

CES Pilot Program in SPA 2: A Summary

The pilot program in SPA 2, called the SPA 2 Welcome Home Project, began its work on 11/12/2013 for a 100 day trial period. The goal was to start building a system composed of collaborations that met the needs of our homeless population. Agencies included in the collaborative design process currently are:

- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Veterans Affairs (North Hills and West LA)
- LA Family Housing
- Hope of the Valley Rescue Mission
- SSG Alliance
- San Fernando Valley Community Mental Health Agency
- Lutheran Social Services
- Northeast Valley Health Corporation

Here were our goals:

- Assess 450 homeless individuals using the VI-SPDAT Assessment Tool
- Identify 120 persons with SPDAT prioritization level in the 3-4 range
- Complete housing documentation packets for 70 persons with prioritization scores of 3-4 range
- Permanently house 45 persons with prioritization level in the 3-4 range

Here are our results, thus far:

- Assessed 640 individuals using the VI-SPDAT
- Identified 258 persons in the 3-4 range
- Completed 37 housing readiness packets
- Permanently housed _____ in the 3-4 range

What our work looked like:

- Weekly design team meetings to discuss strategies of implementation with all participating agencies in attendance
- Monthly reporting out of progress at SFV Homeless Coalition Meetings
- Community Intake Days (major in-reach access point) held every first and third Thursday of the month at LA Family Housing where SPDATs are administered
- SPDAT assessment integrated into intake process at Valley Shelter
- Targeted outreach with inter-agency teams were coordinated at Emergency Shelters (Sylmar Winter Shelter and Hope of the Valley)
- 3 day Sunland-Tujunga homeless count organized with inter-agency teams and community members administering surveys
- Planned large scale in-reach SPDAT surveying to existing shelter residents at LA Family Housing in single adult homeless program
- Coordination of a Homeless Connect Day at North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry

- Recruited university student volunteers to administer surveys at various events
- Hosted trainings on CES and SPDAT survey to community members and other homeless service provider agencies in the area
- Increased coordination with the VA
 - Although VA not fully participating in the CES, any veterans identified during outreach were referred to VA outreach or VA-contracted programs for screening for VASH
 - LAFH used as bridge shelter for veterans waiting for pipeline
- Increased coordination with DHS
 - Clients who self-report receiving services at County Hospitals are pre-screened for DHS housing eligibility
- Increased coordination with DMH:
 - CES info-meeting at West Valley Mental Health Clinic
 - SPA 2 DMH Housing Specialist attends Community Intake Days to act as liaison between clients and DMH clinics in SPA 2
 - SPA 2 DMH Housing Specialist also screens clients entered into the CES who self-report current mental health connection to prepare them for MHSA certification and consideration for MHSA buildings