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by City Manager's Office

CITY OF SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Memorandum

TO: HONORABLE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

FROM: Leslye Krutko

SUBJECT: **PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT**

DATE: November 14, 2005

Approved Deanna Santana Date 11/18/05

INFORMATION

On Thursday, December 8, 2005, the Housing Department is sponsoring the City's first Project Homeless Connect (PHC) event from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The event will be held in Exhibit Hall 1 at the San Jose McEnery Convention Center at 150 West San Carlos, at the corner of Market Street.

PHC is a concentrated effort to assist the city's chronic homeless population by connecting them to a range of medical, housing, social work and legal information and services. Special efforts will be made to reach out to the chronic homeless and provide them with a range of critical services under one roof, in an environment of respect and dignity.

PHC will be an important step in the City's 10-Year Plan to end chronic homelessness and may become an annual coordinated outreach and service delivery strategy. Key to this long-term effort is the support from the community, public, nonprofit, and corporate sectors of our City and the Silicon Valley in raising awareness and commitment to end homelessness. PHC will include corporate and individual volunteers, who will contribute food, services and their time and labor.

PHC is being coordinated nationally by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness. The Council's Executive Director, Philip E. Mangano, has indicated that the effort is intended to "fuse social and political will to end homelessness." San Jose is one of twenty-two (22) cities throughout the country, including San Francisco, San Diego, and Philadelphia, that have signed up to date to participate in this event.

I encourage you to join us on the morning of the event for the official kick-off. The kick-off will include a pep rally and welcome for the volunteers. Attached is background information about Project Homeless Connect and the services that will be available through this coordinated effort. Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at x53851.

Leslye Krutko
LESLYE KRUTKO
Director of Housing

Attachment

SAN JOSE
CAPITAL OF SILICON VALLEY

Sock Drive for the Homeless

On December 8, 2005, the City of San Jose, Housing Department is sponsoring the National Day of Project Homeless Connect.

We would like to distribute gift bags (including new socks) to every homeless person who walks through the door to receive services on that day.

We'll be collecting socks (and other items*) from now until Friday, December 2nd.

There is a container in the lobby of the 12th floor of City Hall where you can drop off your donations.

Your contribution is appreciated. Thank you!

Ray Tovar
Homeless Coordinator

*** Other acceptable items are gloves, scarves, toothbrushes, toothpaste, deodorant, combs, etc.**

NATIONAL PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT

THE UNITED STATES INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS

PROJECT HOMELESS CONNECT
DECEMBER 8, 2005
8 A.M. to 4 P.M.
(San Jose McEnery Convention Center – Exhibit Hall 1
150 West San Carlos, corner with Market Street)

Project Homeless Connect

Project Homeless Connect ("PHC") is a nationwide effort to assist the chronically homeless population by sponsoring an event that connects the homeless to services – all under one roof - including medical, health, housing information and referral, financial assistance, veteran, among other services. It aims to alleviate and prevent chronic homelessness by connecting the homeless to the various social and human services enabling them to start on the road away from life on the streets.

> ***Chronic Homelessness:*** *An unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either been continuously homeless for a year or has had at least four (4) episodes of homelessness in the past three (3) years." (HUD, VA, and HHS).*

National Response

Spearheaded by the U.S. Interagency Council on Homelessness, a coalition of twenty-two (22) cities including Philadelphia, Portland, San Francisco, San Diego and others are sponsoring PHC events on December 8, 2005.

City of San Jose and County of Santa Clara Response

Since September 2005, staff at the City's Housing Department has cooperated with their counterparts at the County's Office of Affordable Housing and colleagues in nonprofit service delivery organizations in planning for the first PHC event. During the planning phase, the goal is to recruit and secure a diverse and comprehensive set of service delivery, counseling, housing resources, medical and health organizations and agencies serving the homeless population. The committee expects to serve up to 400 homeless clients during the event and recruit approximately 150 to 200 volunteers.

Target Area and Outreach Strategy

During the event, the committee plans to do intense outreach to the homeless population in and around the following boundaries: Julian Street to the North; 10th Street to the East; Highway 87 to the West; and San Carlos Street to the South (see attached map). This will include hot spots around Saint James Park, most of the downtown core, and San Jose State University. A map of the target area is attached. Drop-in clients will also be served. Flyers and electronic communication will be delivered to homeless shelters, parks, and other facilities where chronically homeless congregate. The committee will also seek local newsprint, television, and radio media announcements and coverage of the event to attract volunteers, corporate sponsors, and potential clients.

Range of Services and Resources Provided

A guiding principle of the event is to treat the homeless population with dignity and respect. In addition, the goal is to provide an environment in which homeless individuals and families feel connected to and supported by the range of existing county, city, and nonprofit direct and supportive services organizations and agencies. The committee expects to have the following range of services available on site:

- Nutritious meals;
- Medical and Health check-ups;
- Housing information and referral – interested and eligible clients will be assisted in completing applications for the twenty-five (25) Section 8 set aside vouchers through Housing First Pilot program for chronically homeless people;
- Veterans Benefit assistance and enrollment;
- Social services eligibility and sign-up;
- Social Security and Supplemental Security;
- Telephone access;
- Legal assistance and referrals;
- Employability and workforce assistance;
- Care bags with hygiene items, socks, sweatshirts, and winter appropriate items.

The success of the outreach and linkage efforts depends on the support of volunteers and corporate sponsors who will provide invaluable assistance and resources both before and during the event.

Need for Volunteers and Corporate Sponsors

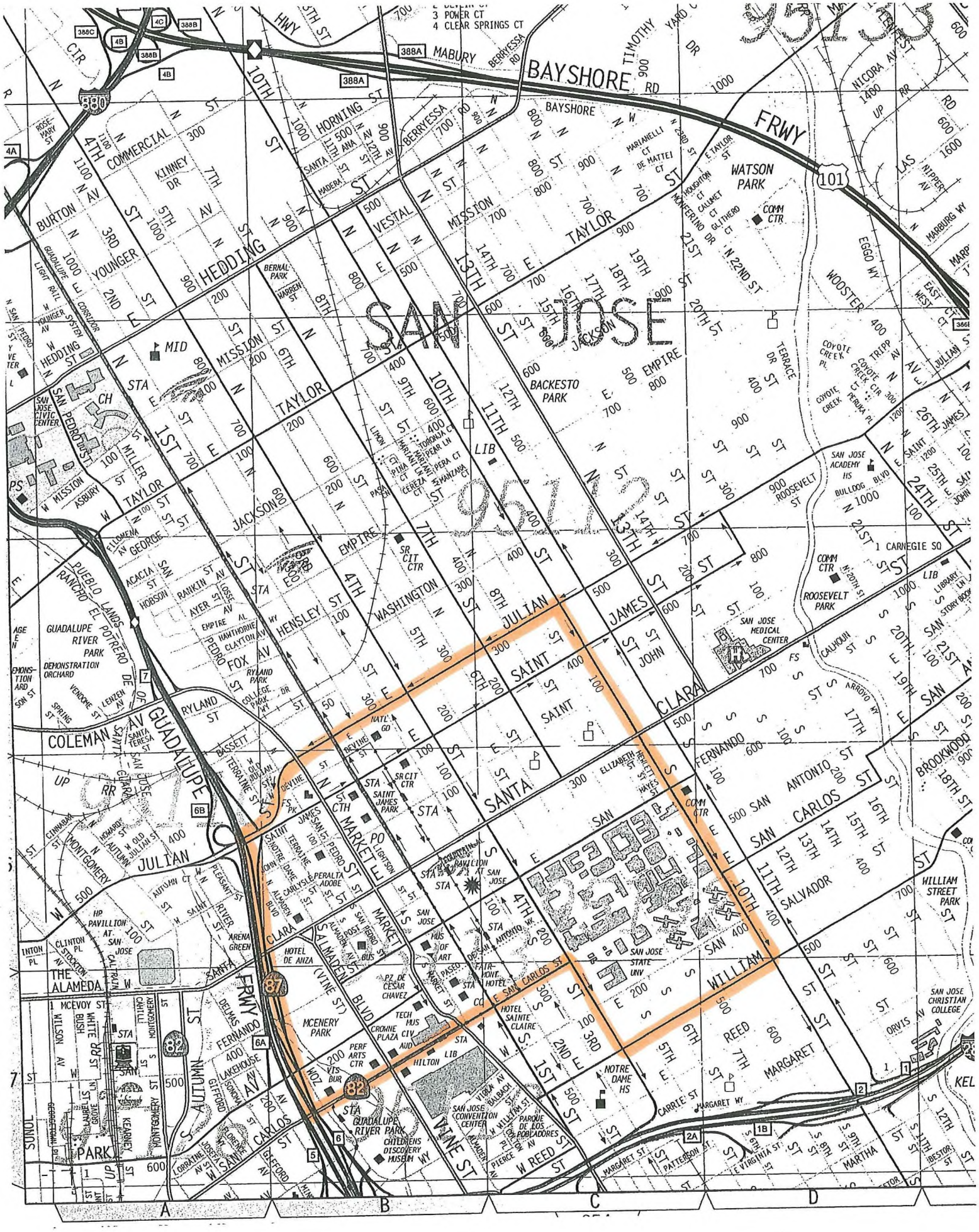
Volunteers will be needed to conduct the outreach efforts throughout the target area, staff the intake/assessment station, prepare the gift/care bags, and collect survey forms from clients among other tasks. Training sessions will be held to communicate the goal and spirit of the event to the volunteers and sponsors. Corporate sponsors will be sought to provide the gift/care items that will be given to the clients as well as provide employee volunteer opportunities.

Follow up and Evaluation

City and County staff plans to evaluate the event based on the type and number of services provided, clients served and connections to transitional and/or permanent housing made. In addition, staff will facilitate a debrief session to review the planning and implementation of the PHC event. Information being collected includes:

- Number of people served or in attendance;
- Number of volunteers;
- Number of people who moved from the street and accessed treatment and/or shelter;
- Number of people who served each of the various services offered.

Such information will be important in evaluating the success and adequacy of the event in meeting the needs of the target client population.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JACKSON
EMPIRE
BACKESTO PARK
TERRACE DR
COYOTE CREEK
TRIPP AV
SAN JOSE ACADEMY HS
BULLDOG BLVD
ROOSEVELT ST
1 CARNEGIE SQ
LIB
ROOSEVELT PARK
SAN JOSE MEDICAL CENTER
CALHOUN ST
ARROYO WY
GEORGE
ACACIA ST
HOBSON
RANKIN AV
AYER
LOSSE AV
HENSLEY ST
WASHINGTON
JULIAN
JAMES
JOHN
CLARA
SAINT
SANTA
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FERNANDO
SAN ANTONIO ST
SAN CARLOS ST
WILLIAM
SALVADOR
BROOKWOOD
WILLIAM STREET PARK
GUADALUPE RIVER PARK
DEMONSTRATION ORCHARD
PUEBLO LANDS RANCHO EL POTRERO DE OJO DE AGUA
FOX AV
RYLAND ST
RYLAND PARK
COLEMAN AV
BASSETT
GUADALUPE
MONTGOMERY
JULIAN
CLARA
SANTA
MARKET ST
SALMADEN (VINE ST) BLVD
SAN JOSE
SAINT JAMES PARK
SR CIT CTR
NATL GD
HOTEL DE ANZA
HP PAVILION AT SAN JOSE
ARENA GREEN
THE ALAMEDA
FRWY
MCENERY PARK
PZ DE CESAR CHAVEZ
TECH MUS CIV AUD
CROWNE PLAZA
HILTON
PERF ARTS CTR
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MUS OF ART
PASEO DE SAN FERNANDO
FAIRMONT HOTEL
HOTEL SAINTE CLAIRE
SAN JOSE STATE UNIV
MOTRE DAME HS
SAN JOSE CONVENTION CENTER
PARQUE DE LOS POBLADORES
CHILDRENS DISCOVERY MUSEUM
GUADALUPE RIVER PARK
MCEVOY ST
WHITE
BUSH
WILSON AV
CALTRAIN
DELMAS
FERNANDO
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LAKEHOUSE
GIFFORD
KEARNEY
PARK
SUNOL
LORRAINE
SAN CARLOS
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