

PROJECT DIGNITY



MACARTHUR PARK  
LONG BEACH, CA



# Who is Project Dignity?



## With help from community partners:



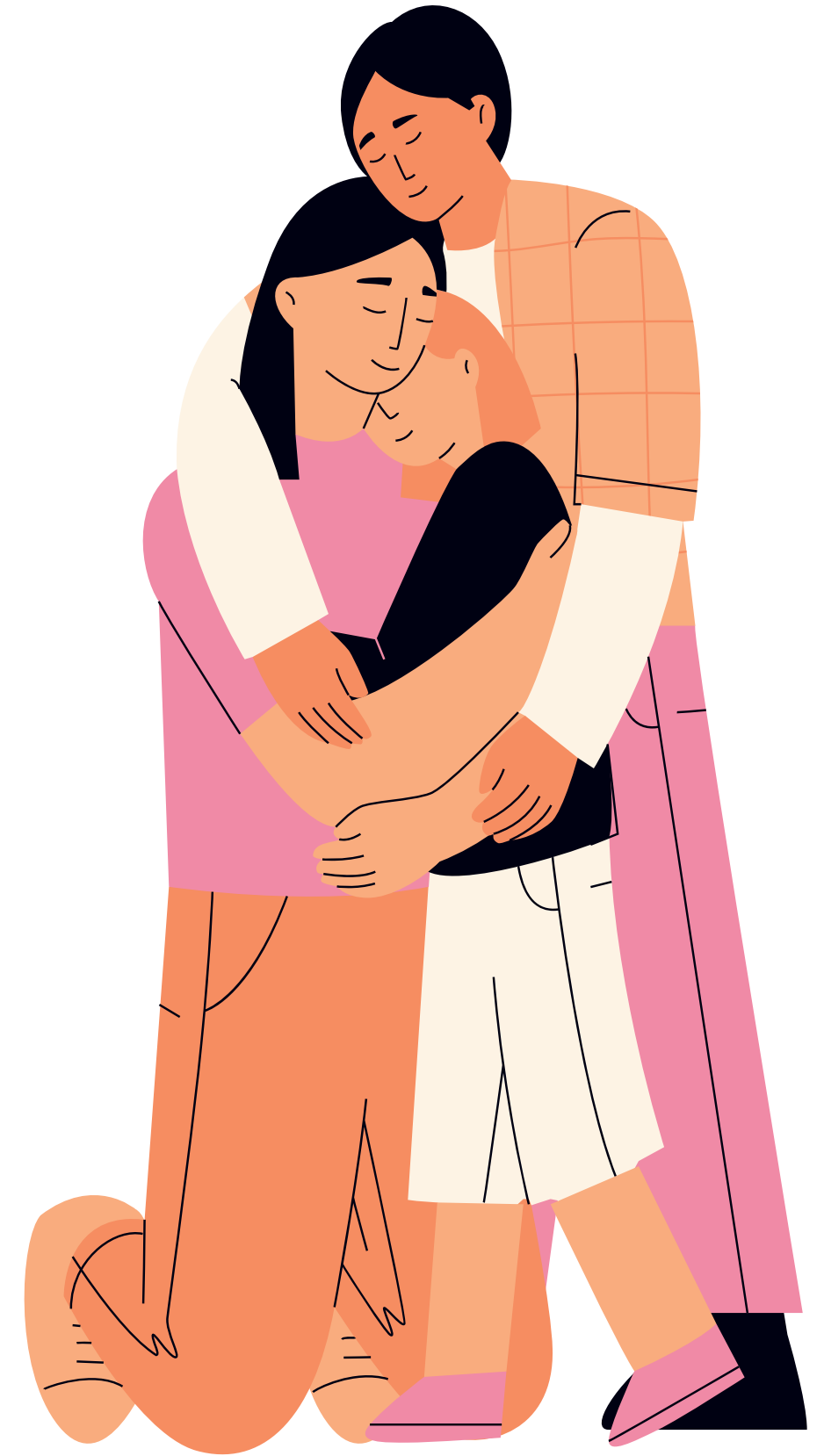
★ Thank you to Community Partners for making these efforts possible



COUNCILWOMAN  
**SUELY SARO**



Project Dignity



## FEBRUARY 14TH 2022 - BEGINNINGS

Project Dignity began February 14, 2022 as a way to build a sense of community between housed and unhoused community members by sharing food, resources, and community conversations.

The first “Mondays Matter” served cookies, hot chocolate & coffee to a small handful of unhoused neighbors at McArthur Park, located in Central Long Beach, California



# Mondays Matter

**Dignity & Listening**



**Mutual Aid & Supply Sourcing**



**Navigation to Resources**



**No expectations - No judgement**

# What's Needed



**Community  
Volunteers**



**Funding &  
Donations**



**Service  
Providers**

# What's Next

Schedule October 2022 - March 2023 will host weekly conversations with Beacon for Him and food/water donations from community partners.

Gathering data and sourcing supplies, the Supply and Navigation Table is run by PECC, AOC7, & EastStake LDS with supplies also sourced by Care Closet. The table will set up on the same days as the WeHope shower/laundry truck, which is scheduled for most 1st & 3rd Mondays, unless there is a holiday, then rescheduled for the following Monday.

With services twice a month, we can source and implement other engagements & services like DMV IDs, haircuts, veterinary services, and train more volunteers who can just listen.

Leading with safety, we will be implementing volunteer workshops to educate and better prepare volunteers for the work at hand such as Mental Health First Aid through Long Beach NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Illness).



**PROJECT DIGNITY**  
**WEHOPE SHOWERS**  
*Dignity on Wheels*  
MACARTHUR PARK  
LONG BEACH, CA

**Alternate Mondays**  
**9 am-12 pm**

**OCT 2022**  
through  
**MARCH 2023**

October 3 and 17  
November 7 and 21  
December 5 and 19



January 9 and 23  
February 6 and 27  
March 6 and 20

**Free shower & laundry!**  
Food, water, clothes, and supplies while they last



**JANICE HAHN**  
LA COUNTY SUPERVISOR

**PECC**  
PEER EDUCATION  
Community Center

**CARE CLOSET**  
LBC

**COUNCILWOMAN SUELY SARO**

THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER-DAY SAINTS

**CORNER OF N WARNER & E WERNER**  
**MACARTHUR PARK 1321 E ANAHEIM ST, LONG BEACH, CA**

# What We Learned

**Community Collaborations:** Project Dignity efforts created collaborations between neighborhood associations, community organizations, and faith-based groups with city and county support with the goal of bringing dignity to neighbors who are experiencing homelessness.

**Navigating to Services & Resources:** While we are aware that these efforts are "band-aids" where a tourniquet is needed, these efforts have found that making connections within the community has better outcomes of shelter and paths to care and recovery.

**Sourcing Mutual Aid, Practicing Harm Reduction, & Listening:** Over the past 7 months, these efforts have become a reliant source of mutual aid, connections to city-led resources, system navigation, and neighbor-to-neighbor connections with community volunteers who also simply listen.



# Schedule & Data

The efforts has grown. We are now serving an average of 80 community members at the Supplies and Navigation table, upwards from the 30-40 people who were served in February. The largest number gathered on Monday was 113 (8/22/22).

Gathering data without being intrusive has been helpful in viewing the breadth of people served and understanding their needs.

WeHOPE showers/laundry truck was added on June 20th and ran weekly until September 19th except for the 3 Mondays which were holidays.

The truck averages 20 showers and 11 loads of laundry per week. On holidays, food and water were dispersed.



# Is there an end?



Project Dignity is an effort to meet people where they are without judgement or expectations while government institutions re-vision and develop more efficient and humane infrastructure for people experiencing homelessness. Whether its paths to individual-focused recovery options, transition housing to include and focus on trauma healing, developing assisted care for those who need some daily interventions, and communities for people without capacity to provide self-care, independently in society without self harm.

Project Dignity is formatted as a temporary community program to mitigate the issues of unhoused living with basic needs while providing community connections and resource navigation by partnering with service providers. Meeting people where they are results in better housed outcomes.

