

Project Roomkey:

Enabling People Experiencing Homelessness to Stay Safe at Home



LAHSA

LOS ANGELES
HOMELESS
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AUTHORITY



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Presentation to
South Bay Council of Governments,
Homeless Services Taskforce

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Project RoomKey

- Overview
- Goals
- Participants at PRK Sites
- Securing Hotel/Motel Leases
- Operations of PRK Sites
- Exit Strategy



What is Project RoomKey?

- Project RoomKey (PRK) is a collaborative effort by the State, County, and the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) to secure hotel and motel rooms for vulnerable people experiencing homelessness.



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Goals of Project RoomKey

- Provide temporary housing for as many vulnerable homeless individuals as possible, to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- Keep local businesses open and members of our community employed



- Prevent a surge on our healthcare system by vulnerable people experiencing homelessness who would need hospitalization, should they contract COVID-19.
- Protect our communities from the spread of this deadly virus.



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Who Will be Staying at PRK sites?

- PEH in the community (or surrounding area) where the hotel is located, who are **not COVID-19 positive or symptomatic**, but are:
 - 65 years of age or older; or
 - Have a chronic or underlying health condition.



A background photograph showing several people wearing face masks and caps, likely staff or volunteers, at an outdoor event. One person in a blue cap and jacket is looking at a clipboard, while others are standing nearby. The scene is under a white canopy tent.

How Are People Assigned to PRK Sites?

- PRK sites are **NOT** walk-up facilities.
- To participate in Project Roomkey, clients must be referred to the program by:
 - Homeless services provider,
 - Health care provider,
 - Law enforcement,
 - Call Center; or
 - Other service provider.



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What Are We Doing?



Securing Hotels

- The County has partnered with the State to secure leases with hotels within the County for a 3-month period, with the option to extend if necessary.



Hotel Operations

- LAHSA is leading the overall operations of the hotels participating in Project Roomkey.
- Onsite operations at each hotel are led by a local homeless service provider that has experience working with the unhoused population.
- LA County Fire is working closely with LAHSA to support overall logistics.
- Los Angeles County employees acting as Disaster Service Workers (DSWs) are providing additional staffing at the sites.



PRK Site Operations

- Every Project Roomkey site is staffed 24/7.
- Staffing at the Project Roomkey sites consists of:
 - LA County Fire – Shelter/Site Manager
 - Homeless Service Provider – Client Services Managers and Case Manager
 - LAHSA staff
 - County Disaster Service Workers
 - Nursing Staff
 - 24/7 private Security
- Staff monitors guest behavior to ensure program rules are followed, provides daily health and wellness checks of guests, delivers food to clients' rooms and responds to client needs



How Are We Doing?



3,101

The number of beds under agreement in the County.

1,600 +

The number of rooms occupied by PRK participants.*

1,800 +

The number of Participants staying at PRK sites

*Most of the unoccupied rooms currently are at sites where the occupancy agreement was executed within the last few days.

For up-to-date information on the number of hotels/motels participating in Project Roomkey, please visit: <https://covid19.lacounty.gov/incident-updates/>



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PRK Participant Exit Strategy

- LAHSA, the County, and partners from the non-profit and philanthropy sectors are working together to develop a comprehensive plan for those who receive assistance under this program so that they are not returned to the streets at the close of this program.
- While participants are staying at these hotels, homeless service providers are working with them to secure other permanent or temporary housing options.
 - Some participants will be able to return to other shelters or temporary housing once the crisis is over and social distancing requirements are lifted.



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A person is shown in silhouette, looking through a telescope. The background is a city skyline at sunset, with the sun low on the horizon, casting a warm, golden glow over the scene. The word "QUESTIONS?" is written in large, bold, yellow capital letters across the center of the image.

QUESTIONS?



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