



Dear Board of Supervisors,

As a Councilmember for the City of Irvine, I am deeply committed to the well-being of our community and wanted to express my support for the Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program introduced by Supervisor Sarmiento.

Prevention is a critical yet often overlooked aspect of our fight against homelessness. Our county has invested millions in addressing homelessness, but these efforts have predominantly focused on post-crisis interventions. This approach fails to acknowledge the initial trauma and challenges of losing a home, including struggles for basic necessities, healthcare, and rent.

The Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program offers a more economical and community-beneficial solution by stabilizing households before individuals are forced to live on the streets and face homelessness. This program is a critical step forward in our County's approach to protecting our most vulnerable residents and could serve as a model for care across the state.

I strongly encourage your support for this essential initiative.

Sincerely,

Tammy Kim  
Councilmember  
City of Irvine



7101 Wyoming Street, Westminster, CA 92683  
Telephone (714) 278-4672 Fax (714) 893-4819

January 8, 2024

County of Orange

OC Board of Supervisors

Re: Support for the Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot

Dear Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Abrazar, Inc., we are pleased to support the allocation of funding from Second District's discretionary ARPA funding and General Fund allocation to create the "Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program" introduced by Supervisor Sarmiento.

Prevention is a vital yet unfunded need that has gone unaddressed for too long. The County has spent millions and millions of dollars addressing the issue once someone has already gone through the trauma of losing their home. Once someone becomes unhoused, they immediately face additional difficulties that need to be addressed, such as basic necessities, healthcare, and housing. Helping to create a stable household is a much more economical solution that also benefits the community as a whole. I especially support the commitment of the Program to long-term housing stabilization by addressing barriers through wrap-around services, case management, and direct payments.

Abrazar implemented a similar model of this innovative program over 10+ years ago with United Way of OC. The program has had extraordinary results and has grown over the past 10+ years. Unfortunately, the need exceeds the available funding for this program. This is an exciting and innovative Program that needs to be adopted by the County. I encourage you to vote to support this item.

If I can provide any additional information, do not hesitate to get in touch with me at (714) 278-4672 or by email at [m.ortega@abrazarinc.com](mailto:m.ortega@abrazarinc.com)

Sincerely,

Mario A. Ortega

Chief Executive Officer

Work: (714) 278-4672

Email: [m.ortega@abrazarinc.com](mailto:m.ortega@abrazarinc.com)



Chairman Wagner  
3<sup>rd</sup> District  
Orange County Board of Supervisors  
400 W Civic Center Dr.  
Santa Ana CA 92701

Dear Chairman Wagner,

On behalf of Housing or Health OC (HHOC), I am writing to express support for the Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program introduced by Supervisor Sarmiento. HHOC is a community hub comprised of multiple homeless and housing service providers. These providers include: **Friendship Shelter, Jamboree Housing, Mercy House, Casa Teresa, Teen Leadership Foundation, Orangewood Foundation, and Pathways for Hope**. HHOC is contracted for CalAIM services (*housing navigation, housing deposits, housing sustainability/tenancy, day habilitation, short-term post hospitalization, and enhanced care management*) with CalOptima.

HHOC believes homeless prevention is a vital, yet unfunded, need that has gone unaddressed for too long. Most funding is prioritized once someone is experiencing homelessness. The investment in prevention should also be prioritized as the need has become more important than ever as more Orange County residents are at risk of becoming homeless. HHOC is particularly supportive the commitment of the proposed program to long-term housing stabilization by addressing barriers through wrap-around services, case management and direct payments. Our data shows a high success rate of stabilization and ability to maintain housing with these wrap-around services.

HHOC encourages the Board of Supervisors to vote yes in supporting the proposed program.

Sincerely,

*Heather Stratman*

Heather Stratman  
Chief Administrative Officer

cc: Supervisor Sarmiento  
Supervisor Chaffee  
Supervisor Do  
Supervisor Foley

January 8, 2024

The Orange County Board of Supervisors

400 W. Civic Center Drive

Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for the Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program introduced by Supervisor Sarmiento.

Prevention is a vital, yet unfunded, need that has gone unaddressed for too long. The County has spent millions of dollars addressing the issue once someone has already gone through the trauma of losing their home. Once someone becomes unhoused, they immediately face additional difficulties that need to be addressed, such as basic necessities, healthcare and housing. Helping to create a stable household is a much more economical solution that also benefits the entire community. I especially support the commitment of the Program to long-term housing stabilization by addressing barriers through wrap-around services, case management and direct payments.

As the President and Board Chair of MindOC and Be Well Orange County, I strongly encourage you to vote to support this item.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Richard Afable M.D." with a stylized flourish at the end.

Richard Afable M.D.

BeWell Orange County



Orange County Board of Supervisors  
County of Orange  
400 W. Civic Center Drive  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

RE: Agenda item 31, Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program

Dear Chairman Wagner and Board of Supervisors,

I am writing to express my support for the Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program introduced by Supervisor Sarmiento.

Prevention is a vital, yet unfunded, need that has gone unaddressed for too long. The County has spent millions of dollars addressing the issue once someone has already gone through the trauma of losing their home. Once someone becomes unhoused, they immediately face additional difficulties that need to be addressed, such as, basic necessities, healthcare and housing. Helping to create a stable household is a much more economical solution that also benefits the community as a whole. I especially support the commitment of the Program to long-term housing stabilization by addressing barriers through wrap-around services, case management and direct payments.

This is an exciting and innovative Program that needs to be adopted. I encourage you to vote to support this item and appreciate your consideration.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Ahmad Zahra". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

Ahmad Zahra  
Council Member, District 5



**Ross, Jamie**

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**From:** Mai Tran <my123tran@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2024 12:12 PM  
**To:** COB\_Response; Page, Leon  
**Subject:** 01/09/24 BOS Meeting - Agenda Item: #31

**Attention:** This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Dear Orange County Board of Supervisors,

Agenda Item 31 asks you to fund a Homeless Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program. I urge you to fully fund this program with the requested \$3,000,000.

Prevention is the most cost-effective way to address the housing crisis Californians face, and it protects our community from experiencing the trauma and long-term health and financial impacts of houselessness. When a person or family loses housing, they are often forced into a cycle of financial and housing instability. Their health and wellbeing, both mental and physical, are impacted by lack of access to resources, food, medical care, shelter, and hygiene items. They are pushed further into debt and at risk of losing jobs or missing school.

Rather than [spending hundreds of millions of dollars](#) trying to get resources to people who have already been impacted by losing housing, our county should be focused on keeping people in their homes. A 2023 study found that "[immediate financial assistance truly prevents families from becoming homeless and it can also be a cost-effective intervention for addressing homelessness upstream.](#)"

As a resident of Orange County, I strongly support fully funding this program, which will save our county money and save our community members from the permanent harm caused by losing their housing.

Thank you,  
Mai Tran  
92614

**Ross, Jamie**

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**From:** Maria Garcia <gualumadd@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, January 5, 2024 5:12 PM  
**To:** COB\_Response  
**Subject:** apoyo de agenda

**Attention:** This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Estoy enviando este correo a quien corresponda para apoyar el punto 31 de la agenda del Martes 9 de Enero.

Guadalupe M Garcia.

**Ross, Jamie**

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**From:** Zachary Schlagel <ZacharyS@epath.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, January 8, 2024 2:20 PM  
**To:** COB\_Response  
**Subject:** E-Comment - Item #31

**Attention:** This email originated from outside the County of Orange. Use caution when opening attachments or links.

Good afternoon. On behalf of PATH, we would like to express our strong support for Supervisor Sarmiento's Homelessness Prevention and Stabilization Pilot Program. Despite our collective efforts, the number of people entering into homelessness continues to exceed the number that are exiting. Prevention is key to turning the tide, as there are many individuals who could stay in their current housing with just a little support. We also would like to commend the County for prioritizing those over 60 years old with this proposal, as we are seeing a disturbing trend of increased homelessness in our senior population. We would encourage the County to consider a slight shift to incorporate those over 55 years old, however, as that 55-60 year old population is at significant risk of homelessness if they lose their job, become disabled or severely ill. That being said, this is an exciting proposal and we encourage the Board to support this.

Thanks,  
Zach Schlagel

Zach Schlagel  
Senior Director of Public Policy  
PATH  
(619) 709-4677



[www.epath.org](http://www.epath.org)

