

SUPERVISOR RICH DESMOND
NEWS BULLETIN
Sacramento County Board of Supervisors, District 3



FEBRUARY 2022

Volume 2, Issue 2

IN THIS ISSUE:

- **NEW DATE FOR THE HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT**
- **NEW JAIL DIVERSION TREATMENT AND RESOURCE CENTER**
- **HEROES OF THE MONTH**
- **FENTANYL KILLS: TOWN HALL**
- **AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING**
- **SHRA EXTENDS TENANT BASED VOUCHER DEADLINE**
- **DEL PASO MANOR WATER DISTRICT**

Supervisor Rich Desmond
Third District
Sacramento County

NEW DATE FOR THE HOMELESS POINT-IN-TIME COUNT

Volunteer registration for the 2022 Homeless Point-In-Time Count is now open. The Sacramento region conducts a count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness every other year, as mandated by the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Led by Sacramento Steps Forward (SSF), this Point-In-Time (PIT) count provides valuable data on the number of people experiencing unsheltered homelessness, as well as trends in subpopulation demographics such as veteran status, chronic homelessness, and transition age youth over time.

The PIT count is a community-wide effort made possible by the incredible support of many volunteers and partners. Your help is important in capturing this crucial community data. You can get involved in various activities such as street canvassing, count and surveying, site set up/clean up, volunteer check in/check out, and more! **Please join us on Wednesday, February 23, and Thursday, February 24, 2022.**

Volunteering does not require any prior experience, but you must: be 18 years of age or older; be fully vaccinated against COVID-19; be healthy and not display any cold/flu/COVID-19 symptoms; be willing/able to use personal supplies such as flashlights and smartphones; be willing to travel by foot or car; and attend the required training. **For more information, please [visit the Sacramento Steps Forward website](#). You can register for the Point-In-Time Count by visiting the site, [About — Sacramento Steps Forward — Timecounts](#)**

Board of Supervisors
700 H Street, Suite 2450
Sacramento, CA 95814
richdesmond@saccounty.net

PHONE: (916) 874-5471
FAX: (916) 874-7593

[Follow Us on Facebook](#)



2022
Point-In-Time
Count

Join Us!

When: February 23-24, 2022

Where: Across Sacramento Region

What: Street canvassing, community surveys, deployment assistance

Sign Up: timecounts.org/sacstepsforward/events/38335

NEW JAIL DIVERSION TREATMENT AND RESOURCE CENTER

The new Sacramento County Jail Diversion Treatment and Resource Center (JDTRC) recently opened downtown. The JDTRC is a comprehensive County jail diversion and resource center for Misdemeanor Mental Health Diversion Court participants 18 years and older who are living with mental illness and/or co-occurring substance use disorder, and/or suffering from trauma.

Most importantly, the project will divert individuals from jails and prisons and provide mental health treatment, substance use disorder treatment, and trauma centered services.

This one-stop center provides easily accessible, community-based, individualized support services and linkages for adult individuals in a convenient location. Participants, including those recently released from custody, may receive a myriad of services including:

- Mental and Substance Use Prevention Treatment evaluations and linkage to services
- Onsite therapeutic classes
- Referrals to community-based service providers
- Contact with a probation officer
- Onsite meetings with legal representation

The Probation Department acted as the lead agency on this countywide collaboration to reduce recidivism, and the JDTRC began providing services on December 13, 2021.



HEROES OF THE MONTH

For the past several months, I have sought to recognize outstanding community members who go above and beyond in helping to make Sacramento County a better place to live, work, and play for our residents. I am pleased to announce our February honorees, **Alonso Lee, Tommy Contreras, and Adam Sherif**. Alonso, Tommy, and Adam are all seniors at Jesuit High School who have worked to build brotherhood and promote justice in our community. They recently spoke at a national conference for Jesuit students to discuss these issues. These young men are active participants in their school and the greater community through student government and engagement with campus activities. Adam has even started a non-profit, Generations Connect, that serves our elderly community. These young men are truly **Community Heroes!**

Thank you Alonso, Tommy, and Adam for your continued commitment to our student population. Keep up the great work!

You can nominate a Sacramento County District 3 Community Hero of the Month by filling out this [nomination form](#). The selected Community Hero of the Month will be featured in our newsletter and will receive a certificate of recognition. I look forward to honoring all of those who work so hard to make our communities better.

If you have questions about this program please feel free to email me at richdesmond@saccounty.net or call my office at (916) 874-5471.

FENTANYL KILLS: TOWN HALL

I had the pleasure of **joining Sacramento County District Attorney Anne Marie Schubert, Supervisor Patrick Kennedy, Acting U.S. Attorney Phil Talbert, and representatives from the County Department of Health Services at a virtual Town Hall last month to discuss the dangers of fentanyl in Sacramento County. Fentanyl is becoming an epidemic in our County. In 2021, more than 100 people died from fentanyl, either from overdose or opioid poisoning.** The overwhelming majority of fentanyl deaths are due to counterfeit prescription pills. Fentanyl is odorless, and drugs contaminated with fentanyl are almost impossible to distinguish from drugs that are not contaminated. **According to the Sacramento County District Attorney's crime laboratory, 98 percent of pills bought on the street are counterfeit, and 98 percent of counterfeit pills contain fentanyl.**

Most of us know someone who has struggled with addiction to drugs or alcohol, but fentanyl is a new crisis many families are now experiencing. If you are struggling or know someone who needs help with addiction, you can find help on the [Substance Use Prevention and Treatment webpage](#). Additionally, there are efforts to make sure organizations have easy access to naloxone as a nasal spray that can rapidly reverse an opioid overdose. The Town Hall included a demonstration of how to use naloxone, commonly known as Narcan. A State of California public health order allows some organizations to receive [free Narcan kits](#). [Visit the Narcan Distribution Project](#) to apply.

The Town Hall is available for you to view on [YouTube](#). For more information, visit the [One Pill Can Kill website](#).



FENTANYL

AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING

The Board of Supervisors approved the initial project recommendations for Phase One Funding Allocations for the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA), which the County received in May 2021. Project proposals had to fit in one of the three [Board-approved strategic investments](#) for priority issue areas: Housing and Homelessness, Health, and Economic Response. These are some of the projects the Board of Supervisors approved for funding:

- **Landlord Engagement and Re-Housing Supports: \$10 million** -- This program will improve re-housing outcomes for people experiencing homelessness with an array of supportive services, landlord engagement strategies and incentives, and flexible rental subsidies.
- **Sacramento County Social Health Connect: \$5 million** -- A Social Health Information Exchange (SHIE) is a countywide data infrastructure that links medical, behavioral health, social services, and housing data from multiple sources.
- **Community Nursing Encampment Unit Pilot: \$700,000** -- This public health nursing team will provide outreach, client advocacy and professional case management to individuals experiencing homelessness.
- **Community Nursing Children and Families Unit: \$1.5 million** -- This Public Health Nursing team will provide nursing assessments and interventions, care coordination, linkages to health resources, and health

education to pregnant and parenting families experiencing, or who are at risk of, homelessness.

- **Substance Use Respite and Engagement Center: \$2.6 million** -- Funding to support the Substance Use Respite and Engagement (SURE) Center program operated by WellSpace Health, which provides short-term (4-12 hours) recovery, detoxification, recuperation from the effects of acute alcohol or drug intoxication.
- **Project RoomKey Medical Services: \$1 million** - Provides medical services for individuals in Project RoomKey, including health education and care coordination, harm reduction, wellness and supportive care, COVID-19 testing and vaccination.
- **Academic Support and School Readiness: \$1.2 million** -- This project addresses the negative impact of academic disruption and remote learning due to the pandemic on foster children, families and caretakers.
- **Building Strong Families: \$3.9 million** -- Funding will go toward Family Support Navigators to connect families to critical services in geographic locations that were hardest hit by COVID-19.
- **Retail Food Permit Fee Waiver: \$6.8 million** - Waives the annual operating permit fees from the Environmental Management Department for approximately 7,161 retail food businesses in Sacramento County.
- **Small Business and Non-Profit Grants: \$7.5 million**** -- Directs grants of \$5,000 to 1,500 Small Business and Non -Profit organizations in unincorporated Sacramento County that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.
- **Sacramento Inclusive Economic Development Collaboration, Business Support Services: \$1.8 million** -- Funds the Sacramento Inclusive Economic Development Collaboration (Sac IEDC) for operations dedicated to providing assistance, counseling, in-language support, County program outreach and other services to businesses that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.
- **Business Environmental Resources Center, Business Support Services: \$200,000** -- Funds the Business Environmental Resource Center (BERC) for

operations dedicated to providing assistance, counseling, County program outreach and other services to businesses that have been negatively impacted by COVID-19.

***Grant application opportunities will be announced at a later date.*

County Staff continue to develop and scope out projects with a focus on opportunities to provide funding for economic recovery, health, homelessness and housing. Please note, this is only a partial list. You can visit the following link to [view the full list of project summaries](#). American Rescue Plan Act funds provide local fiscal aid to support COVID-19 response efforts, cover increased expenditures, replenish lost revenue and mitigate economic harm from the COVID pandemic. For more information, visit the [County's American Rescue Plan Act webpage](#).

SHRA EXTENDS TENANT BASED VOUCHER DEADLINE

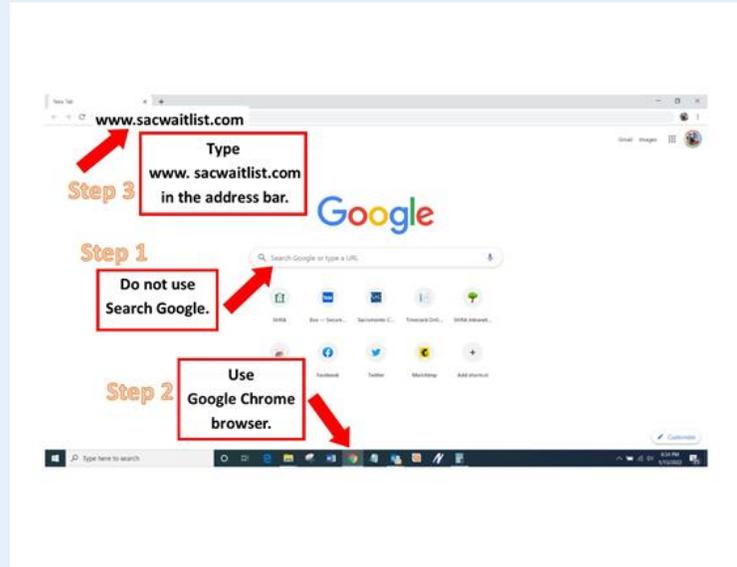
The Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA) has extended the application deadline for the Tenant Based Voucher (formerly Section 8) waiting list to Wednesday, February 9 at 11:59 p.m. You can apply online at www.sacwaitlist.com using any device with internet access and an email address. There is no charge to apply. Information can be translated into multiple languages on the website. You may also submit a paper application available at the following Sacramento County locations (also listed on the website):

- California Black Chamber of Commerce at 1600 Sacramento Inn Way, Suite 232
- La Familia Counseling Center at 5523 34th Street
- Rose Family Creative Empowerment Center at 7000 Franklin Blvd, Suite 1000.

Online applications are recommended to reduce the possibility of errors. For reasonable accommodation, call (916) 440-1390/TTY 711 or 1 (800) 855-7100. More information is available at www.sacwaitlist.com.

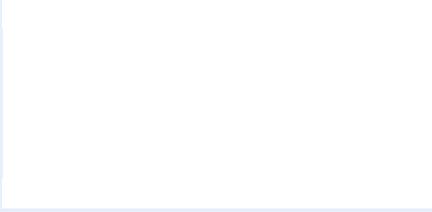
Need help to complete the waiting list application online?
[Watch this video for step-by-step instructions.](#)

Need help finding the waiting list application website on the internet? See the image below to follow 3 steps to find the application at www.sacwaitlist.com.



DEL PASO MANOR WATER DISTRICT

In November 2021, The Sacramento County Grand Jury released an investigative report about the Del Paso Manor Water District (DPMWD). The Grand Jury found that DPMWD failed to adequately manage the District and did not properly maintain infrastructure necessary to ensure a safe and reliable water source for its 1,900 ratepayers and the report can be found on the [Grand Jury website](#). As the Supervisor who represents the ratepayers served by DPMWD, I am very concerned by the findings of the Grand Jury and have offered my assistance to the DPMWD to address issues identified in the report. Additionally, I was recently selected by the Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) to serve on a “2x2” with DPMWD representatives to discuss the District’s plan to remedy the issues identified by the Grand Jury. **I am optimistic that the new General Manager and Board of Directors of DPMWD are working hard to correct the**



problems as quickly as possible through a transparent process.
