



## Neighbors Helping Neighbors | Community Partners in HUD's Region IX Respond to Needs Created by Pandemic

### #Inthistogether

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*As communities combat the coronavirus outbreak, HUD is highlighting stories of communities coming together to help their neighbors in need.*

**Boulder City, Nevada** – This week, Emergency Aid of Boulder City, Inc. in Clark County, Nevada received \$103,000 in CARES Act funding to keep vulnerable residents housed during this pandemic by paying their arrears in rent, mortgage or essential utilities. This funding comes as the State of Nevada's moratorium on evictions is set to expire on September 1<sup>st</sup>. "I honestly believe that there should be nobody in Boulder City who should have to worry about being evicted September 1." [Read the full story in the Boulder City Review](#)



*Photos Courtesy of Boulder City Review*

**Carson City, Nevada** - A public-private partnership between the Nevada Rural Housing Authority and the Wells Fargo Foundation helps a single mother turn her house into her home. "With the virus, these kids are in the house and need something to do. It gives my youngest somewhere to go play. Plus, this is the first time the boys have had separate bedrooms. Just them having their own space is a blessing." [Read the full story at CarsonNow.com](#)



*Photos Courtesy of CarsonNow.org and Nevada Rural Housing Authority*

**Honolulu, Hawaii** – Meet Jasmine Lopez, a formerly homeless single mother, who now enjoys her new apartment, along with a group of other single mothers who completed their stay in transitional housing. “It doesn’t feel real,” she said. “It’s something that you dream about when you’re on the streets. When you get off of the streets, you make sure you never want to go back to that.” [Read the full story in the Star Advertiser](#)



*Video Image Courtesy of Star Advertiser*

**Kings County, California** – In June, local stakeholders in partnership with the Rapid Results Institute, were among four communities selected by HUD to launch a 100-Day Challenge to reduce youth homelessness in Kings/Tulare counties by setting unreasonable goals, and harnessing “intense levels of innovation, collaboration, and execution required to achieve them.” [Read the full story in The Sentinel](#)



*Photo Courtesy of the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance*

**Las Vegas, Nevada** – Hope For the City is a broadly supported effort to provide food services to vulnerable residents in Las Vegas, including families, seniors and all affected by the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. From food delivery to pantry volunteers, people who are directly benefitting from their neighbors’ efforts to community leaders, and celebrities expressing their support and appreciation, they all have a message to share. [View the videos at HopeForTheCity.TV](https://www.hopeforthecity.tv)



*Graphic Courtesy of HopeForTheCity.TV*

**Los Angeles, California** – Earlier this month, a homeless man, Pedro Reid (pictured below), was reunited with his family, ending his homelessness. What is remarkable about his story is not that this happened despite his drug and alcohol addictions, which led to his homelessness, or that he was previously homeless for two decades. What is noteworthy is that his homelessness ended when neighbors cared enough to listen and then acted on his behalf, all



without any government intervention or assistance. “For over 20 years, we had been praying and believing that one day we would find him, and the day finally came. This is a miracle.” [Read the full story in The Washington Post](#)



*Photo Courtesy of the Washington Post*

**Los Angeles, California** – At 21 years of age, Tiare Hill found herself homeless after emancipating from the foster care system and completing her stay in a transitional housing setting. Now at 24 years of age, she uses a Housing Choice Voucher to afford housing, but needed help furnishing her apartment. That’s where A Sense of Home came in to make a difference. “I thank God for A Sense of Home [...] I thank God for all the people that came in.” [Read the full story at Fox LA](#)



*Video Image Courtesy of Fox 11 Los Angeles*

**Los Angeles, California** - Over the past several months, Central City Neighborhood Partners have continued to work to support residents of the Los Angeles Promise Zone by providing

essential services and prevention resources to prevent the spread of COVID-19 infection in the community. Through their food bank, and in partnership with Los Angeles City Councilmember Gil Cedillo, they have served 5,220 people and 1,274 families by providing over 59,100 pounds of food. They have also provided Volunteer Income Tax Assistance by completing 211 tax returns for residents to leverage the California and Federal Earned Income Tax Credits, bringing \$291,779 back to the community.



*Photos Courtesy of Central City Neighborhood Partners*

**Los Angeles, California** - In April, Los Angeles Promise Zone partner, Koreatown Youth and Community Center launched an emergency COVID-19 hot meals and grocery delivery program to serve isolated elders and medically compromised residents of Koreatown in the City of Los Angeles. They delivered over 12,000 hot meals made by, and purchased from, local Koreatown restaurants and hand delivered over 5,000 grocery bags with toilet paper, hand sanitizer and other essential items. They also re-opened their Kids Town preschool to help support essential workforce families in the community by offering three reduced-sized classrooms for children 2.5 to 5 years of age. Teachers and staff ensure the utmost safety of each child by wearing PPE, regularly sanitizing classrooms, and conducting daily temperature checks.



*Photos Courtesy of Koreatown Youth and Community Center*

**Los Angeles, California** - In order to advocate for COVID-19 related moratoriums on rent hikes, evictions, utility shut offs, and foreclosures in the City of Los Angeles and in the Los Angeles Promise Zone, the Thai Community Development Center formed the Healthy LA



Coalition with over 200 social justice organizations. They are also part of the campaign to save Asian restaurants in the Asian enclaves in the city, including Thai Town, Koreatown, Historic Filipinotown, Chinatown, and Little Tokyo. They are raising funds to purchase takeout orders at these restaurants and then donating those orders to seniors living in low-income housing apartments. Moreover, Thai CDC is providing isolated seniors with materials for at-home art projects to combat loneliness and depression. Thai CDC has raised over \$1.06 million since March to promote these efforts.



*Photos Courtesy of Thai CDC*

**Malibu, California** – On Monday, the City of Malibu- in partnership with the Los Angeles County Development Authority- launches an \$80,000 small business grant program, funded by the Community Development Block Grant, to assist local business affected by the COVID-19 pandemic with grants of up to \$10,000. [Read the full story at Patch.com](#)



*Graphic Courtesy of LACDA*

**Mesa, Arizona** –Using CARES Act funding, the City of Mesa worked with local officers to provide homeless citizens susceptible to COVID-19 with motel rooms. They also partnered with local restaurants to provide food. The city's \$1.5 million investment will assure the program continues through December. To date, this effort has helped 184 people get off the streets, while supporting local businesses and law enforcement. "It's just harder now, being homeless." [See the full news story on AZFamily.com](#)



*Video Image Courtesy of AZFamily.com*

**Orange County, California** – HUD’s team in the Office of Field Policy and Management in Los Angeles has partnered with the Orange County United Way to end homelessness. “United to End Homelessness” is a public-private partnership that furthers the Department’s Foster Youth to Independence Initiative. In response to COVID-19, the Orange County United Way has helped 4,280 households with a \$500 emergency payment to cover rent, food and other basic needs. Almost half of those served had children under 18 years of age. Through their “Welcome Home OC” program, they have housed 200 homeless people in Orange County, including 100 in the past six months during the COVID-19 pandemic. Recently, they were joined by 50 volunteers to give away 1,000 backpacks filled with school supplies and health essentials to children from underserved families, in partnership with “Karina’s Backpack Project,” an effort started by a 15-year old girl to help kids in her community by donating 15,000 backpacks with essential items.



*Photos Courtesy of United Way of Orange County*

**Pima County, Arizona** – The City of Tucson and Pima County launched CARES Act-funded shelter hotel programs with local non-profit service providers and are currently managing 300 rooms in three hotels to prevent the spread of COVID-19. [Read the full story at KGUN9](#)



*Photo Courtesy of Community Bridges, Inc.*

**Prescott, Arizona** – On August 24<sup>th</sup>, leaders from U.S. Vets, the Coalition for Compassion and Justice, and Catholic Charities will allocate roughly \$300,000 in federal funds to prevent and end homelessness caused by the effects of the pandemic. Eligible individuals and families include those “at risk for losing their housing, or already be living in a shelter, sharing space somewhere, staying in a motel or having been forced to relocate more than twice in the last 60 days.” [Read the full story in The Daily Courier](#)



*Graphic Courtesy of The Daily Courier*

**Reno, Nevada** – Neighbor Network of Northern Nevada is enlisting Community Care Partners to spend time with older adults and people with disabilities to assist them with daily tasks, give their primary care givers respite, and, most importantly, help clients lead fulfilling lives. “We get to know our members on a personal level and find out what they want to do, and then we help them do that.” [Read the full story at ThisIsReno.com](#)





*Photos Courtesy of ThisIsReno.com*

**Reno, Nevada** – On Tuesday, the City of Reno and Washoe County opened a CARES Act-funded temporary shelter for precariously housed individuals and additional shelter spaces and case management services to serve up to 600 people, including women, children, and families.

[Read the full story in The Nevada Independent](#)



*Photos Courtesy of The Nevada Independent*

**Sacramento, California** – Meet Air Force Veteran, Mark Lytal. “Whether it’s under an overpass or in an open field, Lytal is most active during the hottest time of the day.” Mark is the founder of Water on Wheels, a Sacramento-based company that brings cold water to homeless communities. [Read the full story at ABC10.com](#)



*Video Image Courtesy of ABC10.com*

**Sacramento, California** – On Tuesday, Sacramento’s City Council approved a \$62 million plan to reduce homelessness, using state and federal funding to get people housed during the COVID-19 pandemic. The city plans to fund a new Navigation Center serving women, in addition to development of tiny homes and hotel placements and treatment services. The HUD-funded Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency is offering \$2,500 financial incentives for landlords willing to accept a Housing Choice Voucher. [Read the full story at KCRA.com](https://www.kcra.com/story/news/local/sacramento-housing-plan/2020/07/28/sacramento-housing-plan/3321217002/)



*Video Image Courtesy of KCRA*

**San Diego, California** – After eight months, a former motel is now converted into 82 affordable apartments for formerly homeless people. The City of San Diego partnered with Father Joe’s Villages and the San Diego Housing Commission, which is providing project-based Housing Choice Vouchers to subsidize the units and create a permanent affordable housing resource. The project houses 57 people from the temporary shelter at the San Diego Convention Center and 25 with serious mental illness. [Read the full story at NBC San Diego](https://www.nbcsandiego.com/news/local/san-diego-housing-commission-father-joes-villages/2020/07/28/san-diego-housing-commission-father-joes-villages/3321217002/)



*Image Courtesy of NBC San Diego and Father Joe's Villages*

**San Jose, California** – Last week, amid the pandemic, the HUD-funded Continuum of Care for Silicon Valley, Destination: Home, unveiled an ambitious plan to end the homelessness of 20,000 people in Santa Clara County over the next five years. *“I think I would describe this community plan as necessary from the crisis we’re facing in our community,”* said Destination Home chief operating officer Ray Bramson. [Read the full story at KPIX 5](#)



*Graphic Courtesy of Destination: Home*

**Santa Barbara, California** – On Monday, the Family Learning Center, operated by the Assistance League of Santa Barbara and in partnership with the Santa Barbara Housing Authority, will commence their virtual fall tutoring program for school aged-children in HUD-assisted housing. These hour-long online sessions will take place four days a week, after students have benefitted from the fun and educational virtual programming provided during these past summer months. Prior to the pandemic, these children (pictured) have been engaged and assisted in person since 2002. This service is especially important now while many parents are working from home and simultaneously helping to teach their children since most schools remain closed due to the pandemic. [Read the full story at Santa Barbara News-Press](#)





*Photos Courtesy of Santa Barbara News Press*

*To find HUD resources related to the coronavirus, visit  
[www.hud.gov/coronavirus](http://www.hud.gov/coronavirus).*

*Read more stories of [#NeighborsHelpingNeighbors](https://twitter.com/NeighborsHelpingNeighbors) by following [@HUDgov](https://twitter.com/HUDgov)  
and [@SecretaryCarson](https://twitter.com/SecretaryCarson) online.*

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