



URBAN COMMUNITY
OUTREACH

EIN # 26-0589430



Long Beach Area
**COALITION
FOR THE
HOMELESS**

September 24, 2014

Dear Friend,

It's the end of September and even though we've just had a heat wave our homeless people in Long Beach know what's coming.....cold, wet winter months. We've been getting a lot of requests for blankets! At first we were puzzled, but then it became clear that they are worrying about what they are going to do in the coming months to survive the uncomfortable conditions.

The government night time Winter Shelter should open up around December first and run through March with up to 200 beds available for the night. However, we all know that there will most likely be cold and wet days and nights before then and also after March. We know that even when Winter Shelter is open they must leave there by 7am even if it is raining buckets and it is cold and windy. That's when Temporary Shelter steps in and provides for them.

We are hearing that we may have an El Nino winter which is good and bad. We need the rain, but homeless unprotected people need shelter!

We have 4,387 homeless people in Long Beach according to our last homeless count. Over 500 of them are children. They need our help to provide the basic human needs of shelter and food. Of course through our Drop-In-Center Program we also continue working to bring them inside permanently and help them with job skills, healthcare, computer access, document storage, and all the services and referrals Urban Community Outreach provides.

Because of contributors like you in last year's 2013/2014 winter season, the Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless' (LBACH) Rainy Day Shelter, has been able to give temporary shelter to approximately 550 people. We had 515 apply for shelter and 12 of them were families who were put up in motels.

All of the people who were sheltered were so very grateful. LBACH partnering with Long Beach Rescue Mission and Fellowship Sober Living was able to gain permanent housing for 14 people, 11 men and 3 women during that time and make a difference for 357 men, 129 women, and 12 families when it was raining and cold and they had nowhere to go to get indoors. Case management was also provided.

The Board Members of Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless and the Urban Community Outreach have met and voted to have the Urban Community Outreach take on the Rainy Day Shelter going forward. So any future donations for the Rainy Day

Drop-In
C E N T E R

A Community Center for Homeless People
241 Cedar Ave. Long Beach, CA 90802
www.urbancommunityoutreach.org



Shelter should be made to the Urban Community Outreach, 241 Cedar Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90802. We have renamed it "Temporary Shelter" because it encompasses more than Rainy Day Shelter for the homeless. You may also go to the LBACH website. General contributions for advocacy still go to the P. O. Box 92365, Long Beach, CA 90809 address for Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless or you can contribute at their website too.

Thank you for caring about our less fortunate neighbors in Long Beach. Please help us temporarily shelter people during the coming months when the weather is cold and wet and also work on their permanent housing. Just send a check indicating "Temporary Shelter" or go to the UCO website and contribute there to bring them indoors.

Best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Arlene K. Mercer".

Arlene K. Mercer, Executive Director
Urban Community Outreach

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patricia Benoit".

Patricia Benoit, President
Long Beach Area Coalition for the Homeless