The People Concern Malibu Outreach Team
August 2024 Report

Outcomes

In August 2024, the total number of contacts made by the outreach team was 436, with 90 unduplicated contacts 13 individuals were contacted in permanent or temporary housing. Of the 77 unduplicated contacts currently on the streets, 14 were new contacts, with 11 of them becoming repeat contacts. There are currently 31 contacts considered in various stages of engagement, and 46 are refusing services at this point. The outreach team continues to contact these individuals with the goal of getting them engaged in the housing process.

Success Story

Success Story: GrFa's Path from the Streets to Stability

Introduction: In early May of this year, the Malibu Outreach team met GrFa, a gentleman experiencing homelessness who was grappling with severe physical and mental health challenges. GrFa's condition, particularly the debilitating pain in his feet, severely limited his mobility and compounded his difficulties. This is the story of how the Outreach team, in collaboration with key partners, helped GrFa find stability, health, and hope.

The Initial Challenge: GrFa's initial encounter with the Malibu Outreach team revealed a life marked by struggle. His severe foot pain restricted his ability to move, making daily survival on the streets even more arduous. Recognizing the urgency of his situation, the team took immediate action to address his complex needs.

Medical Intervention and Support: The Malibu Outreach team promptly referred GrFa to the Venice Family Clinic (VFC) Street Medicine Outreach team, leveraging their established partnership to provide comprehensive care. The VFC team quickly assessed GrFa's condition and initiated treatment for his foot pain. Additionally, they referred him to a specialized clinic for ongoing care, addressing both his immediate discomfort and underlying medical issues.

Navigating Benefits and Overcoming Barriers: Understanding that stable access to benefits was crucial for GrFa's long-term stability, the Malibu Outreach team assisted him in enrolling for benefits in Los Angeles County. They provided essential transportation to the Department of Social Services (DPSS) in West LA, and facilitated the transfer of his case from another county—a process that took a little over a month but was crucial for his financial support.

Throughout this period, GrFa repeatedly expressed his gratitude for the team's competence and patience, often saying things like, "You guys are my superheroes," and "You guys are absolutely fantastic and I would highly recommend anyone in need of services to you guys." His positive feedback underscored the impact of the Outreach team's dedicated efforts.

Transition to Interim Housing: Despite the progress made with his health and benefits, GrFa was still living on the streets and was initially hesitant to accept shelter due to his cynicism about the system and ongoing depression. After numerous encouraging conversations and discussions about the risks of remaining on the streets—especially in light of the recent loss of a fellow unhoused individual—GrFa decided he wanted to take a chance on a better future.

The Malibu Outreach team acted swiftly, submitting referrals for the Interim Housing Program (IHP) to local shelters. After several weeks, an opening became available at a local shelter. GrFa, now more willing to accept help, agreed to this opportunity.

Successful Placement and Continued Support: The Outreach team provided crucial transportation to the shelter and supported GrFa through the intake process. With this new step, GrFa was finally off the streets and residing in interim housing, where he would receive ongoing support and work towards securing permanent housing.

Though the Malibu Outreach team is no longer his primary case manager, they remain committed to GrFa's journey. They will continue to be on standby to provide any additional support or opportunities that may arise to ensure he remains on the path to being housed, healthy, and safe.

Conclusion: GrFa's story is a testament to the power of compassionate and coordinated outreach efforts. Thanks to the Malibu Outreach team, the Venice Family Clinic, and their collaborative approach, GrFa has transitioned from a life of hardship to a position of stability and hope. His journey underscores the importance of perseverance, support, and the profound difference that dedicated outreach and care can make in the lives of those facing significant challenges.

Next Steps:

Our outreach team is committed to proactively engaging clients who are camping in high-risk fire areas during this severe fire season. We plan to conduct on-site visits to offer crucial information about fire hazards and safety protocol. Our goal is to ensure clients understand the risks and take appropriate actions to protect themselves and their surroundings, ultimately fostering a safer environment during this high-risk period.