









School and Community Collaboration to Combat Family Homelessness

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Objective

- Learn how The Whole Child and LACOE support unhoused families in maintaining education stability for their children.
- Enhance collaboration of schools and community organizations to keep kids' education a priority for families.
- Leverage existing partnerships; think creatively about forming new ones.









Outcomes

- Develop action plans to support expansion of current practices for addressing family homelessness.
- Collaborate with one another to explore the strategies and supports available
- Trade best-practices, traditional, nontraditional strategies that have supported meeting family needs.



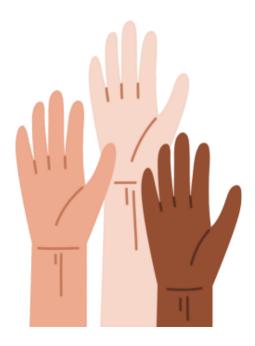






Audience Poll

- Homeless/Foster Liaison
- District Level/Charter-wide Administrator
- School Site Administrator
- School Counselor
- School Social Worker
- Community Schools
- Support Staff
- Other



Interconnected Systems











Coordinated Entry System

LA County's Coordinate Entry System (CES), was created to streamline supportive services and housing resources for:

- Families
- Transitional Age Youth (TAY) aged 18-24
- and adult individuals

who are at-risk of or facing literal homelessness.

The CES is designed as a **collaborative**, **no-wrong door network** that connects homeless individuals and households to services and housing.



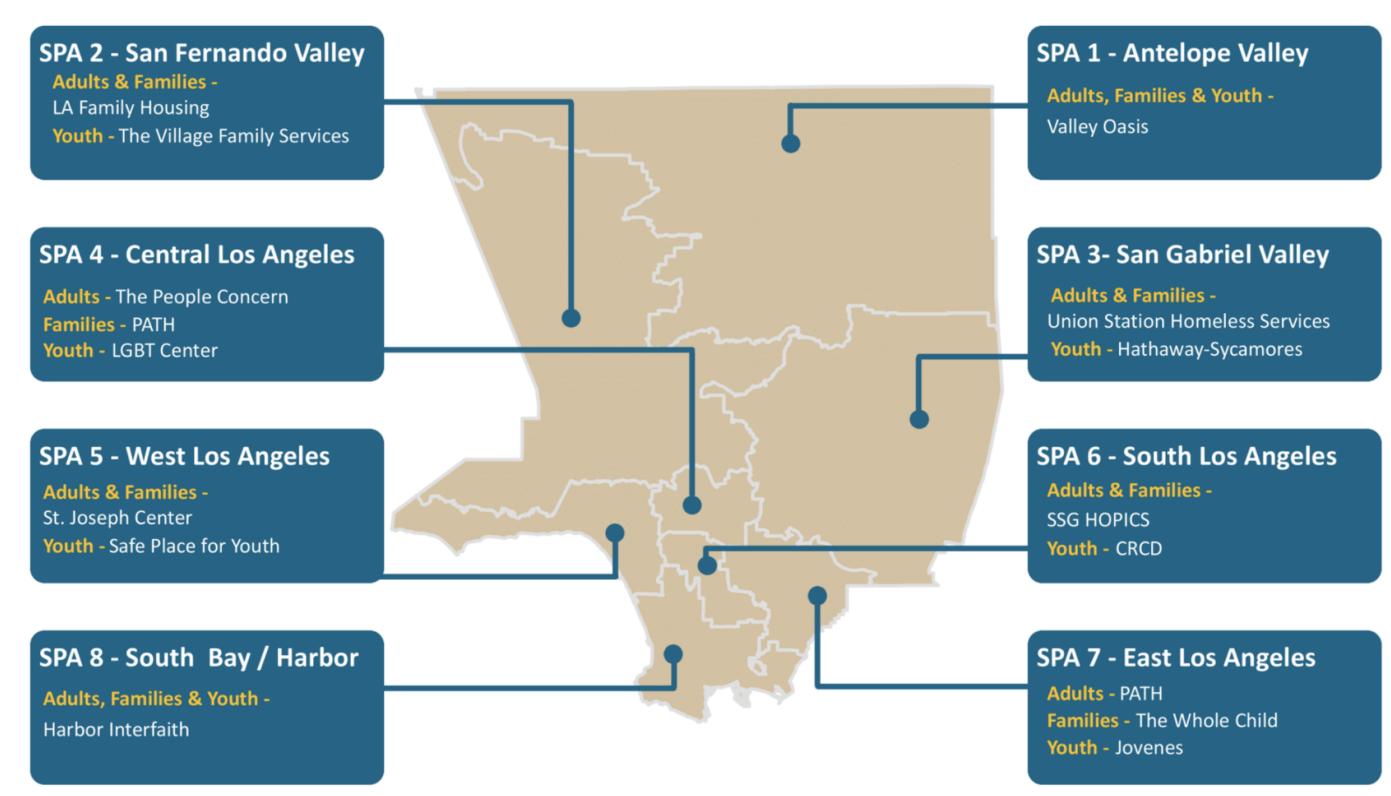








Each system has a lead agency per Planning Area (SPA)







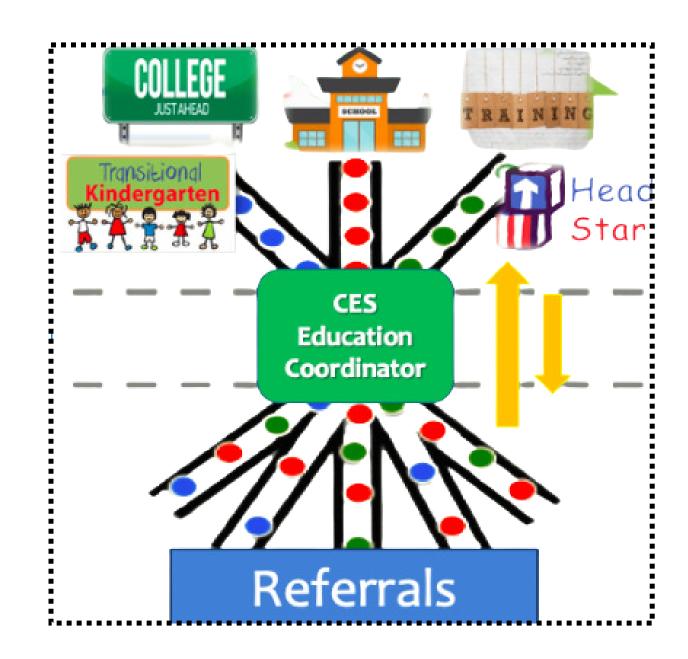




CES Education Coordinators

The 8 LACOE and LAUSD CES Education Coordinators are co-located at each lead YCES and FCES agency across LA county.

Education Coordinators advocate and support with the removal of barriers to education, connect or reconnect students to school and other educational and vocational pathways, and collaborate with districts, charters, county and community partners to provide linkage to educational and supportive services across the county.





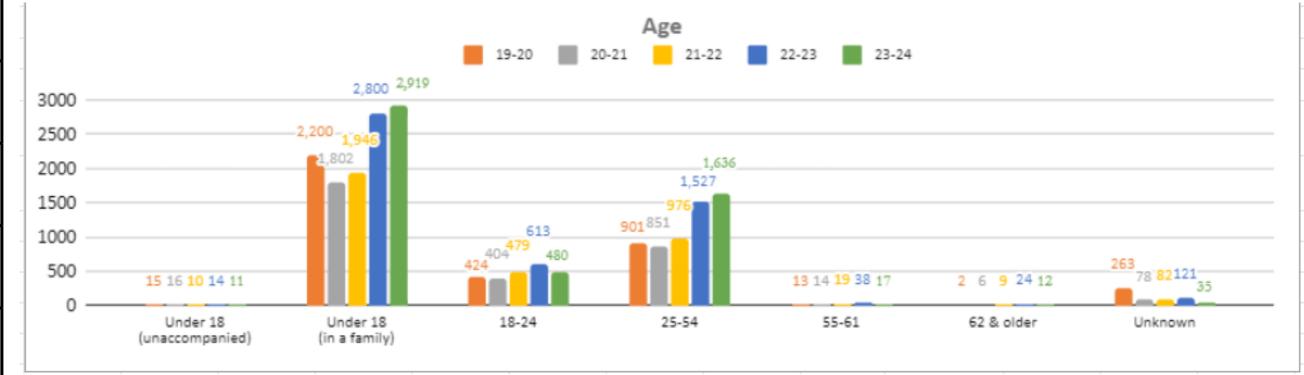






Education Coordinator Countywide Data

School Year	# Served	Rollover Cases
2018-2019	2,957	n/a
2019-2020	3,818	n/a
2020-2021	3,171	n/a
2021-2022	3,521	n/a
2022-2023	5,138	719
2023-2024	5,111	928











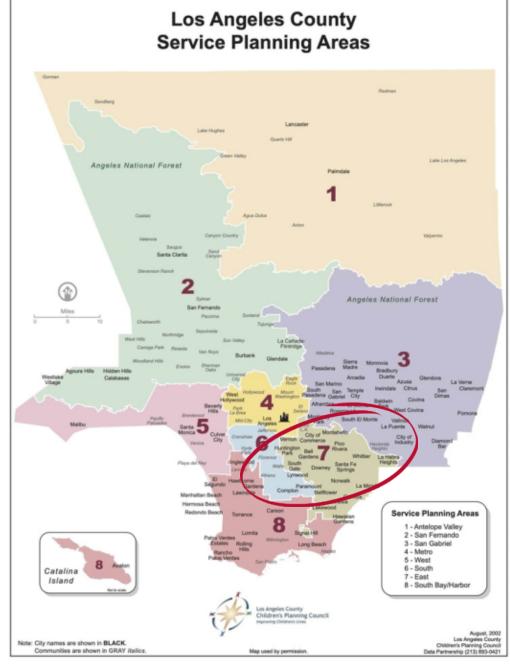
Education Coordinator SPA 7 Data

School Year	# Served	Rollover Cases
2018-2019	n/a	n/a
2019-2020	466	n/a
2020-2021	558	n/a
2021-2022	483	n/a
2022-2023	572	267
2023-2024	625	351

SPA 7 serves the communities of:

Artesia, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Cerritos, City of Commerce, City Terrace, Cudahy, Downey, East Los Angeles, Hawaiian Gardens, Huntington Park, La Habra Heights, Lakewood, La Mirada, Los Nietos, Maywood, Montebello, Norwalk, Pico Rivera, Santa Fe Springs, Signal Hill, South Gate, Vernon, Walnut Park, Whittier, and others.

13 Local Educational Agencies, not including Charter Schools













We empower families towards healing, health, and homes.























1,627 families served

3,265 youth served

222 families housed with a 99% permanency rate

733

families diverted/prevented from homelessness















BEZOS DAY ONE FUND

NOW OPEN

SAFE FAMILIES CENTER

in Santa Fe Springs

Services:

Crisis housing (up to 120 days)

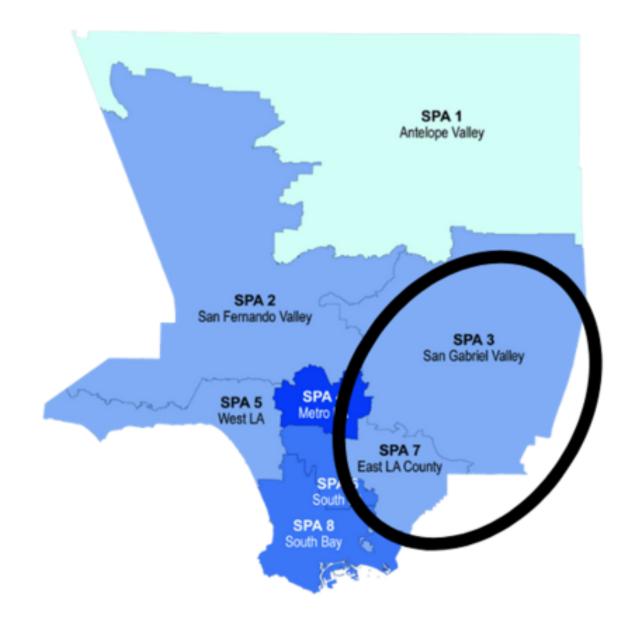
Mental health services for children

Employment services

Housing navigation

Parent enrichment

Nutrition education and more to come!



We provide family housing services in East in

Service Planning Area 3 & 7

- Alhambra
- Altadena
- Arcadia
- Azusa
- Baldwin Park
- Claremont
- Covina
- Diamond Bar
- Duarte
- El Monte
- Glendora
- Irwindale
- Monrovia
- Monterey Park
- Pasadena
- Pomona
- San Dimas
- San Gabriel
- San Marino
- Temple City
- Walnut
- West Covina

- Whittier
- Norwalk
- Santa Fe Springs
- La Mirada
- La Habra
- Montebello
- Lakewood
- Hawaiian Gardens
- Signal Hill
- Cerritos
- Artesia
- Bellflower
- Bell Gardens
- Downey
- South Gate
- Cudahy
- Huntington Park
- Vernon
- Bell
- Maywood
- Commerce
- Pico Rivera
- Portions of East Los Angeles





How We Receive Families

- Referrals from 211
- Phone calls
- Walk-ins
- Partner agencies
- School districts
- Cities

Spa 7 Families

- Parent/guardian with a minor under 17
- Pregnant women in any trimester
 - Must provide proof of pregnancy
- Family with a dependent adult
 - Must provide verifying documentation (SSI or conservatorship)

Low-Income Families

- Determined by gross earnings

Transforming Outcomes Through Shared Commitment











Cross-System Training and Capacity Building

- Shared Understanding: Creates a common language for collaboration.
- Holistic Support: Addresses the interconnected needs of families.
- Improved Communication: Facilitates coordinated support for families.
- Resource Optimization: Maximizes impact through shared knowledge and resources.
- Enhanced Problem-Solving: Encourages innovative solutions through diverse expertise.
- Community Engagement: Builds stronger relationships with the communities served.
- Data Sharing: Utilizes shared data for better service delivery and outcomes.
- Increased Advocacy: Strengthens efforts for supportive policies and funding.









Strengthening Partnerships Between Education and Housing Partners

- Holistic Support: Addresses students' comprehensive needs for better learning environments.
- **Improved Outcomes**: Reduces the impact of housing instability on academic performance.
- Community Engagement: Fosters a sense of belonging and connection among families.
- **Resource Sharing:** Enhances access to housing and educational services through collaboration.
- Equity Focus: Addresses systemic barriers faced by marginalized communities.
- Long-term Stability: Promotes programs that support sustained housing and educational success.
- **Data Collaboration**: Enables informed decision-making through shared insights and analysis.
- Advocacy Power: Strengthens efforts for policy change benefiting both housing and education sectors.



National Center for Homeless Education (NCHE) McKinney-Vento Toolbox:

Part I: Developing Strong Community Collaborations









Action Planning

Please organize yourselves in 5 even-sized groups.

Each group will be provided with a unique case.

You will have 10 minutes to review the case details and identify:

- Family Strengths
- Family Barriers
 - Identify the top three
- Action Plan
 - Who is responsible
 - Timeframe
- Collaborative Partner(s)

Identify a group representative who will share out with the larger group



Two-sided form









Family Vignette: Rosa

- Immediate collaboration between education teams
 - School of Origin, School of Residence, and Education Coordinator;
 continuous collaboration with site Homeless Liaison/SSS Counselor
- Implementation of transportation services
 - Extremely supportive bus driver
- Referral to School on Wheels and after-school program- KEY!
- Referral to local FamilySource Center for case management, clothing, and additional referrals
- Backpacks and school supplies provided
- Monitored participation in and offered additional mental health and supportive services
- Supportive, compassionate, and resourceful shelter team
 - Particularly during morning routine
- Shifted parenting responsibilities back to the parent
- Permanently housed via Bringing Families Home (BFH)
- Re-connected to School of Origin









Family Vignette: Denise

- Continuous collaboration and cross-system Case Conferencing between various service providers to explore crisis housing options
 - Short deadline due to age of youth
- Consultation with various educational partners regarding educational options for student
 - Gap of 2+ years in schooling for Dana
 - Provided educational and vocational options
- Offered linkage to community and county resources
- DMV Fee Waiver
 - ID requirement for housing program
- Consultation with DCFS regarding allegations reported to the team
 - Discrepancy between information provided at intake, legal documents, and educational records
- Post-exit collaboration to ensure linkage was achieved









Family Vignette: Joe

- Immediate collaboration between education teams
 - School of Residence and Education Coordinator; continuous collaboration with site Homeless Liaison
 - SSS Counselor would visit the shelter regularly to meet with family to address concerns, support with documentation and provide resources
- Implementation of transportation services
 - Extremely supportive and engaged bus driver
- Consultation with Regional Center
 - Retrieval of Records
 - Re-engagement in services
- Consulted with DCFS regarding areas of concern
 - Proper care of children
 - Perceived financial abuse by mother
 - Indications of possible substance use by father
- Referral to School on Wheels and after-school program
 - Consultation with after-school program staff
- Backpacks, school supplies, and gift card provided

Family Vignette: Ben and Julia

- Immediate collaboration between education teams
 - School of Origin, School of Residence, and Education Coordinator;
 continuous collaboration with site Homeless Liaison/SSS Counselor
- Review of California Dream Act Application and criteria
- Referral to School on Wheels tutoring and after-school programming
- Referral to local FamilySource Center for case management, clothing, transportation, and additional referrals
- Backpacks and school supplies provided
- Active participation in agency events to connect with local resources
 - Mental health
 - Legal
- Permanently housed
- Support provided post housing
 - School of Residence
 - Services and supports available
 - Enrolled in AP courses, debate team, and college course

Family Vignette: Margaret

- Referral to local FamilySource and YouthSource Centers, as well as Bridges from School to Work
- Collaboration between education teams
 - School of Origin and Education Coordinator
 - Attendance, Independent Studies progress, Special Education services, connectivity, and resources
- Referral to local FamilySource Center for case management, clothing, and additional referrals
- Committed Case Manager and shelter staff to ensure family is document ready
 - Strategized to identify a suitable unit for the needs of the family
 - Project-Based Voucher with case management and mental health services
- One TAY graduated while at shelter, the other transitioned back to in-person









Established Collaborations and Partnerships











Partnerships

Local, State, and Federal Government

US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
Los Angeles Homeless
Services Authority (LAHSA)
LA County Chief Executive
Office (CEO)
LA County Board of
Supervisors (LACBOS)
Local Municipalities
Chambers of Commerce
Law Enforcement
WorkSource Centers

Department of Public Social Services (DPSS)
Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS)
Department of Public Health (DPH)
Department of Health Services (DHS)
Department of Mental Health (DMH)
Women, Infants and Children (WIC)

Non-Profit Organizations

Mexican American
Opportunity Foundation
(MAOF)
LA Centers for Alcohol
and Drug Abuse (L.A.
CADA)
School on Wheels
Baby2Baby
Foodbank.org
FamilySource Centers
YouthSource Centers
PIH Health
Private foundations
Community groups

Car clubs

Elks lodges

Faith Based Organizations

Whittier Area Community
Church
Destiny Community
Church
Neighborhood Life
Church

Educational Entities

District and Charter

- Homeless Liaisons
- Counselors, Social Workers, Parent Engagement Specialist, Administrators
- Student Support Services
- Community Schools
- Head Start and Early Learning Programs

Adult Education
Colleges and Universities









Collaboration at Work















Collaboration at Work

























Team Members



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