

# **SAFE PARKING**

# **SAN GABRIEL VALLEY**

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San Gabriel Valley Safe Parking Committee

# Who are we?

## SGV SAFE PARKING COMMITTEE

**Tom Petersmeyer:** Retired banker, financial advisor, fundraiser, Montrose

**Betty McWilliams:** Executive Director, Foothill Unity Center located in Monrovia and Pasadena

**Carol Daley:** Co-Founder, Foothills Kitchen, Monrovia and on the Steering Committee of Monrovia Housing and Tenants Advocates

**Jill Shook:** Executive Director, Making Housing & Community Happen, Pasadena

**Wendy McGrail:** Board member, Temple City Homeless Coalition, Temple City



# WHAT IS A SAFE PARKING PROGRAM?

A Safe Parking Program is a comprehensive intervention program that is the first step in taking people from the street in their vehicles towards housing.

- Confidential, safe, monitored and an ongoing overnight parking spot for individuals and families living in their vehicles.
- Case management to assist with life issues and connections to resources such as health care, food, employment and housing.
- The goal of Safe Parking is to get people into housing. All participants must be committed to become housed.



# WHY IS IT NEEDED?

People sleep in their vehicles because they have lost a job and/or have been evicted from their homes, and do not have sufficient income to provide for their basic need of housing they could afford.

The San Gabriel Valley has over 500 people living in their cars.\*

Most cities in the San Gabriel Valley prohibit overnight parking on the street.

People who sleep in their cars overnight are often harassed and fear being arrested or victimized. They often have no access to bathroom or hygiene facilities.

\*Source SPA 3 (SGV) LAHSA Homeless Count for 2018 & Pasadena Homeless Count 2018

# WHAT ARE SOME EXAMPLES?

**Santa Barbara Safe Parking Program** is an exemplary program started 16 years ago at the request of the city of Santa Barbara. It serves 150 Parkers who are accommodated on 24 lots both private and public . There have been no complaints from neighbors during this time. Over 1,000 people have been housed.

**Safe Parking LA** (in the City of Los Angeles) operates seven safe parking sites with 154 spaces, including 50 for veterans only. One small site has five spaces for women only.

**There are ten other Safe Parking programs** in LA County with 245 spaces (avg. 25 each).

*There is not one safe parking program in the  
San Gabriel Valley!*





# COMPONENTS OF A SUCCESSFUL PROGRAM

- A suitable site with a caring and committed church or other entity as host.
- Minimum of 5 Parkers
- A screening process to select Parkers
- Funding for program coordination, case management, sanitation and security/lot monitor
- Expectation that Parkers transition into housing

*A place where Parkers feel welcomed and loved!*

# ROLE OF THE PROGRAM MANAGER: Foothill Unity Center

- Manage the overall safe parking program and perform administrative functions
- Obtain funding for the services provided
- Screen Parkers and provide case managers
- Work with the host site to create protocols and rules
- Execute Memorandum of Understanding (Agreement) with the church/host/parking lot owner, and contract with the security provider and other potentially needed services: bathroom, etc.

# ROLE OF THE CHURCH OR HOST SITE

## **ESSENTIAL:**

- Provide a parking lot with minimum of five Parkers (with 1 or 2 parking space between Parkers)
- Work with Program Managers to create rules of the program (regarding hours of operation, trash removal, minimizing noise, etc.)

## **OPTIONAL:**

- Provide showers and bathroom facilities
- Provide security/lot monitor
- Provide opportunity for church members to volunteer meals, childcare, homework help, art projects, etc.

# STEPS TO SET UP A PROGRAM

- Program managers and church representative(s) meet for a presentation about Safe Parking and to complete the Safe Parking Lot Evaluation/Assessment Form.
- Program managers and the church/host develop a draft proposal and timeline.
- Program managers prepare a draft Memorandum of Understanding between the program coordinator (Foothill Unity Center) and the host (church) for the church to present to its governing body.
- Program managers schedule a meeting for all parties to sign the Memorandum of Understanding.

*LAUNCH PROGRAM*

Homelessness means  
some kids sleep in cars. We invite you to help us house  
these families.



# How to help!

- Are you interested in finding out more about hosting a site?
- Are you interested in contributing?
- Contact: [www.foothillunitycenter.org](http://www.foothillunitycenter.org)
- Donate and designate: Safe Parking
- or
- - TEXT – 4hope to 41444

# Thank you!!

For more information contact us:

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