



San Pedro Best Western Housing Site for Homeless Veterans

Background

Volunteers of America approached the County of Los Angeles to jointly apply for Project Homekey 2.0 funds to purchase the Best Western in San Pedro. This site will be used as Interim Housing to support Homeless Veterans referred by the Veteran Administration. There will be a special consideration for Homeless Veterans within the Harbor Area. Volunteers of America will own the property and the County of Los Angeles will have a contract with the provider for oversight. The County of Los Angeles wants to make sure that this project is successful for the clients and residents. Volunteers of America wants to work with the Supervisorial District 4 to do coordination meetings with LAPD, The Chamber of Commerce, Neighborhood Councils and Pastor Lisa's Group.

Owner of Property and Provider: Volunteers of America

Cost: \$22,224,000

Location: Best Western San Pedro
111 S Gaffey St
San Pedro, CA 90731

Number of Rooms: 60 Rooms (Some rooms might have two individuals, and some might have single occupancy. So, they can serve more than 60 individuals at one time)

Population: Homeless Veterans with Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH)

Timeline: Facility must be occupied 12 months from receiving award from the State. If the Provider can do it within 8 months, they receive a bonus from the State. Volunteers of America goal is to have this site occupied by December 25, 2023.

Signage will reflect new ownership. Landscape will conform to community standards for commercial zone.

Services:

- 24/7 Security and staff on site to provide case management for the clients at this site. Case Management ratios are 1 to 20.
- Specialty Housing for the Veterans Clients which is a residential Harm Reduction program providing transitional housing to single Veterans who suffer from substance abuse, mental disorders, and/or chronic homelessness. Case management, transitional housing, food, life skills counseling, weekly groups, and referrals to the VA where they receive mental health counseling and access to various benefits. The goal is to help veterans experiencing homelessness establish permanent housing, and to help them obtain any benefits they may qualify for.
- Volunteers of America wants to promote housing stability to homeless or at-risk-of-becoming homeless Veterans. The goal of this program at the Best Western is to provide clients with the skills necessary to maintain long term, independent living. This program is a crisis intervention program, with services to include case management, housing and financial counseling, and assistance in obtaining benefits and services so that Veterans can make their next step to housing.
- The way we are going to permanently house these veterans is using HUD-VASH (Housing and Urban Development – Veteran Affairs Supportive Housing). The program voucher provides long-term case management, clinical/supportive services, and permanent housing assistance for chronically homeless Veterans. Combines Housing Choice Voucher assistance for homeless Veterans with case management and clinical services provided by the Department of Veterans Affairs.
- HVRP (Homeless Veterans Reintegration Program) ensures that Veterans receive the employment and training services they need to get good jobs. HVRP offers job counseling, resume preparation, job placement, and follow-up. HVRP will be able to provide immediate transitional housing referrals on-site to our programs. Program staff ensures that participants receive essential supportive services such as clothing, shelter, referral to medical or substance use disorder treatments, and transportation assistance — either within VOALA or at another agency in the community.

Contact Information

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