

# Help our Homeless

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## The Courtyard Homeless Resource Center

More than 6,500 individuals in our community lack permanent housing – with 67 percent of our homeless population sleeping outside.

The city of Las Vegas is committed to working with local partners to ensure that all residents can access a safe, respectful and permanent location to thrive.

The Courtyard Homeless Resource Center, launched in 2017, is an innovative public-private partnership and convenes a range of service providers in a central, convenient location, to provide homeless clients with access to:

- Housing
- Medical/Mental Health Services
- Legal Assistance
- Employment & Educational Opportunities
- Income/Benefit Assistance
- Clothing
- Additional Wraparound Services

The city of Las Vegas committed \$20 million to develop and launch The Courtyard Homeless Resource Center.

The Courtyard Master Plan includes infrastructure such as shade structures, new building construction, landscaping and furniture to outfit a range of spaces from a clinic to case management offices. In addition, a portion of this plan includes operational costs such as medical care, intake, social services, security and housing services. Additional funding through the Mayor's Fund for Las Vegas LIFE will support capital and programming costs to ensure a wide range of services to meet the needs of all individuals experiencing homelessness in our community 365 days a year.



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## A Community Driven Solution

The city of Las Vegas has adopted a comprehensive approach to ending homelessness and assisting individuals and families in getting off the streets and into housing. Together, with the city's partners, the strategy focuses on outreach, triage and basic services, crisis and traditional shelters, bridge and transitional housing, permanent supportive housing and non-subsidized affordable housing. Through this strategy, the city will address public safety, public health and property values.

**Improve Public Safety** | Homeless street populations increase the perception that an area is not safe. Though most have an increased risk of becoming victims of crimes as opposed to perpetrating crimes, homeless people loitering in and around public spaces can create concerns of safety. The city's plan:

- Creates appropriate safe places for the homeless to convene and receive supportive services
- Creates appropriate safe places for the homeless to sleep and rest
- Creates appropriate safe places to protect the homeless from extreme heat and harsh cold
- Provides a place for the homeless to store personal items and receive mail
- Supports and transition mentally ill persons from public spaces
- Reduces crimes of convenience

**Decrease Public & Personal Health Risks** | Homeless individuals generally lack access to primary and mental health care and/or basic facilities designed to reduce public health risks such as bathrooms and showers. The city's plan:

- Provides 24/7 availability to bathroom and shower facilities for homeless
- Provides opportunities to wash clothing and other personal items
- Provides supportive services to reduce substance abuse
- Provides an appropriate safe place for the medically fragile to receive respite care and heal
- Provides basic health care services

**Preserve Property Values** | Loitering, panhandling, encampments, increased trash from food and other waste create blight and public health hazards in neighborhoods all over the valley. Research shows that wise investment into housing and homeless services actually maintains or increases the value of real estate properties. The city's plan:

- Identifies people at a high-risk of becoming homeless to provide preventative services
- Partners with the Community to create a dedicated source of funds to address homeless issues
- Cleans up the community to reduce blight and positively influence property values
- Creates safe neighborhoods and a thriving business climate by connecting people with service providers to break the cycle of homelessness
- Responsibly addresses public health impacts by providing adequate services