

The People Concern Malibu Outreach Team

April 2024 Report

Outcomes

In April 2024, the total number of contacts made by the outreach team was 367, with 68 unduplicated contacts 10 individuals were contacted in permanent or temporary housing. Of the 58 unduplicated contacts currently on the streets, 8 were new contacts, with 7 of them becoming repeat contacts. There are currently 33 contacts considered in various stages of engagement, and 25 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

“Do Not Go Gentle into that Good Night” – Dylan Thomas

In memory of the late Russell George McMonigle, whose departure from life left a profound and everlasting impact on the city of Malibu and the outreach teams.

ElDe is an elderly veteran man who came across the current Malibu Outreach team in the summer of 2022. During this time, ElDe was not interested in housing or other resources. He was mostly interested in panning for gold and living life off of the land. He preferred an off-grid lifestyle and was very content in his ways. ElDe's presence at the Malibu lunch services was seldom. The only time he would come down to Malibu was when he needed to come down for mail, otherwise he had no other reason to stop by. The team attempted to engage with ElDe during these rare occurrences, however, upon starting a conversation with him, he would immediately take control of the conversation as he would begin spewing rants about various unrelated topics and allow himself to be derailed from his own train of thoughts by his own tangents as he would explore every idea that came to mind in incredible depth. This mode of communication unfortunately became an obstacle for the outreach team to make any progress on the housing front, as ElDe would take the listener verbally hostage as he expressed his mind in incredible detail and at incredible length without pause. The team became aware of ElDe's veteran status and reminded him of all of the resources available to veterans including medical resources, housing resources, and financial resources. ElDe assured the team that he had everything under control and that he was not concerned about anything at the time. He simply wanted to maintain the current lifestyle that he was living which was living in the mountains and panning for gold. The team treasured the moments that ElDe would visit at the Malibu lunch services as they were few and far between. They were the only opportunities to attempt to build rapport with him. Any chance the team could meet with ElDe and chat with him the team would take it. Even if it meant that they would have to listen to him talk for vast lengths of time. Eventually, ElDe began to feel comfortable with the team and even consider their opinions, which previously, he had no care for. The team did not see ElDe for several months. And then one day, he made an appearance at the Malibu Legacy Park. The team went to meet with ElDe, and he looked significantly worse than his last meeting with the team. He had not groomed in all of those months, and his hygiene was poor. And he even reported certain medical conditions had a severe impact on his cognition, and physical health that would indefinitely impair him. ElDe was unfortunately at yet another low point in his life. The team began to assist ElDe in supportive services such as transportation to appointments at the VA, laundry services, lunch services, and financial services. A housing opportunity for veterans came to the attention of the Malibu Outreach team. A new apartment building was opening up soon and they were taking in referrals. After learning about this new opportunity, the outreach team immediately presented the opportunity to ElDe. At first, ElDe seemed a little hesitant to accept. He was concerned that this would get in the way of his lifestyle. After all things considered, the outreach team assured ElDe that having this place would only add value to his life and would simply be another resource to his lifestyle and not hinder it. After having this reassuring conversation with ElDe, he happily accepted the opportunity. The team assisted ElDe with gathering all of the necessary documents for this housing application which took several weeks to complete. The team made the housing process as simple as possible for ElDe so that he wouldn't get discouraged and give up. Finally, ElDe received his move-in date and the team provided transportation for ElDe to his new

apartment and even assisted him with the lease signing. The team was successful in building a productive and trustworthy relationship with EIDe. The team utilized patience, understanding, and trauma-informed techniques to encourage EIDe to consider housing to which he was previously against. The team was successful in acquiring the necessary documents for the housing application. The team was successful in getting an ill and elderly vulnerable veteran man off the streets and into permanent and supportive housing. EIDe now remains housed, healthy, and safe.

Next Steps:

As the Summer months approach the number of RV's / vehicle dwellers are continuing to grow. The Outreach team plans to have more of a targeted effort on all vehicles parked along PCH and beach parking lots.