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Council File No.

City of Los Angeles  
CALIFORNIA



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December 17, 2015

Honorable Members  
Los Angeles City Council  
c/o City Clerk's Office  
Room 395, City Hall

Honorable Members:

TRANSMITTAL FROM THE LOS ANGELES CITY HEALTH COMMISSION RELATIVE  
TO SUPPORT OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES HOUSING FOR HEALTH  
MODEL AND THE FLEXIBLE HOUSING SUBSIDY POOL – COUNCIL FILE NO. 15-  
0538

At the regular meeting of the Los Angeles City Health Commission held on Monday,  
December 14, 2015, the Commission approved the attached resolution expressing  
support of the County's Housing for Health model as one critical step toward addressing  
the health and mental health care needs of the City of Los Angeles homeless population  
as well as the public health of the community. As directed by the Commission, this  
matter is transmitted for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Maria L. Espinoza, Legislative Assistant  
Los Angeles City Health Commission

Attachment

cc: Honorable Eric Garcetti, Mayor

15-0538\_transmittal

**EXPRESING SUPPORT FOR HOUSING FOR HEALTH**  
**WITHIN THE LOS ANGELES HOMELESS POPULATION**

December 14, 2015

Whereas, 25,686 people are homeless in the City of Los Angeles, 17,687 of which are unsheltered; and

Whereas, homelessness can be a cause and result of serious health issues, often detracting from regular medical attention, access to treatment, and recuperation; and

Whereas, a study conducted by Michael R. Cousineau, associate professor of preventive medicine at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, found that the total cost of public services spent on four individuals during two years living on the street in Los Angeles was \$187,288, a cost which dropped by more than \$20,000 per person during two subsequent years spent in stable, permanent housing; and

Whereas, the New England Journal of Medicine published a study concluding that homeless people spent an average of four days longer per hospital visit than comparable non-homeless people; and

Whereas, a study of hospital admissions of homeless people in Hawaii revealed that 1,751 adults were responsible for 564 hospitalizations and \$4 million in admission costs with estimates that the excess cost for treating these homeless individuals was \$3.5 million; and

Whereas, the County of Los Angeles Housing for Health program has been successful in housing over 1,000 people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles through a combination of housing programs, including a Flexible Subsidized Housing Pool.

Therefore, be it resolved, that the City of Los Angeles Health Commission supports the Housing for Health model as one critical step toward addressing the health and mental health care needs of the City of Los Angeles Homeless population as well as the public health of the community; and

Therefore, be it further resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the Mayor of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles City Council.

Authored by Susie Shannon, Health Commissioner

Submitted by:

Bill Rosendahl, L.A. Health Commissioner, President

Susie Shannon, L.A. Health Commissioner, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President

Matthew Sharp, L.A. Health Commissioner, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President