

The People Concern Malibu Outreach Team

March 2022 Report

Narrative

Outcomes

In March 2022, the total number of contacts made by the outreach team was 149, with 51 unduplicated contacts. 4 individuals were contacted in permanent or temporary housing. Of the 51 unduplicated contacts, 9 were new contacts, with 7 of them becoming repeat contacts. There are currently 125 individuals on the streets of Malibu that have been previously engaged. 62 are considered in various stages of engagement, and 63 are refusing services at this point. The outreach team continues to contact these individuals with the goal of getting them engaged in the housing process.

Success Story

There are many roads that lead to homelessness but substance abuse and mental illness are often the root cause for many. Although it can be a difficult task when assisting individuals who suffer from dual diagnosis such as these, the outreach team was able to provide assistance and shelter to one of our clients who has struggled with both mental illness and substance abuse. VD has had a difficult life and faced many challenges along the way. When the outreach team first engaged with this client, VD was not only dealing with her own personal battles but was also a victim of domestic violence to which her abuser has manipulated her, stalked her and even attempted to kill her. As outreach workers continued to engage with her, we were finally able to assist by placing her in a motel and referring her to shelter which offered protective services and intensive case management. Because of these referrals, VD is now residing in a safe location and provided with the resources necessary to allow her to get the proper treatment and live a healthy, safe and productive lifestyle. Although the journey is not yet complete, VD is on the road to recovery and treatment where she is able to focus on addressing her needs in a safe setting.

Community Interaction

In March, the Malibu Times reached out to the outreach team in an effort to highlight some of the great work being conducted by outreach workers in Malibu. The outreach team highlighted several key factors when engaging with clients living on the streets and the many barriers to housing. Additionally, the outreach team provided several success stories from difficult clients which in turn reveals the hard work and dedication outreach workers provide on a daily basis. Without the assistance, guidance and support from outreach workers, many of our formerly homeless clients would still be on the streets.

Next Steps

With the spring and summer months around the corner, we are expecting to see an increase in homelessness around the region. In an effort to reach as many individuals as possible prior to the expected uptick, outreach workers are planning an RV blitz in and around PCH, public parking and areas within our jurisdiction. As in years past, such "RV Blitzes" have allowed for outreach workers to expand services to not just street homeless but those residing in RV's, truck, cars and other forms of transportation to name a few. The RV Blitz is planned for April 22, 2022.

