



# Homelessness and Public Safety in Palm Springs, CA

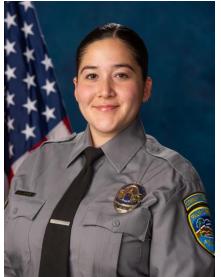


## IMPACT TEAM



- Sgt. Frank Guarino
- Officer Jordan Belchamber
- Officer Jorge Diaz
- Officer Luciano Colontuano
- Officer Emmi Kramer
- Officer Chad Brown
- CSO Destiny Arce
- Code Compliance Officer Kristi Smith







### Scanning – Approaching the Problem

- 45,000 resident population and Winter-time population 100,000
- Arrests
- PIT Count

## Scanning - Approaching the Problem

- Crime and Quality of Life
- Police Resources Impacted
- Communication
- Community Frustration





### Analysis/ Research

Conduced five community meetings in five Council Districts using a nominal group technique allowing residents to voice their concerns



Analysis -Research

- Compared Riverside County PIT to Palm Springs PD PIT
- IMPACT worked with City and County Officials to understand local resources and communication with the public and homeless population.

## Defining the Problem

After scanning the problem, an initial problem statement was identified:

"Homeless individuals living in Palm Springs seize crime opportunities for continued substance abuse and clustering in locations that create hot spots for police activity and crime."





#### Offender

- Homeless as Offenders
- Victims, not just offenders
- Diverse Population

### Target/Victim

- Residents
- Businesses
- Homeless Individuals

### Locations

- Shopping Centers/Big Box Stores
- Fast Food chains
- Homeless Organizations
- Places of worship

### Previous Responses (Inconsistent and Piece Mealed)

- Patrols
- Social Media
- Enforcement Operations
- Housing First Model
- Hostile Architecture

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Understanding the problem's cause

- Hypothesis
- Obstacles and Barriers







## CA Prop 47: free pass for shoplifters?



### Setting Objectives

- This project aimed to address interconnected issues of homelessness and crime
- Focused Hotspots identified through analysis
- Multi-faceted approach implemented
- Firm Message *Take the services, move elsewhere, or go to jail and disrupt your need for drugs*



### Response

- Part 1 Survey
- Part 2 Provide Resources
- Part 3 Focused Enforcement

# Resiliance, Inclusion and Support for Ending Homelessness



### Assessment -Measuring the Impact

- Disrupted crime patterns
- Increased Service Connection
- Identified High Risk Individuals
- More Attention brought to the issue
- Improved Services Utilization
- Family Reunification
- Improved Public Perception



### Assessment

- Reunified with family (Buses, Trains, Planes) - 45 people • Temporary Housing – 80 people • Arrests – More than 700

- Deaths 22 (OD, heat, other)

## Uncertainties

- Long-Term Effectiveness
- Impact on Repeat Offenders
- Displacement
- Financial Impact



### More Data Needed

- Crime Rates Before and After
- Service Utilization Rates
- Recidivism Rates

### **Operation Restore Hope**



