

The People Concern Malibu Outreach Team

April 2023 Report

Outcomes

In April 2023, the total number of contacts made by the outreach team was 367, with 73 unduplicated contacts. 3 individuals were contacted in permanent/temporary housing or relocation. Of those 3 individuals: 1 were placed in permanent housing and 2 in temporary housing. Of the 73 unduplicated contacts, 8 were new contacts, with 3 becoming repeat contacts. There are currently 65 contacts considered in various stages of engagement, and 8 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

Client JaSm, a female client who was living in an encampment hidden away in a small ravine covered in foliage nearby an apartment complex. The outreach team first got word of this client due to local community members reaching out to the city with concerns of potential fire hazard. Her encampment was in a prime area for combustion and could easily spread to nearby residents. This encampment, although out of the sight of foot traffic, was clearly visible from the upper stories of the apartments nearby. With these concerns, the Outreach team along with the Sheriff Dept. worked collaboratively to make contact with, at the time, a mysterious stranger living deep in the bank of the ravine.

At first contact, the team established the fact the stranger was in fact a woman, living alone in a potentially dangerous environment where no human being should be forced to seek refuge. The client JaSm was, at first contact, very agitated by our disturbance we had caused on her newfound safe haven. We introduced ourselves, our agency, and how we can assist people in her situation. With skillful and strategic boundary and trust establishing affirmations, we were able to form the beginnings of a productive relationship with the client previously unwilling to engage with former communication attempts.

The team was informed by the Public Safety Liaison of Malibu that the client was interested in returning home to Chicago where she can live peacefully with her sister. The team reached out to a member from Malibu CART program, to help expedite the process of providing the client with a Greyhound Bus ticket within a timely manner as we did not want the client to wait over the weekend being as vulnerable as she was. The team introduced JaSm to the member of Malibu CART who would provide the ticket to send her home.

With great patience and reassurance the collaborative team's effort allowed the client, who at one point was very anxious, skeptical, and untrusting, to receive help. The team validated her personal safety concerns and defense mechanisms. Which ultimately lead to her going home.

Community Interaction

The team continues to work with the Malibu community including: city council, CART, local churches, Venice Family Clinic (VFC) and the Sheriff's Department. Through these relationships we have received help with locating and assisting the unhoused.

The team continues to work closely with several LA County agencies such as the VA, Venice Family Clinic, LAHSA, DMH and St. Josephs to provide a wide array of services and housing opportunities for our clients.

Next Steps:

The outreach team will prioritize identifying and assisting clients that may qualify for permanent housing solutions using the "Ross Fund".