

HOMELESS INITIATIVE

Vision



CHILD PROTECTION

HOMELESS INITIATIVE

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Seizing the moment: The convergence of multiple new factors has created an historic opportunity to combat

Homelessness pervades Los Angeles County and touches almost every aspect of County government. Yet the causes and responses to this tragic reality are extraordinarily fragmented. The key to effectively combatting homelessness lies in overcoming this fragmentation – in a holistic approach aimed at reducing the flow of families and individuals into homelessness and expediting the transition from homelessness into permanent housing.

The Homeless Initiative is designed to generate a coordinated set of County strategies to reduce homelessness through an intensive, inclusive planning process. More than 20 County departments – from Health to Social Services to the Sheriff to the Public Library – are working together with counterparts from cities, other government entities and community stakeholders to look beyond siloed funding and programs to build a system that effectively and efficiently combats the scourge of homelessness. All of the details regarding this planning process, including opportunities for public input, are included on this website.

In February 2016, this process will culminate in consideration by the Board of Supervisors of a coordinated set of recommended County strategies that will be designed to encourage the involvement of all 88 cities throughout the County, all of which have been invited to participate in this planning process. The Homeless Initiative is designed to leverage the passion and compassion evoked by the increasing number of homeless families and individuals throughout our communities. Together, we can work towards a Los Angeles County community where we all have a roof over our head and a bed to sleep on.



Phil Ansell

Director, Homeless Initiative

Phil Ansell was appointed Director of the County's Homeless Initiative effective August 17, 2015, when he temporarily left his position as Chief Deputy Director of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS). During his 19 years with DPSS, Phil played a key role in the design and implementation of numerous programs and services for homeless families and individuals, including a key role in the development of the County's Homeless Prevention Initiative in 2005-06.

In his work on homelessness and other major issues impacting low-income families and individuals, Phil has a long history of effective collaboration, both within and outside County government. He coordinated the County's response to federal welfare reform in 1997-98 and chaired the former Interagency Operations Group for many years. In addition, Phil has been a strong advocate for low-income people in Sacramento through the County Welfare Directors Association and in Washington through the American Public Human Services Association.

Phil holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Stanford University and participated in the Community Scholars Program through the UCLA School of Architecture and Urban Planning. He has been happily married for 30 years and has two sons, ages 21 and 25.

ABOUT LOS ANGELES COUNTY

The County of Los Angeles provides services to the over 10 million residents who call Los Angeles County home. With more than 35 departments and 200 commissions, the County operates one of the largest local government organizations in the

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