



Special Methods And Resources Team (SMART)

Porterville Police Department

Porterville, California

S.M.A.R.T

A MULTIDISCIPLINARY APPROACH TO ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS



S.M.A.R.T. Duties/Goals

- ❖ Responsible for creating a coordinated Department-wide response to issues pertaining to the unsheltered/homeless.
- ❖ Engender relationships that support the concept of “wrap around services.”
- ❖ Reach the homeless community with services that assist them with becoming viable members of the community.
- ❖ Educate the public on their rights, responsibilities and legal resolutions should they become victimized by the homeless.
- ❖ Reduce calls for service.
- ❖ Helping with getting them document ready for EHV/MVP (or other) Housing Vouchers

S.M.A.R.T. Mission

- ❖ SMART is tasked with analyzing environmental and societal factors related to the quality of life in Porterville as it relates to homelessness.
- ❖ SMART is tasked with developing strategies to mitigate these factors and building capacity for partnerships that produce sustainable outcomes to reduce homelessness.
- ❖ SMART is tasked with taking proper enforcement action against chronic violators of the law.
- ❖ SMART performs outreach with PATH on Wednesdays & other partners as needed.
- ❖ Build relationships, rapport and trust with chronically homeless (bus passes, clothing, transportation, ID vouchers, emotional support, pet food)
- ❖ Identify, evaluate, and connect clients to appropriate mental health, substance use, and shelter/housing resources (Rapid-Rehousing, Permanent Supportive Housing, EHV and MVP vouchers)

Multidisciplinary Approach





MARTIN VS City of Boise

- 2018 Ruling from United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit - 902 F.3d 1031 (2018)
- Deals with 8th Amendment
- Homelessness is not a crime, can not enforce camping ordinances when shelter is not available

SMART-STATS

- ❖ 498 Duplicated-Contacts
- ❖ 5 Mental Health Referrals
- ❖ 15 Housing referrals
- ❖ 1 reunited with family in Texas

Homeless Information Systems (HMIS)

- We are working with Kings Tulare Homeless Alliance (KTHA) in hopes to have access to HMIS. From striving to thriving.
- In order to more effective and efficiently assist individuals with their need for housing and resources it is imperative that SMART participate in HMIS. This will help serve the individuals encountered and alleviate duplication of services as we have clients in common with many of the service providers in the city/county.



The Porterville Navigation Center

A Low barrier Shelter in Porterville where SMART can assist by referring homeless individuals utilizing the Coordinated Entry Process, through HMIS.

PORTERVILLE NAVIGATION CENTER

Access to Shelter and Bridge program



- 15 Shelter beds and 15 Bridge beds
- 90 day stay
- Daily meals, showers, laundry room to their residents.
- Case management Services
- Assistance with linkages to housing programs, EHV/MVP vouchers or other.

Intake

Identify
Needs

Connect to
Resources

Identify
Housing
Programs



Thank you

SMART