



City of Arts & Innovation

Commission on Disabilities

TO: HONORABLE COMMISSIONERS **DATE: MARCH 4, 2019**

FROM: GENERAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

**SUBJECT: PRESENTATION FROM THE RIVERSIDE CLERGY ASSOCIATION
PRESIDENT ABOUT HOMELESSNESS AND HOW FAITH-BASED
ORGANIZATIONS CAN PROVIDE RESOURCES AND ASSISTANCE**

ISSUE:

Receive an oral presentation from the Riverside Clergy Association President about homelessness and how faith-based organizations can provide resources and assistance.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Commission on Disabilities receive an oral presentation from the Riverside Clergy Association President about homelessness and how faith based organizations can provide resources and assistance.

BACKGROUND:

The Commission on Disabilities' (COD) mission is to identify the needs of persons with disabilities and create a public awareness of these needs in the areas of employment, housing, transportation, media, and physical and communication accessibility. The mission also supports programs and activities that promote greater independence of persons with disabilities.

DISCUSSION:

Individuals and families facing homelessness often turn to faith-based organizations seeking help and refuge. Faith-based organizations often find homeless individuals camped around churches, which can be disruptive and contribute to the spread of debris. The COD has been discussing resources available to help residents facing homelessness in the City of Riverside. Various stakeholders such as behavioral health housing administrators, behavioral health providers, City of Riverside Human Resources Department (providing programs to improve job opportunities), veteran advocates and others have provided helpful resources.

The Riverside Clergy Association (RCA) President is seeking information, resources and collaboration with organizations which can provide information and solutions to homeless

residents. These resources can be shared with other faith-based organizations so that appropriate assistance can be given to people and families facing homelessness.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact associated with this report.

Submitted by: Monique Gordon, ADA Coordinator
Approved by: Carl Carey, General Services Director
Approved by: Moises Lopez, Deputy City Manager