

## Skid Row Assessment Team

### Fact Sheet

**DPSS Staff Assigned to Skid Row:** One Deputy District Director, one Eligibility Supervisor (ES), three Eligibility Workers (EWs), and four Homeless Case Managers (HCMs). **NOTE:** Currently, there are only three HCMs active.

**Skid Row Assessment Team (SRAT) Roving** - Consists of one DCFS staff, and two DPSS staff (HCM, EW or ES) who drive around or walk the streets of Skid Row (between 3rd and 8th street and Main and Alameda) to link homeless families living on Skid Row to any available benefits and resources. Team completes the following:

- General Assessment of family including DCFS assessment of safety for children;
- Crisis Intervention;
- DMH referrals;
- Transportation to area shelters and collocated EWs, DMH and DPSS as necessary;
- Obtain emergency shelter vouchers for families who are not eligible or have exhausted homeless benefits. (Immediate response/within 24 hours)

**Family's Benefits Access Team** (Collocated Eligibility staff) - EWs are outstationed at the LEAVEY Center helping facilitate access to benefits for homeless families.

#### **EWs on Skid Row**

- Identify families in need of CalWORKs and/or homeless services and benefits;
- Work with EWs/ES/DDDs in District Housing Program Units to resolve case issues;
- Work with shelters in the area to link families who are not eligible to CalWORKs;
- Handout flyers with CalWORKs programs information;
- Contact Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) for emergency shelter vouchers for families who are not eligible or have exhausted homeless benefits;
- Link eligible families to HCMs on-site for case management services;
- Handout General Relief (GR) cards with nearest GR district information for individuals without families who they may encounter.

(Immediate response/within 24 hours)

#### **HCMs on Skid Row**

- Provide intensive case management to families on Skid Row and move the family out of Skid Row and into a stable transitional or permanent housing situation.
- Receive direct referrals for homeless families from the outstationed eligibility staff and/or the HCM assigned to the SRAT roving team;
- Initiate immediate contact with family by meeting the family at the shelter, hotel, mission, or Metro Family district office;
- Provide case management as appropriate during the time the family is living in Skid Row and for at least 10 days after a family has moved out of Skid Row;
- Make routine referrals to DMH and DPH.
- Make referrals to the Beyond Shelter Demonstration Project for Housing First.

(Immediate response/within 24 hours)

#### **MEETINGS:**

Daily multi-disciplinary case reviews of families encountered on the street, at the Union Rescue Mission or the Midnight Mission the previous day take place every afternoon at 1:30 p.m. at the Union Rescue Mission. The DCFS Team Leader leads the case review and tracks needed follow-up on the families discussed.

Weekly multi-disciplinary team meetings between the various Department's staff and managers are held at the downtown DMH office to review and address the families' needs and services provided.

#### **TRAINING:**

Training takes place on an ongoing basis as needed. Specific training on public health, personal safety, child safety issues, and Permanent Homeless Assistance Services (PHASE) data entry has also been provided to staff.