

# Homelessness: Compassion and Action

---

Los Osos Community Educational Forum on Unhoused Residents January 26th, 6-8:30 PM  
Organized by the Subcommittee on Unhoused Residents of the Los Osos Community Advisory Council

---

## Program

Welcome, Tech Support, Process-Opening Statement

---

## Section 1

### The situation in Los Osos - demographics, numbers, support and safety

Audio – personal story

Laurel Weir, Homeless Services Manager at Department of Social Services - will provide an overview of the homeless population in Los Osos and SLO County -

Grace McIntosh, CAPSLO Deputy Director/Interim 40 Prado Director

Cecil Hale - CAPSLO Outreach Case Manager – will provide information regarding who are the unhoused residents in the Los Osos and Morro Bay area

Lois Petty, SLO Bangers will describe their Syringe Exchange and Overdose Prevention Program, and how it is implemented in order to reduce the spread of blood borne pathogens, prevent drug overdose, and support those struggling with substance dependency.

Karl Blum, Principal Los Osos Middle School and Hector Santos, Family Advocate - Mr. Blum and Mr. Santos will share information regarding demographics, numbers, resources and services for Los Osos families that are in transition within the San Luis Coastal School District and specific to North Coast.

Commander Stewart MacDonald, Deputy Jim Fellows and Deputy Sarah Craft, CAT Team, SLO County Sheriff - will provide an update to the Community on the Palisades Ave. situation and how the Community Action Team (CAT) interacts with the homeless to help direct them towards services.

Mr. Escoto is a Staff Attorney at California Rural Legal Assistance's (CRLA) San Luis Obispo Office. CRLA is a statewide organization which provides free legal services to low-income individuals experiencing, among other things, civil rights violations. He will be discussing civil rights issues affecting the homeless population, including due process rights in storage of property and to be free from criminal punishment for acts inherent to being homeless while in public under certain circumstances, especially when no other shelter is available.

---

## Section 2

### Measures being taken in Los Osos and the County

Audio – personal story

Los Osos Cares- Caroline Hall, Rector of St. Benedict's Church in Los Osos - will describe the various programs the coalition has in order to provide help and relief to Los Osos' low income and unhoused residents.

Grace McIntosh, CAPSLO Deputy Director/Interim 40 Prado Director  
Cecil Hale - CAPSLO Outreach Case Manager – will provide information about homeless services provided by CAPSLO, including Cecil's work in Los Osos and Morro Bay.

Ann Robin, Behavioral Health Director for the County of San Luis Obispo. Ann, a licensed marriage and family therapist, will inform our community about the work of Behavioral Health with the homeless population, as well share what services are available to unhoused residents of Los Osos.

TMHA (Transitional Mental Health Association) - Jill Bolster White – will describe the role and services TMHA teams employ in helping clients around the County.

Wendy Lewis - CEO of El Camino Homeless Organization (ECHO) will share how they work to empower people in SLO County to make positive change by providing food, shelter, and supportive services.

Johnny Rodriguez, Program Director, Sunny Acres  
Video and Panelist: Recovery Story at Sunny Acres, Peer Led Sober Living Community

---

### **Section 3**

#### **Considering further steps**

Abby Lassen, Community Member - Participant in HSOC (Homeless Services Oversight Committee) Alternatives to Encampment Work Group – will present experiences of communities across the United States in establishing sanctioned encampments and transitional housing villages as successful models for our county to be inspired by and considering.

Five Cities Homeless Coalition (5CHC): Janna Nichols, Executive Director - Janna will discuss their proposal to place 20 or more Pallet Shelters, up to 30 residents, on County property somewhere in South County to house 5CHC clients in case management.

Becky Jorgeson - is the founder and president of Hope's Village – will be talking about the difference between shelters and tiny house living.

Laurel Weir, Homeless Services Manager at the Department of Social Services – will provide information regarding funding for the various non-profits and other programs in SLO County.

Bruce Gibson, County Supervisor - District 2 – what does the supervisor see as working solutions? Possible next steps, additional information regarding grants and where money can be directed?

---

### **Community Questions/Feedback**

#### **Closing Statement**



**LOS OSOS COMMUNITY  
ADVISORY COUNCIL**