

ONE MORE STEP... ADOPT A NEIGHBORHOOD

Congregations are needed to implement a communication strategy that consists of a wide-range of outreach and education activities done on a repeat-contact basis to all residents living within an adopted neighborhood. Findings reveal that persons who were at risk of becoming homeless often find out about resources that could have helped them to stay housed after they have already become homeless. This can be prevented with an effective communication strategy. Goals include contacting persons who are at risk of becoming homeless, and those who want to help prevent them from becoming homeless, through several means of communication including those outlined below. Goals also include contacting them repeatedly.

Community outreach and education efforts will include distributing and/or posting homeless prevention materials at the following places located within an adopted neighborhood:

- 1) Neighborhood resource centers that provide community services to residents such as education, employment, health, and recreation;
- 2) Stores such as markets and repair shops;
- 3) Businesses including those providing check cashing services, payroll advances, and short-term loans;
- 4) Schools both public and private;
- 5) Places with public counters such as post offices, libraries, parks, etc.;
- 6) Community health clinics;
- 7) Other appropriate places.

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■ The Homeless Prevention Program is a model program of the Institute for Urban Initiatives. For more information visit www.urban-initiatives.org or e-mail jcolletti@urban-initiatives.org.

CITY OF PASADENA HOMELESS PREVENTION PROGRAM



10 steps

Your Faith Community Can Take
To Prevent Homelessness in Pasadena

Sponsored by Fuller Theological Seminary/Office for Urban Initiatives
in partnership with

City of Pasadena/Office of the City Manager/Housing and Community Development

Local Businesses

Local Community Organizations

Local Faith-Based Organizations

Local Government Agencies

Local Non-Profit Agencies

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

U.S. Census data notes that nearly 50,000 residents of Pasadena are members of households with an estimated income of less than \$25,000. These residents, who make up approximately 20,000 households, are the most at-risk of becoming homeless because they struggle to pay for their permanent housing each month. They struggle because they often have to choose between paying their rent or mortgage and other daily living costs such as clothing, food, health care, and transportation. They have to choose between these costs because of their limited income.

According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, 5% of a community's low income households will experience homelessness annually. Five percent (5%) of the 20,000 households at risk of becoming homeless in Pasadena amounts to 1,000 households.

The City of Pasadena Homeless Prevention Program provides faith communities with several opportunities to prevent adults and children from becoming homeless in Pasadena.

Thus, as many as 1,000 households living in Pasadena may become homeless during the next 12 months if they do not receive “supplemental resources.”

There are several supplemental resources that faith communities can help provide and/or

support that will prevent households from becoming homeless. The intent of the Homeless Prevention Program is for faith communities to leverage their resources within a public and private partnership that

will include businesses, commissions/committees/coalitions, community service groups, corporations, educational institutions, government, neighborhood associations, non-profit agencies, private charitable foundations, and other organizations who will also provide supplemental resources.

10 FAITHFUL STEPS

The following steps will help ensure that by receiving supplemental resources households at risk of becoming homeless will not become homeless. Households will receive supplemental resources after going through an intake and assessment conducted by trained case managers who will help determine their needs.

- 1. Provide Food Certificates**
\$100 food certificates are needed for 1,000 households
- 2. Provide Clothing Certificates**
\$100 clothing certificates are needed for 500 households with children
- 3. Provide Certificates for Household Items**
\$50 certificates are needed for 500 households with children.
- 4. Support Health Care Services**
In-kind services are needed on an ongoing basis for households with health care needs.
- 5. Support Legal Services**
In-kind services are needed on an ongoing basis for households with legal needs.
- 6. Provide Home Repairs**
In-kind services are needed for households who may lose their housing because of lack of home repairs.
- 7. Provide Rental Assistance**
Funding (up to \$1,000 per household) is needed to prevent a household from losing their housing during the course of a year.
- 8. Provide Utility Assistance**
Funding (up to \$500 per household) is needed to prevent a household from losing their housing during the course of a year.
- 9. Provide Transportation Assistance**
\$50 donations are needed for 1,000 households for transportation passes.
- 10. Money Management**
In-kind services are needed on an ongoing basis for households with money management needs.