

STATEMENT OF NEED

Urban Community Outreach (UCO) has been serving the homeless and low-income residents of Long Beach since 2008. We operate a Drop-In Center every Sunday afternoon which provides a safe space and hot meals to our guests. We provide groceries for our housed clients. UCO also employs an experienced housing specialist who works with clients to apply for services and locate permanent housing. The number of people living in encampments or on the street increased by 22%. The 2022 homeless count in Long Beach was 3,296. UCO works to ease the burdens of people living on the street every week with our services and does its best to help people who are ready to move into permanent housing.

Our clients can also access healthcare provided by a volunteer nurse and doctor twice a month. During 2022, UCO served 5,800 meals to our homeless and needy clients and provided 250 grocery bags to families experiencing food insecurity. In addition, UCO provided 400 Hygiene Kits, 50 sleeping bags, 400 blankets, 300 jackets, and 500 pairs of socks to our clients.

To continue our work, we rely entirely on donations and grant awards. This type of financial support sustains our ongoing operations and we are grateful for the past support of the Mayor's office. At this time, specifically UCO is requesting funding in the amount of \$ 12,000 to support three months of its operation for weekly Meal Service expenses:

- Food
- Durable goods
- Salaries for Chef & Executive Director
- Volunteer Service Stipends
- Gas/Transportation
- Phone/internet service

This funding will fill a gap need to provide an estimated 1500 meals to 1500 clients during the three month period.