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NEWS FOR:
Downtown Center Business Improvement District
(Los Angeles)

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DOWNTOWN CENTER BID’S INNOVATIVE PARTNERSHIP WITH PATH (PEOPLE ASSISTING THE HOMELESS) ENGAGES MORE THAN 400 HOMELESS INDIVIDUALS TO CONNECT WITH SERVICES IN FIRST 6 MONTHS

(Downtown Los Angeles, CA – May 3, 2016) – Building on its long history of homeless outreach, the Downtown Center Business Improvement District’s [DCBID] recent partnership with PATH [People Assisting the Homeless] has exceeded all initial expectations during its first six months, announced Carol Schatz, President and CEO of the DCBID.

“Homelessness is one of the most critical issues currently facing Downtown Los Angeles and the DCBID has always strived to contribute meaningful support to our neighborhood’s homeless community. And the early returns from our new partnership with PATH appear to be making a significant difference,” said Schatz.

The partnership provides for two, full-time mobile outreach teams to engage homeless individuals and, utilizing the County’s foremost screening and triage tool (the [Coordinated Entry System](#) or CES), connect them with the most appropriate interim and permanent housing, mental health and wellness, education, and employment services.

The two mobile teams each consist of one PATH outreach worker and one of the BID’s specially trained ACTION Team members (employed via Chrysalis). In just their first six months, the two teams have engaged 430 new homeless individuals and secured interim and permanent housing for 55. Additional partnership accomplishments include:

Six-Month Achievements

Number of homeless individuals engaged	430
Number of homeless entered into CES	57
Number of clients linked to interim housing	20
Number of clients linked to permanent housing	35
Number of people who acquired a California ID*	40

*Having an ID is a crucial requirement for obtaining many of the city and county’s assistive services.

Fully financed by the DCBID, the partnership’s particular effectiveness has resulted from the experience, tools, and relationships both parties bring to the alliance. According to Tescia Uribe, LCSW, of PATH, “Due in large part to the BID ACTION team members’ relationships with many of the homeless individuals in the area, the teams have been extremely efficient, allowing them to engage and service a greater number of individuals and cover larger areas than anticipated.”

Combined with PATH’s experience, training, and relationships with a full complement of housing options, those experiencing homelessness are provided with a multitude of solutions for every individual engaged, whether they be single, a couple, or a family.



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“While homelessness is one of the most complicated and multifaceted social challenges we face, experts agree that getting individuals into some form of housing is a critical step,” stated Schatz. “PATH’s industry-leading experience engaging the homeless population and guiding them to the most appropriate housing options gives the partnership the most complete solutions for self sufficiency,” Schatz added.

Over the past 15 years, the DCBID’s ACTION Team has been the only homeless outreach team staffed and managed by any Business Improvement District in Downtown Los Angeles. The team has assisted nearly 3,000 individuals in the Downtown homeless community with a variety of services including assistance into housing and rehabilitation programs, health screenings, clothing, blankets, and more. In 2014, the BID ACTION Team became an official administrator of the [Coordinated Entry System](#) (CES) assessment, the County’s primary pre-screening and triage tool designed to be used by all service providers to quickly assess the health and social needs of homeless persons, and match them with the most appropriate support and housing interventions available. This new partnership has helped us to focus our efforts in the most effective way to help the greatest number of people.

ABOUT THE DOWNTOWN CENTER BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT (DCBID)

The Downtown Center Business Improvement District (DCBID) has been the catalyst in Downtown Los Angeles’ transformation into a vibrant 24/7 neighborhood. A coalition of nearly 1,700 property owners in the central business district, the DCBID members are united in their commitment to enhance the quality of life in Downtown Los Angeles. Bounded by the Harbor Freeway to the west, First Street to the north, Main and Hill streets to the east, and Olympic Boulevard to the south, the organization helps the 65-block central business district achieve its full potential as a great place to live, work, and play. For more than 16 years, the DCBID’s programs and initiatives have been the driving force behind the Downtown Los Angeles Renaissance. Now universally recognized as one of the nation’s most dynamic urban centers, downtown Los Angeles was recently heralded as ‘The Next Great American City’ by GQ Magazine and listed as number 5 in The New York Times’ ‘52 Places to Go in 2014’.

www.downtownla.com/about-us/who-we-are

About PATH (People Assisting the Homeless)

Founded in 1984, PATH is ending homelessness for individuals, families, and communities. They do this by building housing and providing supportive services throughout California. In the last three years, PATH has helped nearly 6,000 people move off the streets and into permanent homes. Now, PATH has set a new goal to help 10,000 people Make It Home by 2020. To learn more, visit www.epath.org

About Chrysalis

Chrysalis is a nonprofit organization dedicated to creating a pathway to self-sufficiency for homeless and low-income individuals by providing the resources and support needed to find and retain employment. At three centers across Los Angeles County, the organization offers intensive one-on-one case management with job-readiness classes, resume and interview support, and transitional employment opportunities. Since 1984, Chrysalis has helped more than 55,000 men and women from across Los Angeles to regain the dignity, stability, and self-reliance that only a job provides. For more information, visit ChangeLives.org.