



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SERVING THE HOMELESS

UPDATES ON HOMELESS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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City's Homeless Services Program Now on the Web

Information about the City of San Diego's Homeless Services Program is now available on the City's web site.

The Homeless Services web page includes details about the Winter Shelter Program, Homeless Outreach Teams, City Works program, Special Needs Housing Program, and the planned year-round residential facility for homeless families. The web page also offers links to homeless providers, news updates, and opportunities for citizens to contact the City for more information.

The Homeless Services web page can be found under Neighborhoods and Community Planning in the Community section of the City's web site (www.ci.san-diego.ca.us).

Online Donation Can Help Homeless Families this Winter

The public can make online donations to help provide food, shelter and other necessities needed to operate the City's winter shelter for homeless families.

The City's Winter Shelter Program will begin operating on Dec. 15.

The San Diego Donation Fund has been developed to allow the public to make a tax deductible donation online through the City's web site.

The San Diego Donation Fund web page can be found in the City Hall section of the City's web site (www.ci.san-diego.ca.us).

Council Approves Plan for Short-Term Transitional Facility for Homeless Families **Days Inn on Cortez Hill to be Purchased and Renovated**

The City Council approved a plan on Nov. 14 to create a short-term transitional housing facility for homeless families. As proposed, the Days Inn located on Cortez Hill in downtown would be purchased by the City and converted into a transitional housing facility for 150 homeless family members.

The families will receive case management counseling, health care, jobs, and other social services. Staying at the facility will allow families to save money and eventually rent their own homes.

The City will contract with a social services agency to operate the facility. The County has committed to providing social and health services to program participants. Developer Peter Janopaul, who renovated the El Cortez Hotel, said he will donate \$10,000 for a children's play area at the facility and has challenged other developers to match it.

City representatives will meet with the property owner to negotiate a purchase price for the property.

The transaction will not be completed in time for this year's Winter Shelter Program that houses homeless people during the coldest months of the year. Instead, the City plans to provide a temporary shelter for families during this time. The Winter Shelter Program shelters are scheduled to open Dec. 15.

City to Open Three Winter Shelter Facilities on Dec. 15

The City will open three temporary shelters for the homeless as part of its annual Winter Shelter Program.

Homeless people are provided shelter through mid-March during the coldest months of the year. Participants in the program are also provided assistance and services to help them find jobs or receive necessary treatment.

The shelters will provide 150 beds for veterans, 250 for single adults, and 150 for people in families.

Last year the three shelters were open for four months and served 2,965 people at a cost of more than \$1 million.

Helpful phone numbers for more information

The City's Homeless Services Program is administered by the City's Economic Development and Community Services Department. For more information, call (619) 533-6525.

Persons who are homeless and need assistance can call the United Way InfoLine at (619) 230-0997.

Concerned citizens or students interested in information or statistics about homeless issues can call the San Diego Regional Task Force on the Homeless at (858) 694-8722.