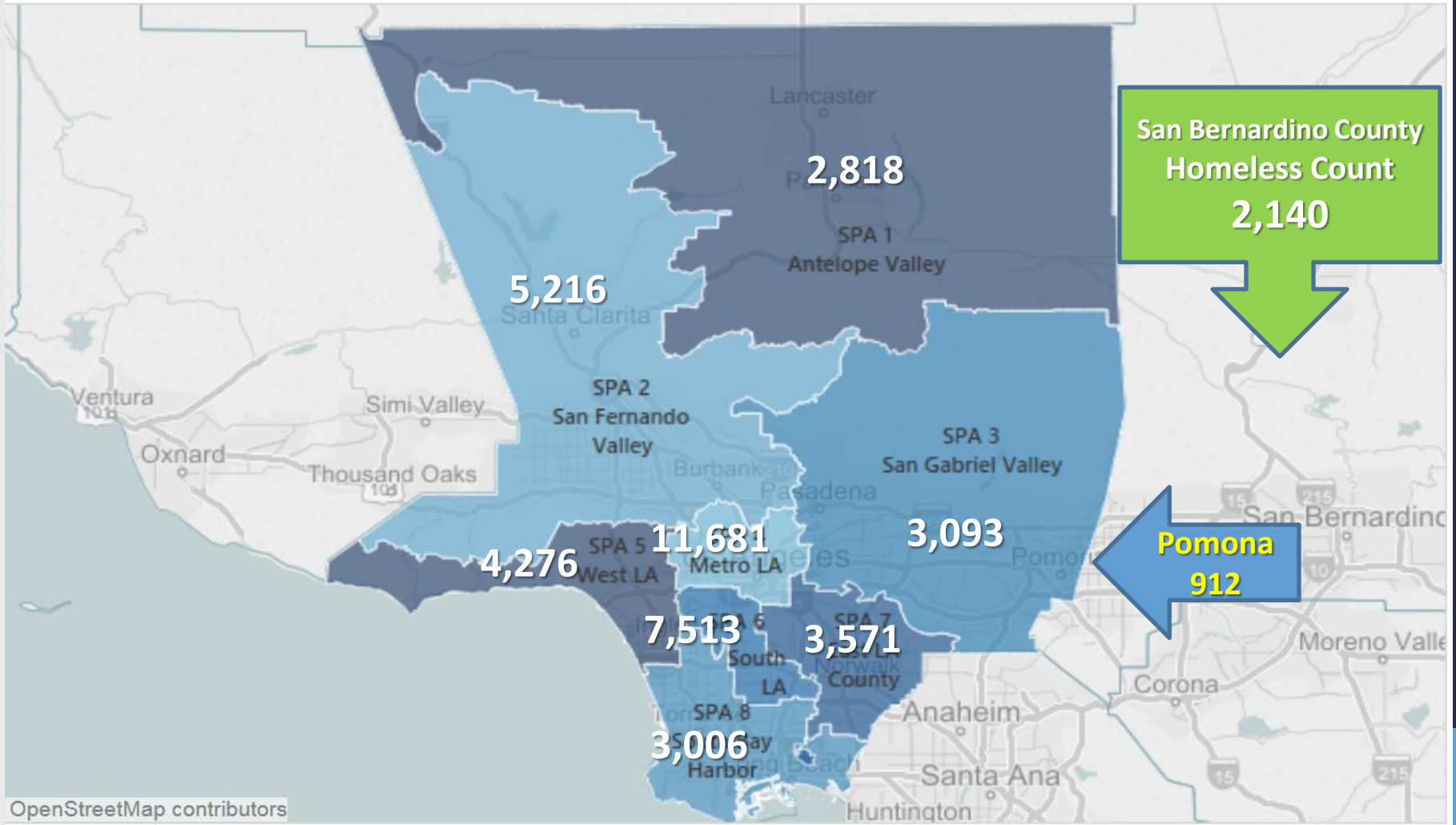
Los Angeles County Homelessness

County Regions	Service Planning Area	2015	2013	Increase	%
Antelope Valley	SPA 1	2,818	2,113	705	33.36%
San Fernando Valley	SPA 2	5,216	4,836	380	7.86%
San Gabriel Valley	SPA 3	3,093	2,794	299	10.70%
Metro Los Angeles	SPA 4	11,681	10,472	1,209	11.55%
West Los Angeles	SPA 5	4,276	3,667	609	16.61%
South Los Angeles	SPA 6	7,513	7,045	468	6.64%
East Los Angeles	SPA 7	3,571	2,429	1,142	47.02%
South Bay Harbor	SPA 8	3,006	2,168	838	38.65%
Los Angeles Continuum of Care	LA COC	41,174	35,524	5,650	15.90%

Pomona is in SPA 3

Source: LAHSA Point in Time Homeless Count

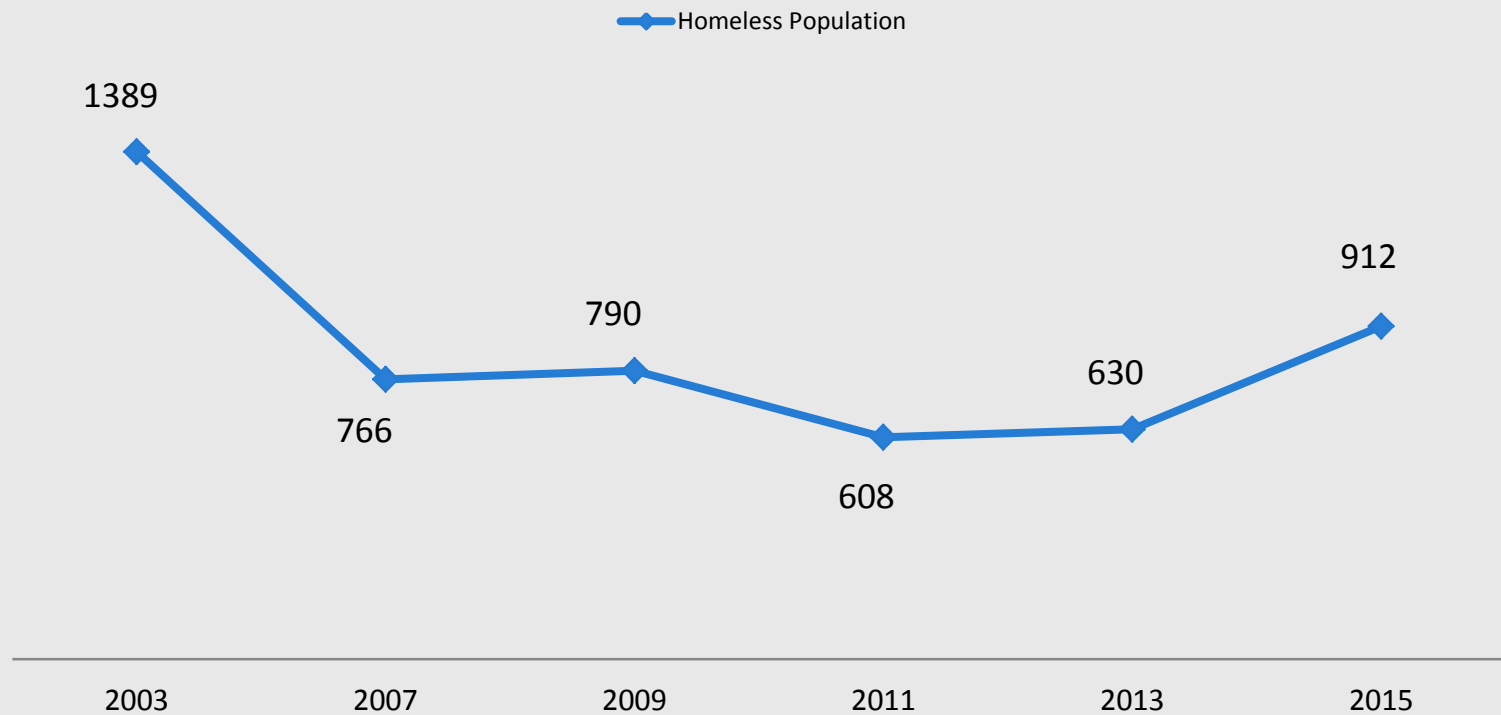
2015 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count



Source: LAHSA 2015 Point in Time Homeless Count

Pomona Point in Time Count History

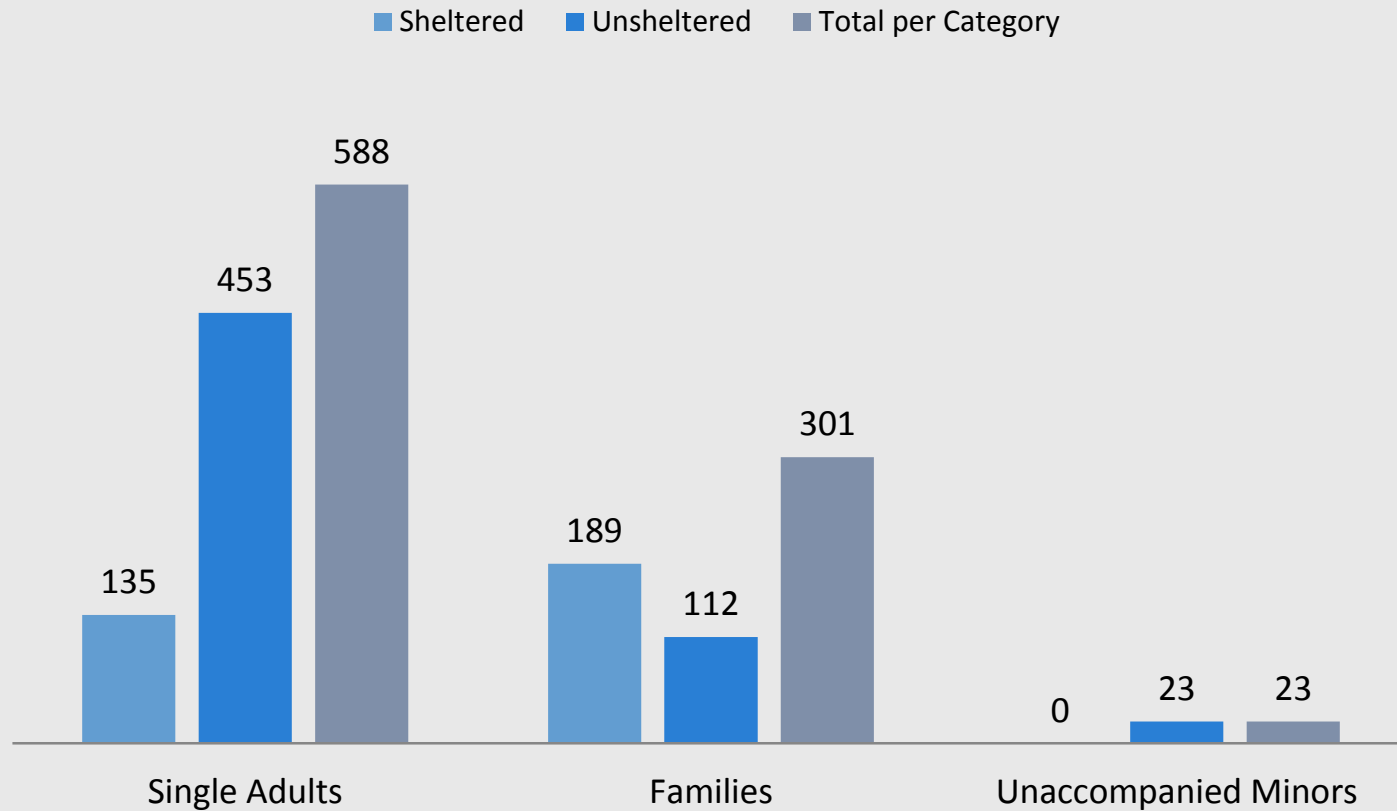
**Pomona Homeless Count
2003-2015**



Source: Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) and City of Pomona State of Homelessness Report 2013

Sheltered vs Unsheltered

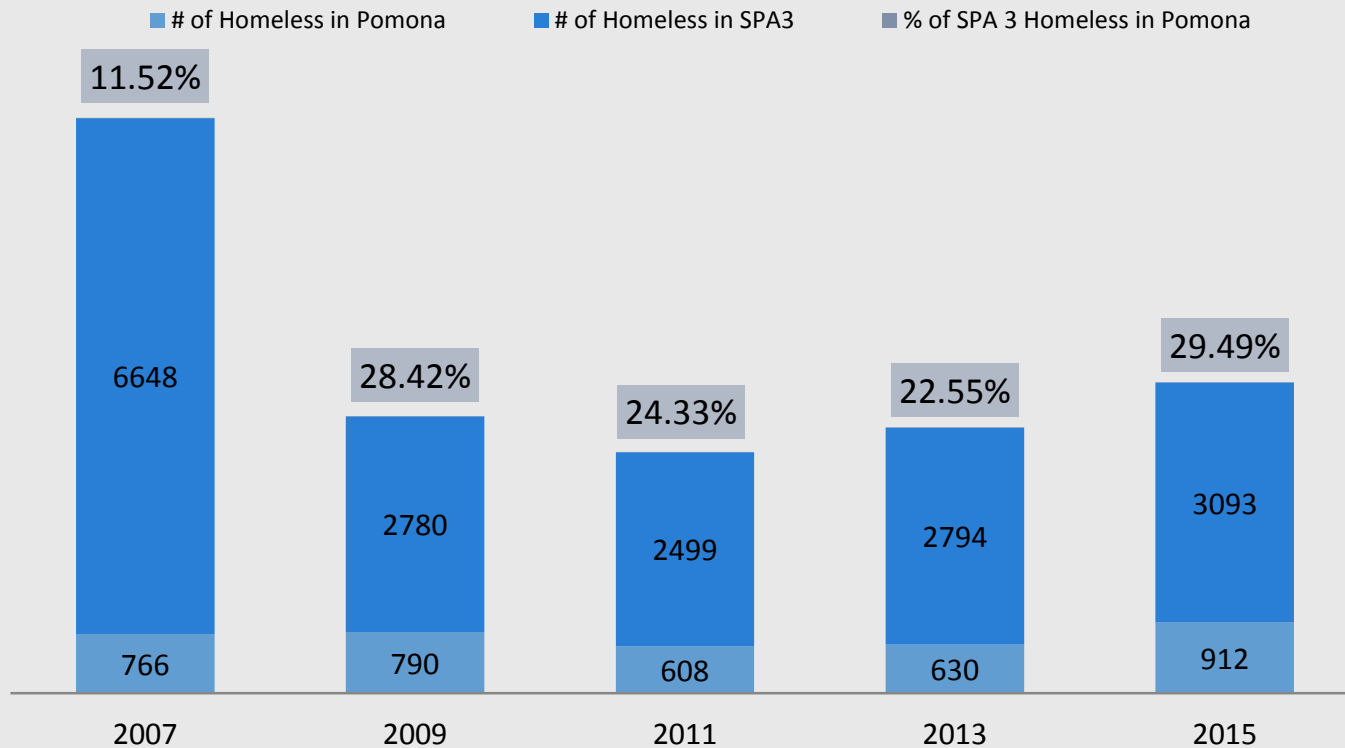
2015 Pomona Homelessness by Household Type and Place



Source: LAHSA 2015 Point in Time Homeless Count

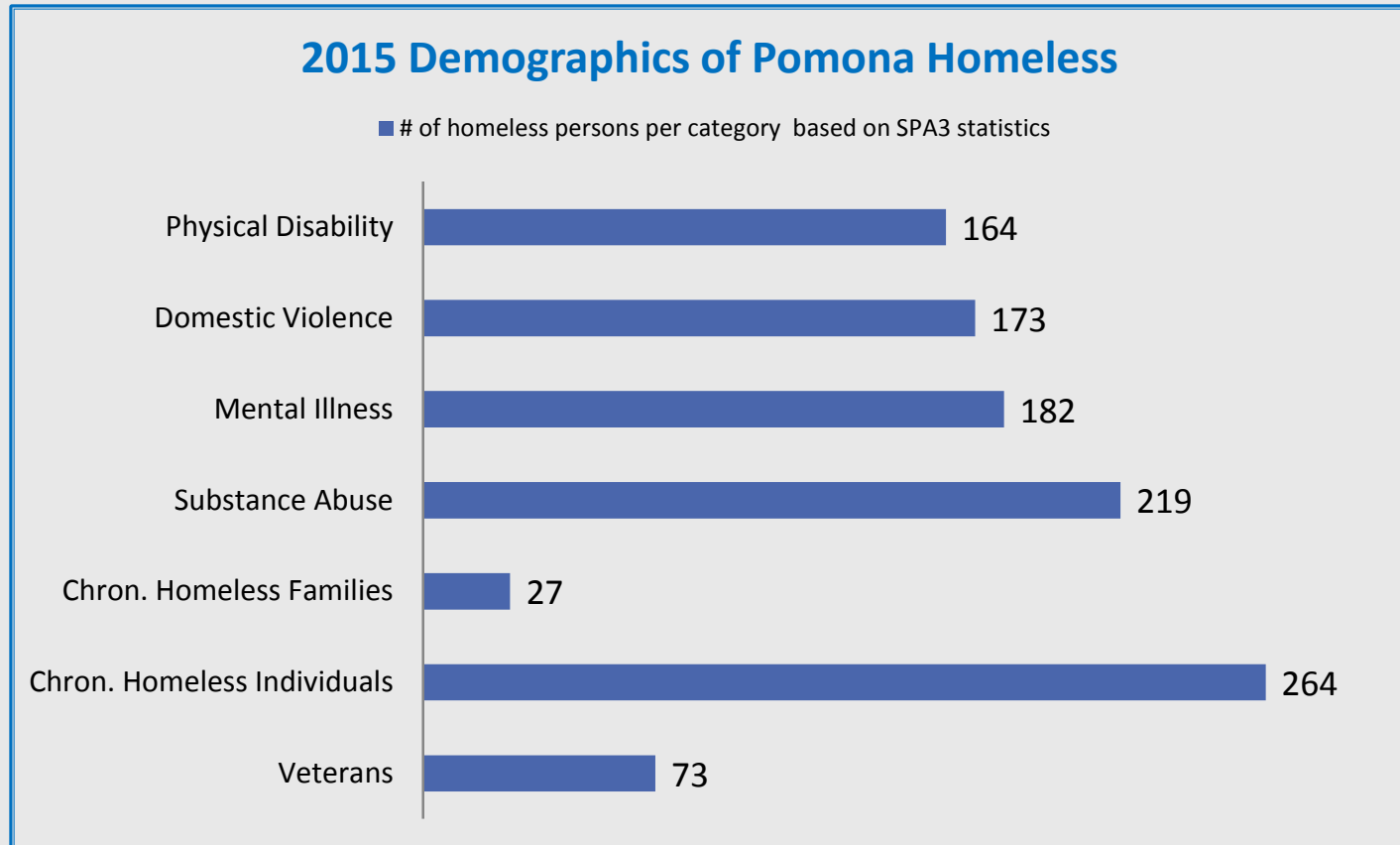
San Gabriel Valley Region SPA 3

San Gabriel Valley Homeless Count



Source: LAHSA 2015 Point in Time Homeless Count

2015 Homeless Demographics



Source: LAHSA 2015 Point in Time Homeless Count

City of Pomona

The State of Homelessness in Pomona

Overview, Analysis and Recommendations



2013

Prepared By

Mark Lazzaretto, CDD Director
Benita DeFrank, Housing Manager
Jan Cicco, Homeless Services Coordinator

Length of Time Homeless

In “The State of Homelessness Survey” conducted in 2013, the following responses were provided by 389 homeless persons:

52% Had been homeless for more than a year

48% Became Homeless within the last year.

27% Have found themselves homeless 4 or more times within the last three years. (Chronically Homeless)

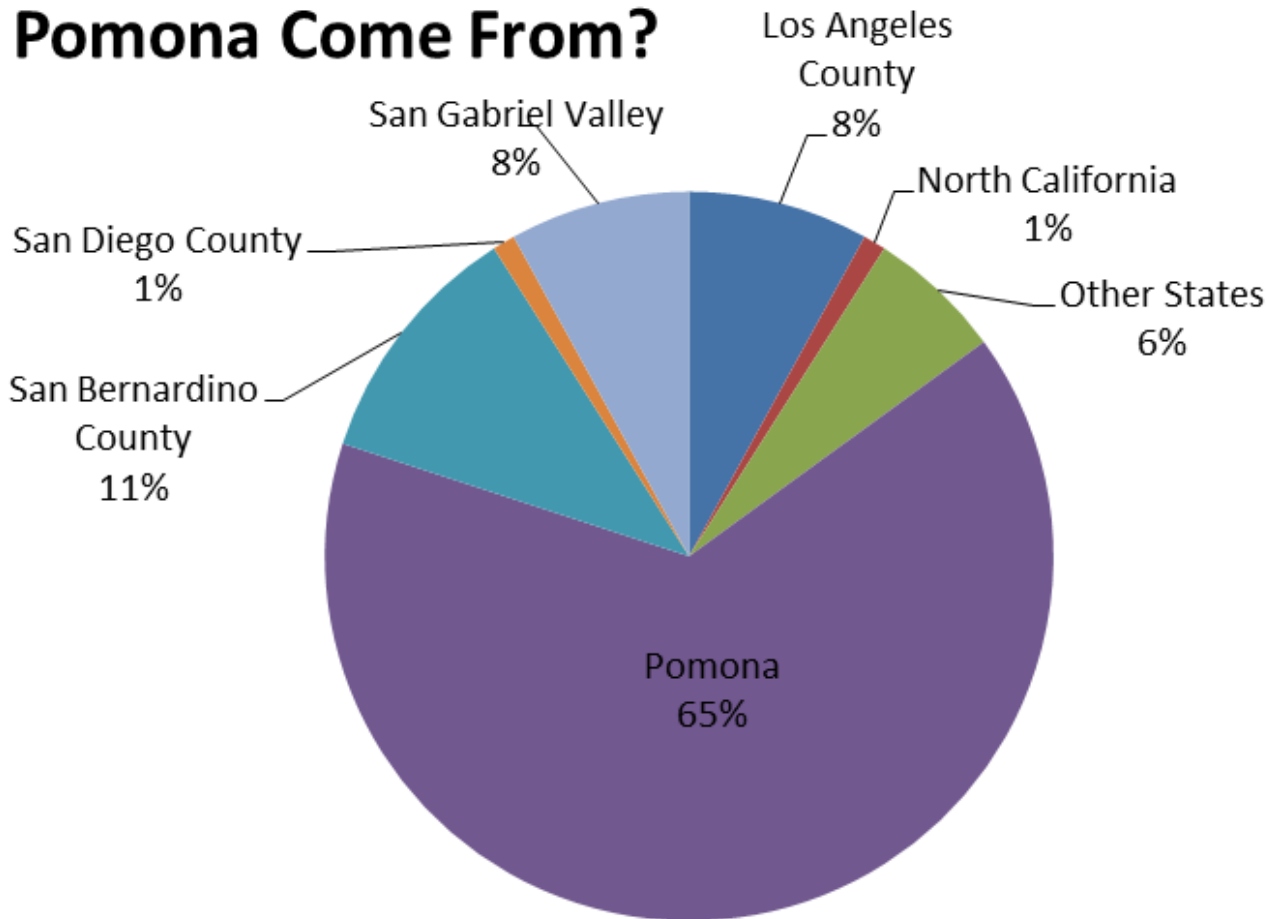
15% Became homeless in April, May or June 2013 when they left a jail, prison, hospital or other public institution

Do the Homeless Have Ties to Pomona

88% of the survey respondents

- ✓ *Worked in Pomona prior to homelessness,*
- ✓ *Attended school in Pomona or*
- ✓ *Had immediate family members living in Pomona,*
- ✓ *Have lived in Pomona for 7 or more weeks.*

Where Do The Homeless in Pomona Come From?



Why Do We Still Have Homelessness in Pomona

- **Release of inmates through AB 109**
 - 15% of those surveyed cited being released from prison or other institution in the past 3 months
- **Chronic Homelessness**
 - 27% of those surveyed had been homeless at least 4 times since 2010 and 52% were homeless for over a year.
- **25% decrease in dedicated funding**
 - Loss of funding that was making a significant difference in moving people from homelessness to housing.
- **Lack of affordable housing options**
 - 435 unit gap between the number of homeless and what is available to house
- **Prop 47**
 - Reduced penalties for most “nonserious and nonviolent property or drug crimes” from a felony to a misdemeanor.

Greatest Challenge to Homeless Service Providers

- ✓ **63% of those providing services to the homeless in Pomona stated that the top challenge to reducing homelessness was a lack of accessible, affordable housing for both families and individuals.**
- ✓ **9% lack of year round emergency shelters**
- ✓ **9% lack of rental assistance vouchers**

Regional Homelessness

City	Population 2013	Poverty Rate	2015 Homeless Count	% of Population Homeless
Pomona	151,348	21.6%	903	0.6%
Pasadena	139,731	15.9%	632	0.5%
El Monte	115,708	26.1%	258	0.2%
Chino	80,988	8.3%	47	0.1%
Baldwin Park	76,635	18.2%	97	0.1%
Diamond Bar	56,449	6.0%	22	0.0%
Glendora	51,074	5.9%	272	0.5%
Covina	48,508	11.6%	88	0.2%
Claremont	35,824	8.0%	43	0.1%
San Dimas	33,840	6.3%	27	0.1%
La Verne	31,868	4.7%	22	0.1%

Source: U.S. Census 2010 /LAHSA 2015 Point in Time Homeless Count

Legal Overview Addressing Homelessness in the City of Pomona

Teresa Chen and Jeff Elder
City Attorney's Office

Homelessness is a status.

Homelessness is not a crime.

The City may not punish homelessness.

The City may prohibit and punish conduct.

The City's ordinances regulate conduct.

How does the City enforce those ordinances?

Adoption and Enforcement of Ordinances

Start with Community Consensus.

↳ Policy

↳ City Ordinances

↳ Enforcement

Adoption and Enforcement of Ordinances

Federal law, State law, and the City's policies guide the City's adoption of ordinances and drive enforcement.

- In the context of homelessness, the City is facing:
 - Complex issues
 - Competing interests
 - Unclear Federal and State law on enforcement

↳ Liability

Adoption and Enforcement of Ordinances

- The City is operating in an unpredictable legal climate.
- When formulating the policies and solutions that guide enforcement and subject the City to liability (lawsuits), the community should consider:

How do we avoid, or do we accept, the risk that comes with taking a stance on enforcement efforts that impact the homeless, whether the stance is for stricter or more lenient enforcement?

How do we avoid, or do we accept, making Pomona the poster child on homelessness issues, whether for over-enforcement or under-enforcement?

There are 3 General Categories of “Quality of Life” Laws in California

Also referred to as “community livability laws” or “anti-homeless laws.”

1. Food Sharing Events (feeding the homeless)
2. Nighttime Conduct in Public Places (camping or sleeping, living in cars, storing belongings)
3. Daytime Conduct in Public Places (loitering, panhandling, use of shopping carts)

Categories are based on when and how enforcement occurs, rather than when the conduct is prohibited.

FOOD SHARING EVENTS

Food Sharing Events

Balancing Interests:

- Provide for a Basic Need
- Safe and Appropriate Use of Public Space
 - Coordinating multiple uses of limited public space
 - Food Safety
 - Human waste, overflow garbage, food, litter, and debris on City property
 - Impacts on nearby residential and commercial property
 - Impacts on adjacent streets and sidewalks
 - Public Nuisance and Illegal behavior
 - Financial accountability for any resulting damage

Food Sharing Events

California Retail Food Code – Health & Safety Code Section 113700

- Temporary Food Facility: a food facility that is approved by the enforcement officer, and that operates at a fixed location for the duration of an approved community event, and only as part of the event.
- Nonprofit Charitable Temporary Food Facilities – Health and Safety Code Section 114332
- The City may regulate:
 - Food preparation conditions, temperatures, storage
 - Handwashing and restroom facilities
 - Time and frequency of event

Food Sharing Events

SUMMARY:

- **State law authorizes the City to require permits for food sharing events.**
- **Permits may restrict the time and frequency of events, and impose health and safety standards.**
- **The City may inspect events for compliance with permit conditions.**

CAMPING OR SLEEPING,
LIVING IN VEHICLES,
STORAGE OF BELONGINGS

Camping or Sleeping, Living in Vehicles, and Storage of Belongings

- Can the City have ordinances against:
 - Camping on public property? **YES.**
 - Living in a vehicle? **YES.**
 - Storing personal property in public spaces? **YES.**
- Can the City enforce these ordinances?

MAYBE.

Camping or Sleeping, Living in Vehicles, and Storage of Belongings

- Pomona City Code Sections:
 - 46-603: Unlawful to **camp** or use camp paraphernalia on public property.
 - 46-606: Unlawful to **sleep** on a public street, sidewalk, walkways, or other public ways and City property
 - 46-605: Unlawful to sleep or **live in a vehicle** located in any public park, public place, or on any public street.
 - 46-604: Unlawful to **store any personal property** on public property.

CAMPING OR SLEEPING

Camping

Tobe v. Santa Ana – (1995)

The California Supreme Court held that Santa Ana's ordinance prohibiting camping and storage of personal property in public spaces was valid.

- Punishes conduct, not status.
- Gives notice of what conduct is not allowed.
- Incidentally impacts the fundamental right to travel.
- The City has the power and duty to keep public property available for designated uses.

Camping

SUMMARY:

Based on the California Supreme Court's holding in Tobe v. Santa Ana, the City of Pomona's ordinance against camping on public property is valid on the books.

Note: The City's definition of "camping" includes living in trailers, camper shells, motor homes, and vehicles.

What about enforcement?

Camping or Sleeping

Court Opinions Ruling on the Enforcement of Sleeping and Anti-Camping Ordinances Fall into Two Categories:

1. Enforcement is allowed because the ordinance punishes conduct, not status. [See *Lehr v. City of Sacramento (2009)* and *Allen v. City of Sacramento (2013)*.]
2. Enforcement is cruel and unusual punishment, (prohibited by the 8th Amendment) when the conduct is involuntary. [See *In re Eichorn (1998)* and *Jones v. City of Los Angeles (2006)*; conduct is “involuntary” when the conduct is a physiological necessity, the person has done all they can to alleviate their condition, and alternatives are inadequate (lack of available housing).]

None of these cases provide direct legal authority.

Camping or Sleeping

SUMMARY:

The City's ordinances prohibiting sleeping and camping on public property are valid on the books, but the legality of enforcement is unclear.

Existing case law does not provide direct legal authority applicable to the City of Pomona. The City may not rely on any of those cases as solid authority on whether or not to enforce, or the extent of enforcement.

Because the law on enforcement is unclear, the City's enforcement approach opens the City to liability (lawsuits).

Until the law is clear, the City should first determine its policy, and then enforce according to that policy.

LIVING IN VEHICLES

Living in Vehicles

Desertrain v. City of Los Angeles (2014)

- The City of LA's ordinance prohibiting living in cars was unconstitutionally vague.
 - “No person shall use a vehicle parked... upon a City street... as living quarters either overnight, day-by-day, or otherwise.” – LAMC Section 85.02
 - No definition of “living quarters.” No defined duration.
- In response, the City of LA is considering two draft ordinances, and will adopt one based on their policy direction.

Living in Vehicles

The City of LA's Draft Ordinances Prohibiting Living in Vehicles

1. A person shall not live in a vehicle parked on a public street between 9 p.m. and 6 a.m.
2. A person shall not live in a vehicle parked on a public street between 9 p.m. and 6. am., *unless the person's dashboard displays a temporary vehicle lodging pass and is parked in a non-residential area as designated by a map issued by the City. Vehicle lodging passes and maps are available to persons requesting a pass and map after receiving homeless outreach services.*

Living in Vehicles

The City of LA's Draft Ordinances Prohibiting Living in Vehicles

Proposed Definition for “Living In” a Vehicle: when it reasonably appears, in light of all the circumstances, that a person is using a vehicle for lodging, and there is a combination of activity from two categories:

1. Sleeping, or preparing or cooking meals inside of the vehicle.
2. Storing contents inside a vehicle that are not associated with ordinary vehicle use, such as a sleeping bag, bedroll, blanket, sheet, pillow, kitchen utensils, cookware, cooking equipment, bodily fluids, or the storing of personal possessions that obscure all or part of the vehicle's windows.

Living in Vehicles

The City of Pomona's Ordinance Against Living in Vehicles

- The City's ordinance against camping and ordinance against living in vehicles extend to living in camper shells, trailers, and motor homes.
- Unlike the City of LA's unconstitutionally vague ordinance, Pomona's ordinance defines the prohibited conduct.
 - Prohibits "occup[ying] for the purpose of sleeping or living" in a vehicle, which includes sleeping, living in, occupying as a dwelling, or staying in the vehicle, in a manner not directly related to driving.

Living in Vehicles

SUMMARY:

- **Can the City of Pomona continue to enforce its ordinances against living in vehicles parked in public places or on public streets? YES.**
- **Factual challenges in enforcement:**
 - **Determining whether there is a person in the vehicle or trailer**
 - **Determining whether there is a person sleeping or living in the vehicle or trailer**

STORAGE OF PROPERTY

Storage of Property

Lavan v. City of Los Angeles (2012)

- An ordinance prohibited leaving personal property on any parkway or sidewalk.
- Enforcement – Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m. street cleaning, as posted on signs.
- Enforcement – The City removed and disposed of unattended items.

Storage of Property

- The ordinance was valid.
- Enforcement of the ordinance was unconstitutional because:
 - Enforcement interfered with the individual's ownership interests in personal property.
 - Enforcement permanently deprived individuals of their possessions without providing sufficient notice and an opportunity to explain why they should not lose their property.

Storage of Property

Dissenting Opinion (not legally binding):

- Individuals do not have ownership interests in unattended personal items left on public sidewalks.
- The City expressly provided notice by posting 73 signs indicating clean-up times.
- The City made an effort to remove only items that posed health and safety hazards (rotting food, human fecal matter, and drug paraphernalia).
- The Business Improvement District sponsored a warehouse providing free storage. Instead of breaking the law, the individuals could have used that storage space.

Storage of Property

New Ordinance – Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 56.11

- 24-hour pre-removal notice
- Impoundment of personal property stored in public areas
- Post-removal notice
- 90 days storage
- Repossession procedure – No government-issued ID required.

Also worth noting, the new LAMC Section 56.11 bans tents in public areas between 6 a.m. and 9 p.m.

Storage of Property

Kincaid v. Fresno (2008)

- Settlement of a Class Action against the City of Fresno
- Class consisted of “all persons whose personal belongings have been unlawfully taken and destroyed in a sweep, raid, or clean-up” by the City
- Settlement terms:
 - The City of Fresno pays \$1.4 Million to the Plaintiffs
 - The City of Fresno paid \$750,000 in attorneys fees and \$100,000 in legal costs to Plaintiffs’ counsel

Storage of Property

SUMMARY:

- **The City's ordinance against storage of personal property on public property is valid.**
- **The City may enforce the ordinance.**
- **If the City removes unattended personal property, the City should provide the owners with a way to retrieve the property that was temporarily moved during enforcement.**

LOITERING

Loitering

- Loitering is not illegal and most ordinances prohibiting loitering are unenforceable.
[*People v. Sup. Ct. (Caswell)*]
- An ordinance is unenforceable if it prohibits a person from just being at a location for any amount of time.
- Exception: Courts have upheld ordinances prohibiting loitering with intent to commit a crime.

Loitering

SUMMARY:

Based on current law, the City's loitering ordinances are unenforceable, except those tied to criminal activities.

- **Unenforceable:**

- 34-155: prohibits loitering on certain properties

- 34-156: prohibits loitering on private parking lots

- 34-267: prohibits loitering by minors during school hours

- **Enforceable:**

- 34-291: prohibits loitering by street gangs for illegal purposes

PANHANDLING

Panhandling

- Can the City have ordinances:
 - Prohibiting panhandling? **NO.**
 - Prohibiting aggressive panhandling? **YES.**
 - Regulating panhandling? **YES.**
- Can the City enforce these ordinances?

MAYBE.

Panhandling

- It's a misdemeanor to accost (aggressively approach or confront) others in a public place or any place open to the public for the purpose of begging or soliciting alms. (Penal Code § 647(c); *People v. Zimmerman*.)
 - In *People v. Zimmerman*, the Court noted that Section 647(c) “bears a rational relationship to the state’s legitimate interest in protecting citizens from intimidation, harassment, and other improprieties,” which may accompany the accosting of persons.
- This panhandling regulation is aimed at conduct of individuals who accost others for handouts. The regulation does not extend to a person who merely sits or stands by the wayside.

Panhandling

- The City has authority to protect the public's health, safety, and welfare.
- That authority includes the authority to regulate panhandling.
- Panhandling regulations must meet certain criteria. (*L.A. Alliance for Survival v. City of L.A.*)

Panhandling

An ordinance regulating panhandling must:

- (1) be narrowly tailored;
- (2) serve a significant government interest;
and
- (3) leave open ample alternative channels
for communicating the information.

Panhandling

The City's regulation of aggressive panhandling:

30-608: aggressive panhandling is unlawful

- This regulation is enforceable because it is:
 - (1) Narrowly tailored
 - (2) Serves significant government interest: protecting citizens from intimidation, harassment, and other improprieties
 - (3) Leaves open ample alternative channels

Panhandling

The City's other regulations of panhandling:

- 30-605: unlawful in public rights-of-way.
- 30-606: unlawful in unauthorized locations of commercial parking areas.
- 30-607: unlawful within 25 feet of certain listed locations.

Panhandling

30-605: unlawful in public rights-of-way.

- Regulation unenforceable. Not narrowly tailored.

Comite De Jornaleros de Redondo Beach v. City of Redondo Beach

- Redondo Beach had ordinance prohibiting panhandling and other solicitation in public right-of-way.
- Court held that while the city had an interest in promoting traffic flow and safety, the ordinance was not narrowly tailored to apply in only those situations and the City had less restrictive alternatives, such as existing traffic laws.

Panhandling

30-606: locations of commercial parking areas

- Legality of enforcement is unclear.
- Existing case law does not provide applicable legal authority.
- It is clear individuals have speech protections on some private property, including shopping centers. (*Robins v. Pruneyard Shopping Center*).
- Private property owners may enforce restrictions and prohibit trespassing on private property that is not open to the public.

Panhandling

30-607: unlawful within 25 feet of listed locations

- Legality of enforcement is unclear, except that City can enforce regulation around ATMs.
- Existing case law does not provide direct legal authority applicable to the City of Pomona. The City may not rely on any of those cases as solid authority on whether or not to enforce, or the extent of enforcement.

Panhandling

Los Angeles Alliance for Survival v. City of LA

- The City of LA's ordinance prohibited aggressive panhandling and panhandling in specific locations.
- Plaintiffs sued the City of Los Angeles and claimed that the City's panhandling ordinance was an impermissible infringement of the CA Constitution's Liberty of Speech Clause.

Panhandling

Los Angeles Alliance for Survival v. City

- Plaintiffs successfully obtained an injunction against the City, preventing the City from enforcing the panhandling ordinance.
- The City ultimately settled the case and removed all location restrictions on panhandling except for location restrictions applicable to ATMs.

Panhandling

Salzman v. City of Arcata (2012) (not legally binding)

- The Court held that the City's location-specific prohibition on panhandling was unconstitutional.
 - The Court acknowledged that the City had valid interests (preventing congestion and controlling traffic and protecting citizens from unwanted communication), **BUT**
 - The Court found that the legitimate interests were "insufficient in most instances to justify the infringement of solicitors' right, and, for that reason, it is largely unconstitutional"
 - The Court upheld the panhandling restriction within 20 feet of ATMs.

Panhandling

SUMMARY:

Based on current law, the City's aggressive panhandling ordinance is enforceable. It is:

- (1) Narrowly tailored
- (2) Serves significant government interest: protecting citizens from intimidation, harassment, and other improprieties
- (3) Leaves open ample alternative channels

For the remainder of the City's panhandling ordinances, until the law is clear, the City should determine its policy and enforce according to that policy.

SHOPPING CARTS

Shopping Carts

- Use of shopping and laundry carts (“carts”) is regulated by State and City law. (B&P § 22435 *et. seq*; PMC Article VIII.)
- If the intent is to deprive an owner of possession of a cart, it is a misdemeanor to:
 - Remove carts from retail establishments;
 - Possess a removed cart or cart with its serial numbers removed or altered;
 - Abandon a cart; or
 - Alter a cart or remove its serial numbers.

Shopping Carts

- All carts must have an affixed sign that:
 - Identifies the owner;
 - Provides notice of the procedure utilized for authorized removal of the cart;
 - Provides notice that unauthorized removal or possession of the cart is a violation of law; and
 - Lists a number or address for returning the cart

Shopping Carts

- The City can impound a Cart if the following conditions are satisfied:
 - The cart is outside the retail establishment; and
 - The cart is not retrieved within 3 business days from the date the owner receives actual notice from the City of its discovery and location. (B&P § 22435.7.)
- The City can immediately impound a cart if:
 - It is in a location that impedes emergency services; or
 - The City provides actual notice within 24 hours following the impound and informs the owner as to its location.

Shopping Carts

Mandatory Abandoned Cart Prevention Plan

- Every business with carts must have an approved abandoned cart prevention plan, that includes:
 - Name of business/owner
 - Inventory of carts and cart identification
 - Community outreach (e.g., notice removal unlawful)
 - Loss prevention measures (e.g., wheel locks)
 - Employee training
 - Cart retrieval

Shopping Carts

SUMMARY:

It is a crime to remove a cart from a retail establishment, possess a removed cart, abandon a cart, or alter a cart.

The City can impound carts found outside the retail establishment.

All businesses with carts must have an Abandoned Cart Prevention Plan.

PENDING LEGISLATION

Pending Legislation

Assembly Bill 718 (AB 718) – Chu and Gonzalez

Cities and counties shall not prohibit or punish sleeping or resting in a lawfully parked vehicle. The City may still regulate criminal activity and storage of vehicles on public streets.

Pending Legislation

Senate Bill 608 (SB 608) – “Right to Rest Act” - Liu

- Right to use public spaces in the same manner as anyone else
- *Additional right to exercise, in public areas, the same civil and human rights afforded in homes and private places*
- Right to use and move freely in public without time limits
- Right to rest in public spaces
- Right to protect oneself from the elements
- Right to eat, share, accept, or give food in public spaces
- Right to pray, meditate, worship, or practice religion in public
- Right to occupy a car or RV that is legally parked on public property, or parked on private property with the owner’s permission
- Exemption from Penal Code Section 647(e) – misdemeanor for disorderly conduct for lodging in a place without permission

Pending Legislation

Senate Bill 608 (SB 608) – “Right to Rest Act”

Concerns:

- SB 608 expressly grants the right to sue cities for deprivation of those rights, and recovery of attorneys fees and damages, including statutory damages of \$1,000 per violation, and **exemplary damages**.
- Impact on the City’s compliance with the NPDES-MS4 Stormwater Permit.
- Financial burdens
- Extension of rights protected in private spaces into public areas


CONCLUSION

Start with Community Consensus.

↳ **Policy**

↳ **City Ordinances**

↳ **Enforcement**

A photograph of a Pomona Police car parked in front of Pomona City Hall. The car is a dark-colored sedan with a white door panel that has "POMONA POLICE" written on it. The car has a license plate that reads "126294". The building in the background has "POMONA CITY HALL" written above the entrance. The image is overlaid with a semi-transparent dark blue rectangle containing white text.

POMONA CITY HALL

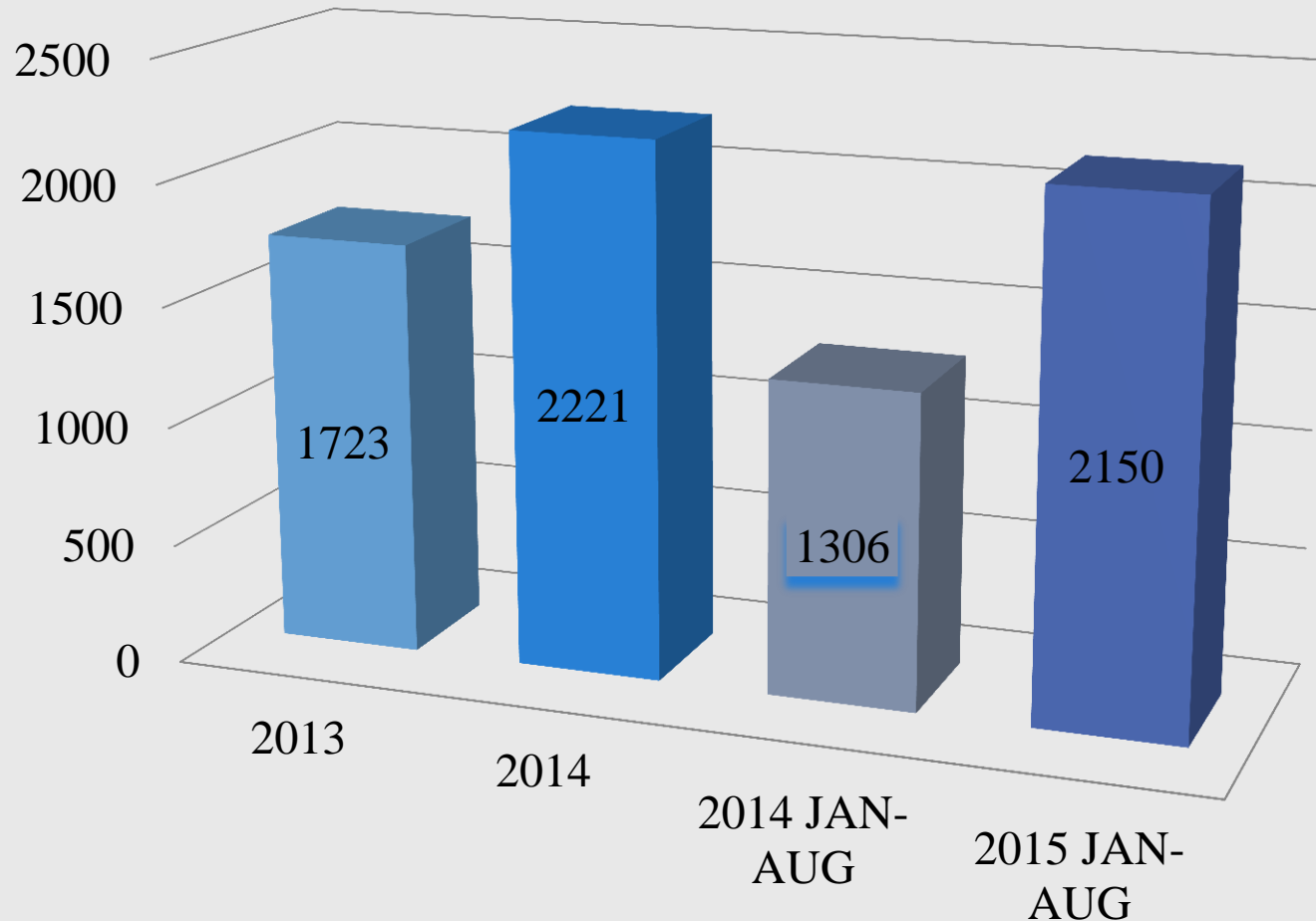
Pomona Police Department
Paul Capraro
Police Chief

**How the Pomona Police
Department Addresses
Issues Related to
Homelessness...**

Types of Calls the Police Respond to Involving the Homeless

- Loitering
- Panhandling
- Camping
- Disturbing the Peace
- Indecent Exposure
- Public Intoxication
- Vandalism
- Narcotics

Calls-for-Service Received Related to the Homeless



Options Available to Officers When Encountering the Homeless

- Provide information and resources
- Transport for mental evaluation
- Inform residents and businesses on measures they can use to deter attracting the homeless
- Provide verbal warnings
- Arrest or issue citations (if applicable)

Departmental Strategies

- July 2015 all Pomona PD Officers and professional staff received training to assist with interacting with people experiencing mental health emergencies
- Committed to working closely with other City Departments and community partners to develop long term solutions
- Committed to improving the quality of life for all residents and businesses in Pomona

What We Can Do

- Enforce existing state and local law and ordinances
- Provide resources to the homeless regarding how to improve their condition
- Provide resources on how the homeless can improve their mental health
- Provide resources to community members on homeless encounters

What We Cannot Do

- Arrest anyone just because they are homeless
- Destroy their property
- Dispose of their property
- Pick them up and transport them elsewhere
- Put them on buses and send them elsewhere
- Feed them
- Give them money

Types of Calls Code Compliance Responds to Involving the Homeless

- Homeless Camps
- Abandoned Property
- Shopping Carts

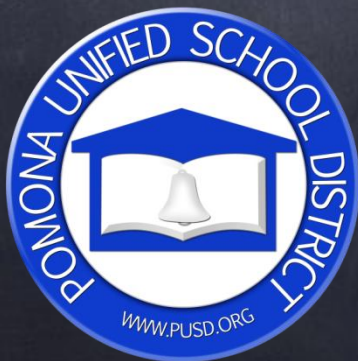
Code Compliance Actions in Response to Calls Involving the Homeless

- Provide information on available resources and notify the street outreach team
- Notify public works for removal of abandoned property
- Notify shopping cart hotline for removal of shopping carts
- Notify police for enforcement if needed

“We cannot arrest our way out
of the situation.”

HOMELESS EDUCATION

August 2015



Pomona Unified School District
Mr. Richard Martinez, Superintendent

MCKINNEY-VENTO ACT'S DEFINITION OF HOMELESS

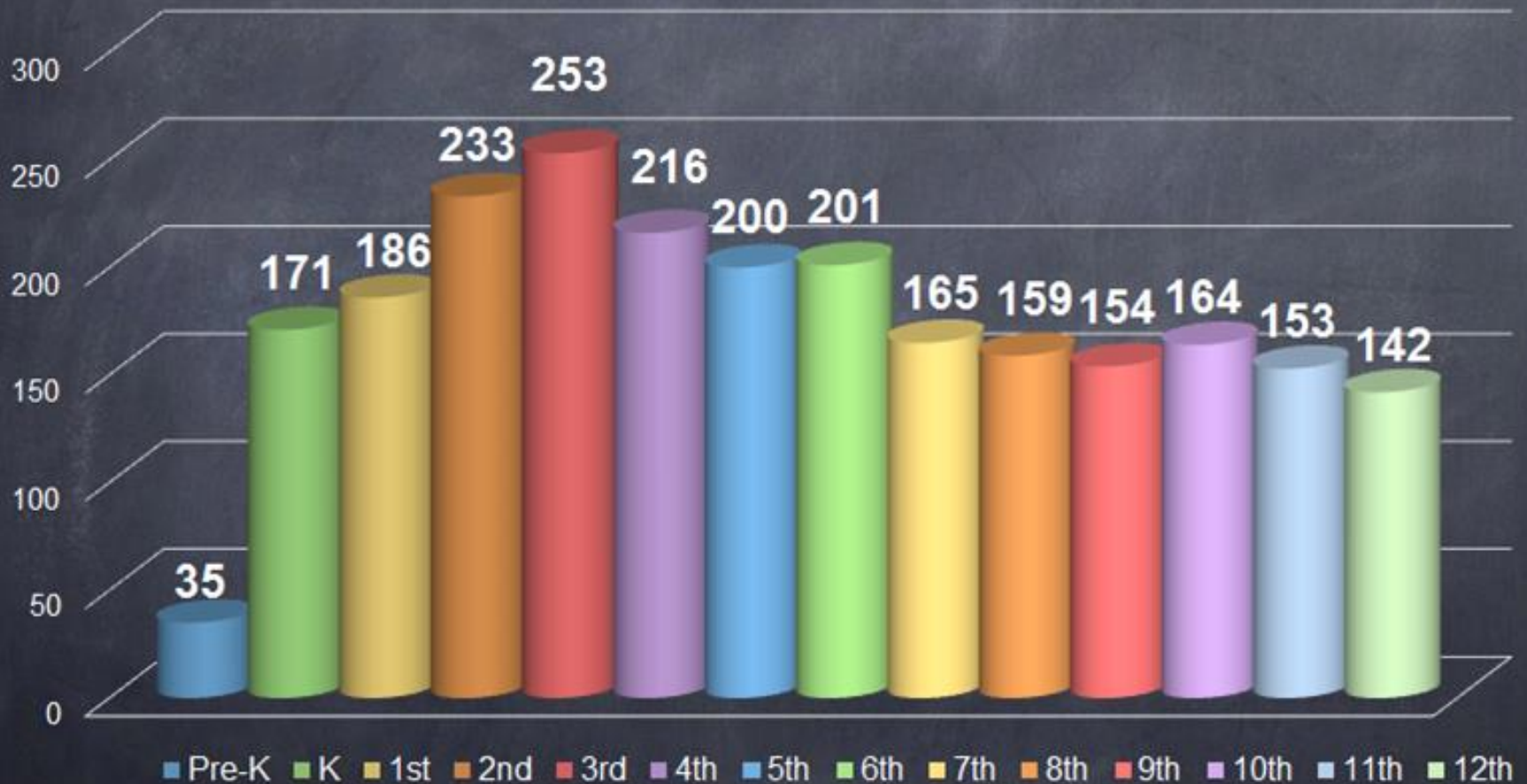
Students between the ages of 0-22 who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence such as:



Photo by M Norris

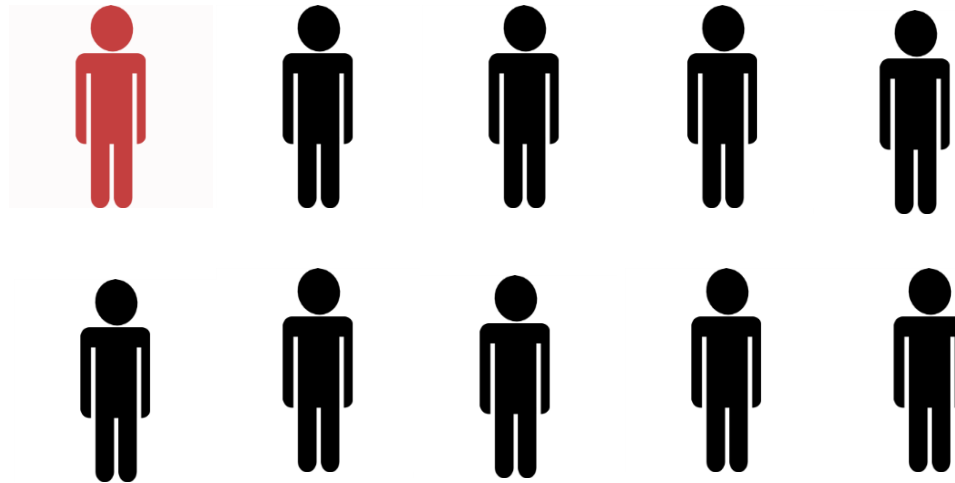
- Motels/hotels, domestic violence shelters, congregate shelters, and transitional housing.
- Car, park, garage, abandoned building
- Trailer parks and campgrounds
- Lives “doubled-up” with another family, *due to loss of housing, stemming from financial problems.*
- Awaiting foster care placement
- Unaccompanied youth

Pomona Unified School District
Homeless Student Count
2014-15



Total = 2,432

1 out of **10** PUSD students
is homeless.

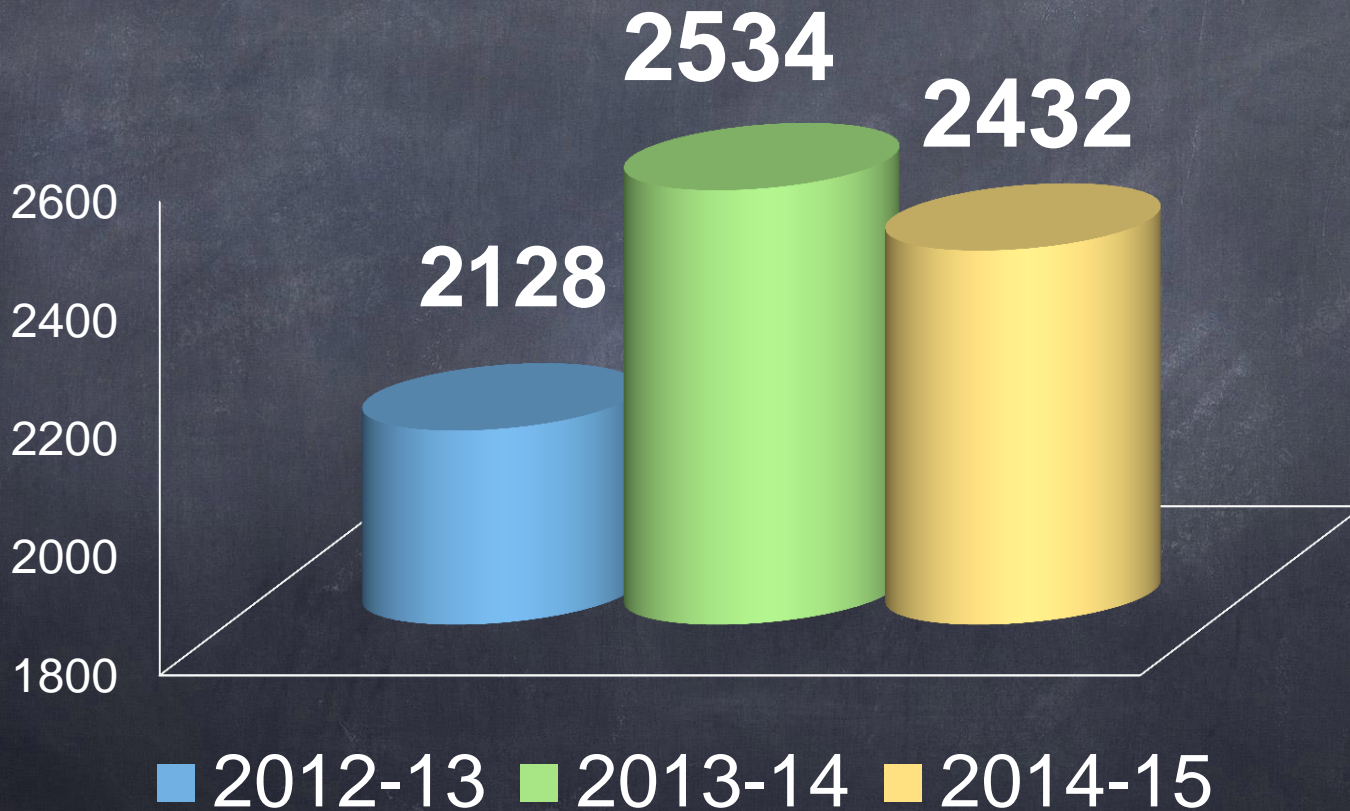


*Pomona Unified School District
2014*

POMONA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Homeless Student Count

2012-2015



IMPACT ON EDUCATION



- Homeless students are twice as likely to repeat a grade in school, be expelled or suspended, and drop out of high school.
- The estimated graduation rate for homeless students is less than 25%.
- Homeless students are more likely to attend different schools. With each change, a student is set back academically by 4 to 6 months.

BARRIERS TO HOMELESS EDUCATION



- High mobility
- Lack of transportation
- Lack of school supplies, clothing, etc.



- Poor health, fatigue, hunger and anxiety/trauma
- Lack of awareness
- Prejudice and misunderstanding

BARRIERS TO HOMELESS EDUCATION



- For unaccompanied youth:
 - Lack of adult/guardian
 - Need for employment
 - Credit accrual policies
 - Concerns of capture by authorities

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS



school on wheels inc.
Tutoring Homeless Children Since 1993



GOD'S PANTRY



Christ's Church of the Valley,
San Dimas



Shoes That Fit
Every Child Deserves Them

Mental Health & Homelessness

Gilbert Saldate

Housing Division Manager
Public Outreach Coordinator

Tri-City Mental Health Authority

Mental Health & Homelessness

FSP	FY 13-14	FY 14-15
Children	96	81
TAY	109	95
Adult	166	150
Older Adult	8	12
TOTAL	379	338

Mental Health & Homelessness

FY 14-15 Housing Stability
HOW MUCH DID WE DO?

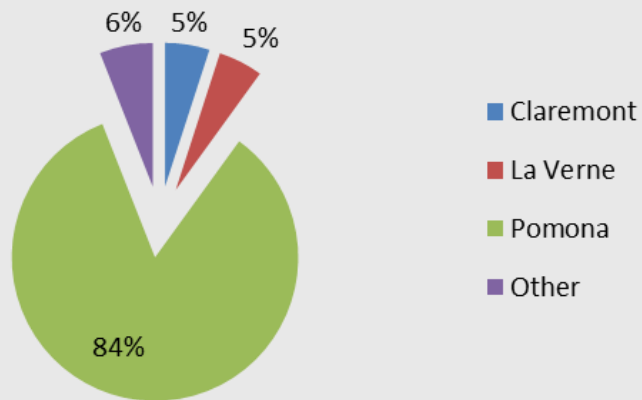


IS ANYONE BETTER OFF?

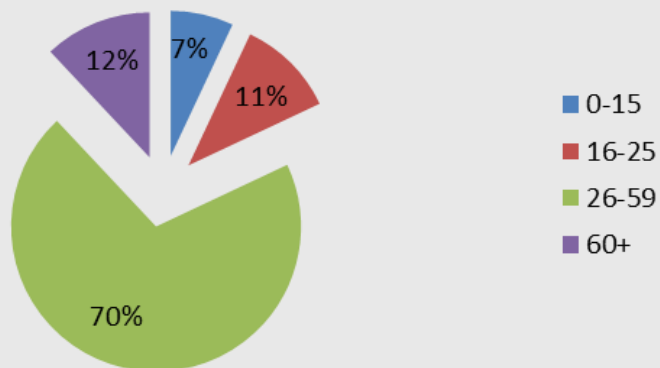


Client Demographics

City of Residence

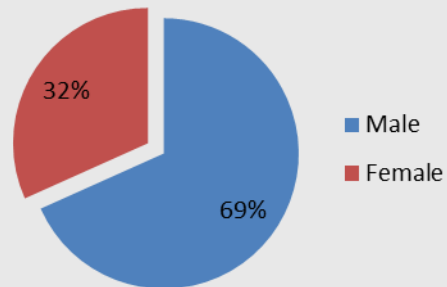


Age

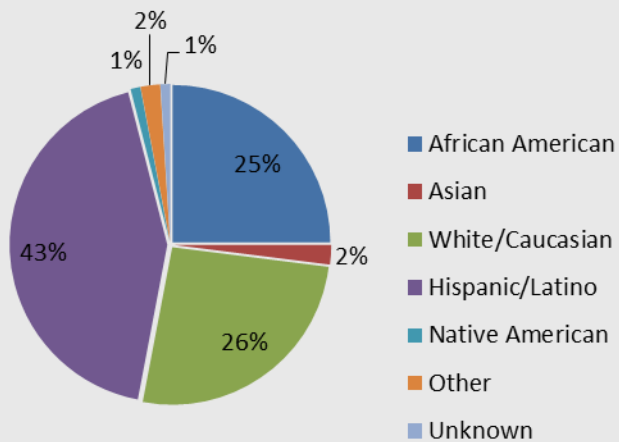


Client Demographics

Gender



Race/Ethnicity



Mental Health & Homelessness



THE ROSE

*A certain man planted a rose and watered it faithfully.
Before it blossomed, he examined it.
He saw a bud that would soon blossom.
He also saw the thorns, and he thought,
"How can any beautiful flower come from a plant,
burdened with so many sharp thorns?"
Saddened by this thought, he neglected to water the rose,
and before it was ready to bloom, it died.
So it is with many people ...
Within every soul ... there is a Rose.
The "G-d-like" qualities planted in us at birth,
growing amidst the thorns of our faults.
Many of us look at ourselves and see only the thorns, the defects.
We despair, thinking nothing good can possibly come from us.
We neglect to water the good within us,
and eventually it dies.
We never realize our potential.
Some do not see the rose within themselves ...
It takes someone else to show it to them.
One of the greatest gifts a person can possess ...
is to be able to reach past the thorns and find the rose within others.
This is the truest, most innocent, and gracious characteristic of love -
to know another person,
including their faults, recognize the nobility in their soul,
and yet still help another to realize they can overcome their faults.
If we show them the rose, they will conquer the thorns.
Only then will they blossom,
and most likely, blooming thirty, sixty, a hundred-fold,
as it is given to them.
Our duty in this world is to help others,
by showing them their roses and not their thorns.
It is then that we achieve the love we should feel for each other.
Only then can we bloom in our own garden.*

Unknown Author

Health and Homelessness

Vicky Alvarez

Pomona Community Health Clinic



Pomona Community
Health Center

History & Mission of PCHC

- **History:** Pomona Community Health Center was initially founded in 1995 as the “Pomona Clinic Coalition” by Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center and other local healthcare providers. In March 2007, Pomona Community Health Center, under the inspirational leadership of Jamie Garcia M.D., incorporated and became a separate 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
- **Mission:** To provide high quality preventative and primary care services to the underserved residents within the community



Services for the Whole Family

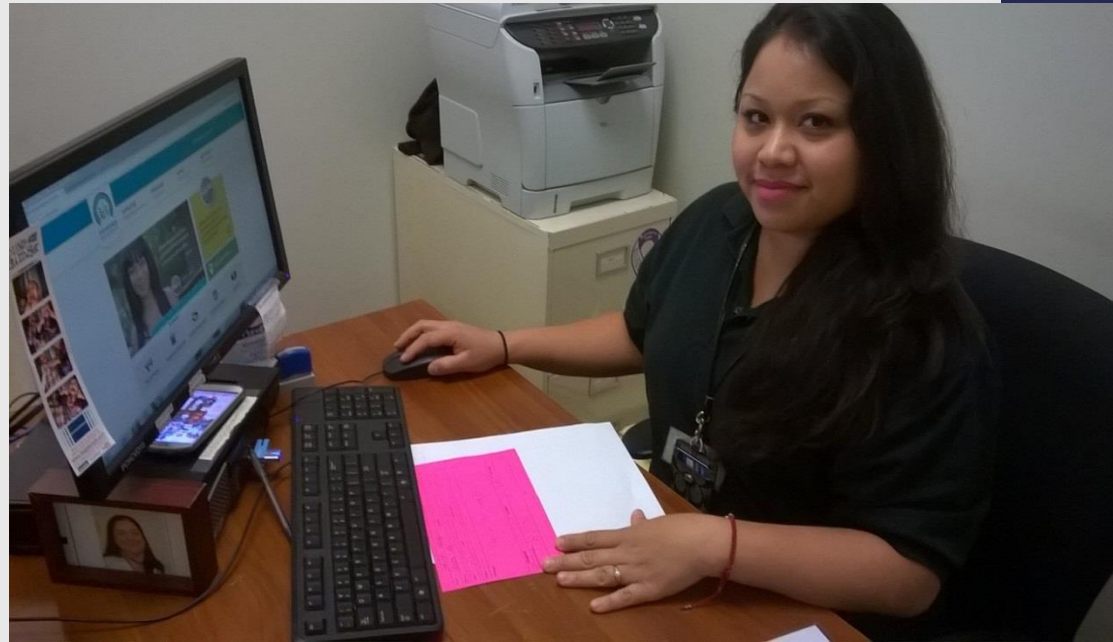
Free or low-cost care including:

- Primary health care
- Pediatric care
- Reproductive health care
- Teen services
- Homeless health care and case management
- Chronic disease management
- OB Care: prenatal care, newborn care, breastfeeding support, WIC referrals, comprehensive perinatal services program (CPSP)
- Insurance Enrollment Services
- Collaboration with the Promotoras of Pomona to more effectively give information, education and resources to the community



Enrollment Assistance

- Medi-Cal
- My Health LA
- Covered CA (Obamacare)



Winter Shelter

- ❖ 3 months at the armory here in Pomona. It takes place at the end of December – March 1st
- ❖ Provider, MA and a patient advocate/ someone to check eligibility
- ❖ Our patient advocate would check eligibility for Medi-Cal, My Health L.A.*, and make sure that the person seeking service had no PCP*
- ❖ We were there every Monday from 6-9 pm
- ❖ It was open to anyone, but they could only be seen if we were their provider, they didn't have an assigned provider, or through scale fee (we could usually wave off the \$15 fee for the first visit)
- ❖ They signed up and we called them over to get their vitals checked and see a provider
- ❖ We gave them some medication on the spot for them to take until they were able to follow up with someone.

**My Health L.A.* is a health care program for the uninsured or uninsurable [no social or work permit] which provides primary health care at no cost to eligible residents in L.A. county) * * **PCP*- Primary care provider (no assigned doctor through their insurance).



Veterans Stand Down

- ❖ We provided information and resources to those that have no insurance or can't pay for insurance.
- ❖ We gave blood pressure tests.
- ❖ The Pomona Community Health Center attended 3 of the 5 days.

Project Homeless Connect

- We presented our resources and informed about our services.



R.E.S.P.I.T.E

Recuperative Exit Services Providing Individual Treatment Effectiveness

Quality Health Care + Reduced Hospital Visits

The Medical Respite Pilot Project was implemented to reduce the cost of hospital services for homeless patients and provide a healthy discharge that connects patients with continued care.

By offering alternative recuperative care and medical service options for homeless patients discharged from the hospital or treated at the ER, patients are more likely to stabilize and complete needed treatment at local medical facilities.

Hospital staff and physicians are being asked to refer homeless patients to first seek future non-emergency treatment at Pomona Community Health Center or another local community clinic instead of the hospital.

How it Works

1.

- Patient presents at hospital emergency room and is treated or admitted.

2.

- Hospital Staff contacts PVHMC Social Worker to assess patient for RESPITE Program options and eligibility prior to discharge.

3.

- If eligible, patient has the option to be transferred to RESPITE care facility or be safely discharged.
- All discharge documents include information for the Pomona Community Health Center or alternative clinic.

2014 Outcomes

PVHMC

PCHC

NHF

Total Patients	250
Safe discharge to Respite Care Service Provider	81
Safe discharge to Family/Friend	69
Safe Respite Service	100

Total Homeless Patients	131
Total Service Visits	172
PVHMC	50

Total Patients	68
Permanent Housing	12
Transitional Housing	11
Shelter	11

60% of homeless patients were discharged to stable environments.

20% of homeless patients served by PVHMC began using PCHC for follow up care instead of the emergency room

All homeless patients were provided temporary housing, medical and social services. 34% obtained housing solutions.

National Health Foundation

Pathway Recuperative Care:

- Provides the hospital with an appropriate discharge option and a warm handoff to an NHF facility.
- Provides medical oversight and one-on-one care management to assist each guest in finding a housing solution.
- Is not a shelter.
- Guests share a private room and bath with one other guest so they feel safe and secure.
- This program has a high success rate of placing guests into housing solutions, breaking the cycle of patients returning to the hospital.

Please call us for an appointment!

PCHC-Village | (909) 630-7927

Mondays, Wednesdays-Fridays | 8am-5pm

Tuesdays | 8am-8:30pm

Saturdays | 9am-2pm

PCHC-Park | (909) 622-6516

Mondays-Wednesdays | 1pm-5:30pm

Thursdays | 1pm-7pm



Pomona Street Outreach Team

Reggie Clark
VOALA

Pomona Homeless Outreach Team



City of Pomona Homeless Services

Benita DeFrank
City of Pomona

City of Pomona

Homeless Services

- Over the past 18 years the City of Pomona has implemented a coordinated effort to address homelessness:
 - The Pomona Continuum of Care Coalition
 - Hiring a Homeless Services Coordinator
 - Leadership in supporting regional and countywide solutions to addressing homelessness
 - Administering annually over \$1.5 million in grants that focus on services that reduce homelessness

Pomona Continuum of Care Coalition

- In 1997 Pomona City Council members founded the Pomona Continuum of Care Coalition.
- The goal is to address gaps in services and minimize duplication of effort to effectively address homelessness.
- Consists of over 40 community and faith-based organizations, local government agencies, and residents, homeless representatives and other community stakeholders.

Homeless Services Coordinator

A position within the City established to:

- Serve as a community liaison and central contact person for the City at a local, regional and county level regarding homeless issues and services.
- Act as a resource to City Council, City staff and community partners, providing technical assistance and subject matter expertise on issues of homelessness.
- Serve as a City Liaison to the Pomona Continuum of Care Coalition, the regional Consortium and LAHSA.
- Coordinate intake, referral and evaluation services for homeless persons seeking assistance.
- Coordinate service response between the Outreach Team and law enforcement, code enforcement and other City staff when requested.
- Seek revenue and resources to support efforts to address homelessness within the City.

City Administered Programs

- Emergency Solutions Grant
- Los Angeles County Grant
 - Community Engagement and Regional Capacity Building
- Continuum of Care Grants
 - Permanent Supportive Housing
 - Transitional Living Center
 - Pomona Street Outreach Team

Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG)

The City receives an annual allocation from HUD of approximately \$200,000 to:

1. Engage homeless individuals and families living on the street;
 2. Improve the number and quality of emergency shelters for homeless individuals and families;
 3. Help operate these shelters;
 4. Provide essential services to shelter residents,
 5. Rapidly re-house homeless individuals and families, and
 6. Prevent families/individuals from becoming homeless.
- In 2014, 467 homeless persons were provided homeless services with these funds
 - Over the past 10 years 16,339 people have received homeless related services utilizing this funding.

Los Angeles County Grant

Community Engagement and Capacity Building

In 2008, over \$1.2 million was secured by the City of Pomona to assist the San Gabriel Valley Consortium on Homelessness in developing organizational capacity, services and housing on a regional level.

As a result:

- 25 San Gabriel Valley cities currently participate with the Consortium in developing and implementing homeless plans
- 27 regional cities opted in to participate in the Bi-annual Homeless Count that LAHSA oversees
- La Verne, Hacienda Heights, Diamond Bar, Covina and El Monte have developed housing to assist homeless families, veterans, youth and those with special needs.

Continuum of Care Programs

- Permanent Supportive Housing
 - The City receives an average of \$1,000,000 annually to provide rental assistance to qualified homeless persons with a disability and their families.
 - To implement this program we are provided funding for 54 rental assistance vouchers.
 - With the funding available we have been able to increase our participant capacity and have provided rental assistance to an average of 70 homeless families annually.
 - In 2014, 93 homeless families were provided rental assistance with supportive services.
 - Over the past 10 years 732 homeless families have been housed with these funds.

Continuum of Care Programs

- Transitional Living Center
 - The City receives an annual award of \$165,243
 - This program provides transitional housing for up to 6 homeless individuals at capacity
 - Next year this program will be renewed to implement a Rapid Re-Housing program and the current beds will be used for “Bridge” housing
 - In 2014, 28 homeless individuals were provided transitional housing. Of those, 9 were permanently housed.
 - Over the past 10 years 182 homeless individuals were provided housing services with this program.

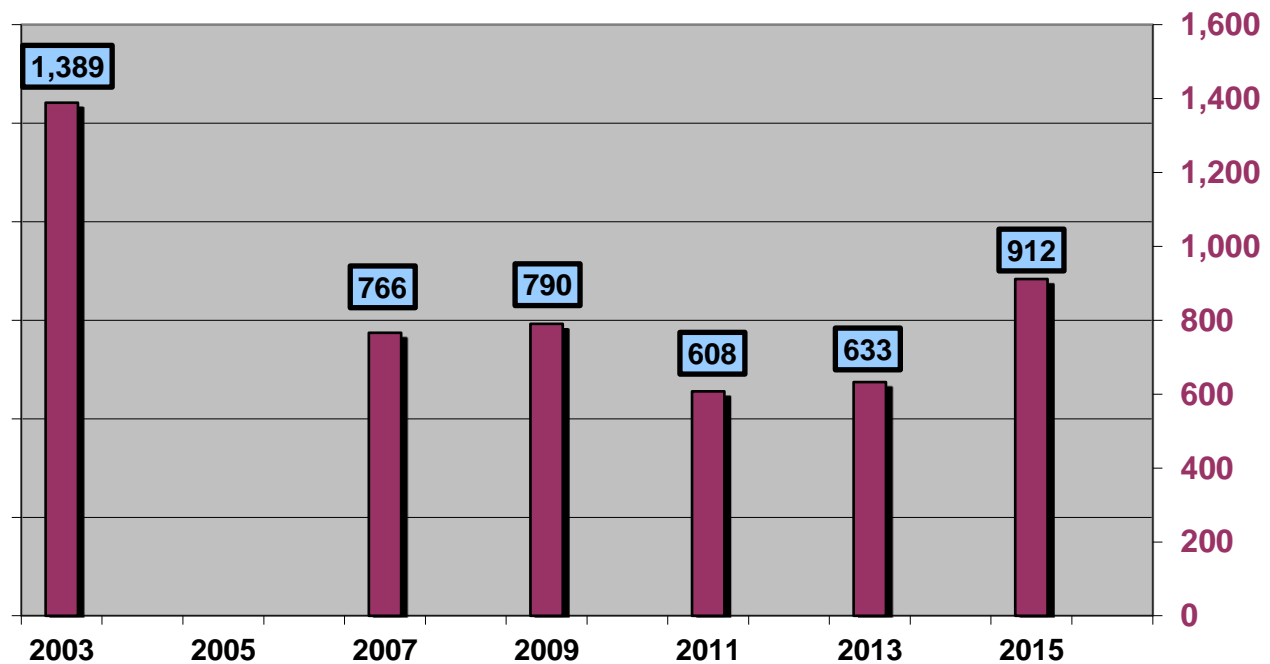
Continuum of Care Programs

- Pomona Street Outreach Program
 - The City receives an annual award of \$203,809
 - This program funds the Pomona Street Outreach Team
 - Next year this program will focus on implementing a Rapid Re-Housing model to increase the number of individuals stabilized in housing
 - In 2014, 786 homeless persons were provided outreach services. Of those, 266 were provided housing.
 - Over the past 10 years 13,751 homeless persons have been provides services through the Pomona Street Outreach Team

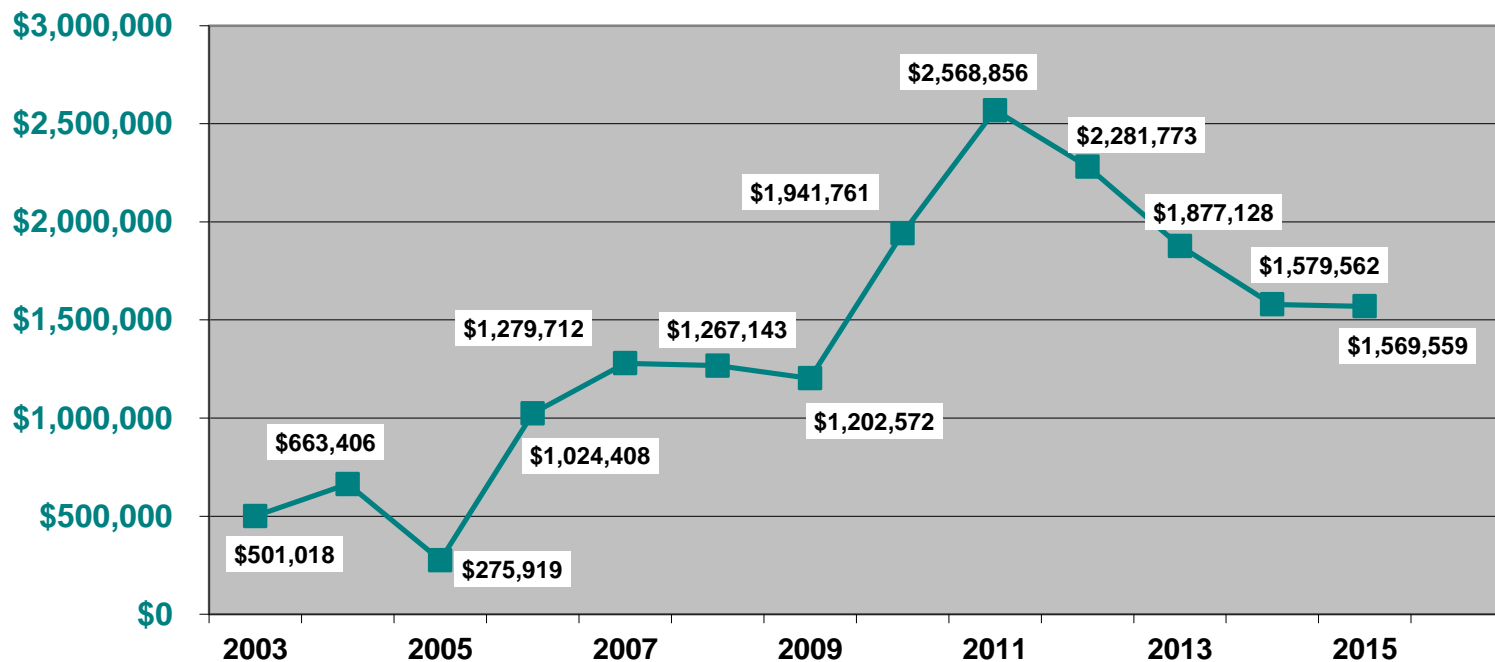
10 Year Homeless Services Review

- Over the past 10 years City of Pomona's Homeless Services has administered \$18,472,448 in grant funds
- As a result, 33,318 homeless individuals and families have been provided with homeless services. Of those:
 - 11,990 were prevented from becoming homeless,
 - 9,374 were provided either emergency, transitional or permanent housing and
 - 11,954 were provided with outreach or coordinating services
- **The average cost to assist these individuals was \$554**

Pomona Homeless Count 2003 to 2015

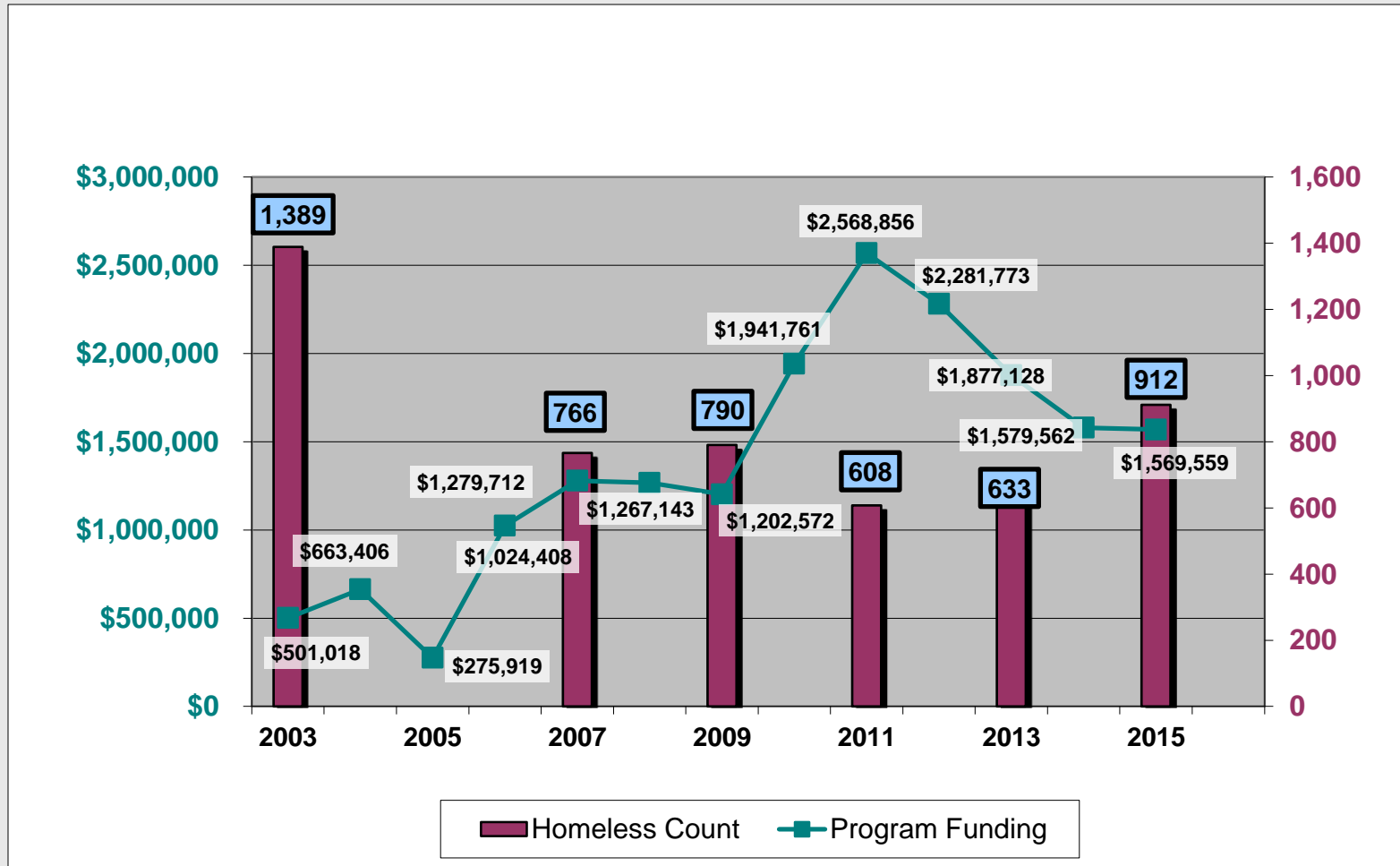


Homeless Services Program Funding



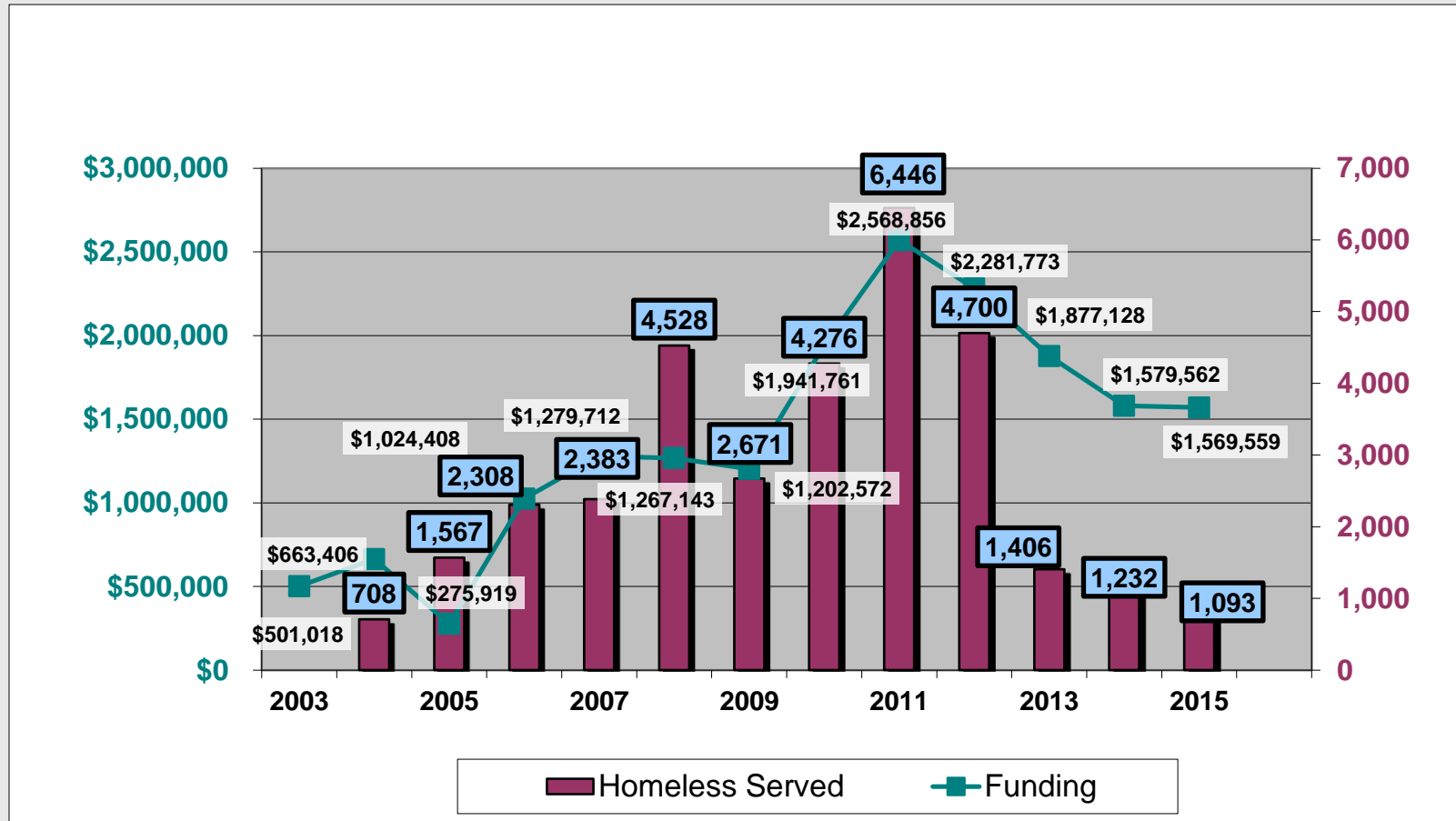
Source: The City of Pomona The State of Homelessness in Pomona, 2013 (Updated)

Funding and Homeless Count



Source: The City of Pomona The State of Homelessness in Pomona, 2013 (Updated)

Program Funding and Homeless Served



Source: The City of Pomona The State of Homelessness in Pomona, 2013 (Updated)

BREAK

10:30am-10:45am

World Café

Facilitated By
Michelle DeMott, Fairplex

World Café Question

What do you feel are the greatest impacts that homelessness has on our community?

Senate Bill 2

Mark Lazzaretto
Development & Neighborhood
Services Director
City of Pomona

Senate Bill 2

- Requires all cities to provide zoning area that emergency shelters can locate in without discretionary approval
- Must have sufficient land area within the zone to meet the city's needs for homeless beds
- Cities must also remove any constraints for transitional or supportive housing projects

Senate Bill 2 Compliance Efforts

- The city is currently compliant with the transitional and supportive housing requirements, with the exception of minor wording changes
- Staff is working on identifying a zone or zones where emergency shelters would be allowed “by right”
- Changes will require a hearing before the Planning Commission and two hearings by the City Council – hoping to be done by year end

Homeless Shelter Examples



El Monte



Seattle



Skid Row



Village of Hope Tour - YouTube

Stories of Success

Moderated by

Jamie Ritchey, Tri-City

Keynote Speakers

Michael Bailey

Kirk Gibson

Twila Stephens

BREAK

12:45pm-1:00pm

Group Discussion

1. Given what we have seen and learned in the morning session, what are some solutions to address the impacts?
2. What would be the actions/next steps for those solutions?

www.pusd.org/go/hip

Closing Remarks and Next Steps

Linda Lowry
City Manager
City of Pomona