



SANTA CRUZ POLICE DEPARTMENT
155 Center Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

MEDIA RELEASE



DATE/TIME: March 1, 2018

LOCATION: City of Santa Cruz

TOPIC: Homeless OUTREACH & SURVEY Summary

INFORMATION:

Santa Cruz Police 2/28/18 Homeless OUTREACH & SURVEY Summary

SANTA CRUZ - On Wednesday, February 28, 2018, Santa Cruz Police Department conducted a Homeless Assessment Outreach in all of the Neighborhood Policing Areas. The mission was to make contact with and survey every unsheltered individual in the city.

"It can take many contacts to encourage people living on the street to accept services," said Police Chief Andrew Mills. "Every person has their own story and path to the streets. It is essential to find out where they are from and how they got here. And to extend resources".

Outreach Stats - A total of 251 surveys were completed. Estimated over 500 unduplicated homeless person contacts were made.

Enforcement Stats - 89 citations issued and 28 arrests made. These arrests and citations were for warrants, possession of illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia, littering, open containers, trespassing, and loitering. 6 vehicles were towed and impounded.

As part of the survey, an officer will ask a series of questions about their background, including age, where they came from, how long they've been homeless and why they moved here. Information such as veteran status or if they became homeless as a result of fleeing domestic violence will help officers to direct them to services. The survey is voluntary, and people are free to give as much information as they want.

In this coordinated operation, the Santa Cruz Police Department also addresses livability issues related to transients loitering and numerous encampments on public property. Yesterday's cooperative effort between the River Street Emergency Transition Camp, the Santa Cruz Police Department along with Mental Health liaisons provided directions to services for homeless people.

Recognizing the many challenges related to this issue, the Santa Cruz Police Department works closely with mental health professionals, drug and alcohol abuse rehabilitation counselors to provide resources and services to those in need before enforcement action.

PHOTO ATTACHED

For additional information, contact: Joyce Blaschke

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Photos from 2/28/18 Homeless OUTREACH & SURVEY



SANTA CRUZ

NOTICE OF HOMELESS OUTREACH

Be advised that encampments in this area have Notice on **WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2018**

The City of Santa Cruz has received complaints concerning individuals who are occupying near or residing in temporary shelters constructed in the vicinity of sidewalks, public spaces and private property throughout the city.

OUTREACH Santa Cruz Police and a response team of mental health clinicians will conduct outreach to each individual, tent and improvised structure in the area.

NOTICE Due to health and public safety hazards, all encampments are given notice of evatation and referrals to homeless resources.

RESOURCES Outreach team will make recommendations to safe and lawful services.

Homeless Resources: Shelters, Camp Site and Support Services
 1-800-273-6222 for 24/7 Resource Assistance for shelter, mental health, support and warming centers
 Homeward Bound Downtown Outreach: (831) 818-0166 or (831) 713-3088

HOMELESS SERVICES CENTER PAUL LEE LOFT 115 Coral Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (831) 458-6020	NEW LIFE CENTER 707 Fair Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (831) 427-1807 Addiction treatment and substance assistance	COMMUNITY ACTION BOARD 408 Main St, Suite 207 Watsonville, CA 95076 (831) 763-2147 (831) 857-5741 Provides assistance with rent, meals, utility payments, disabled, over age, or with medical problems
THE RIVER STREET CAMP Santa Cruz, CA 95060 Campsite and Program Assistance	ELM STREET MISSION 117 Elm Street Santa Cruz, CA 95060 (831) 420-0543 Food, Clothing, and Program Assistance	WINTER SHELTER San Marcos/Fredrick SALVATION ARMY 721 Laurel Street Tuesday and Thursday LOUISE NELSON COMMUNITY CENTER 301 Center Street
SAINT FRANCIS SOUP KITCHEN 205 Mora Street MON-FRI 12-1PM SHOWERS: 11AM-1PM	SECOND HARVEST FOOD BANK (831) 662-0991 hotline for free food locations	