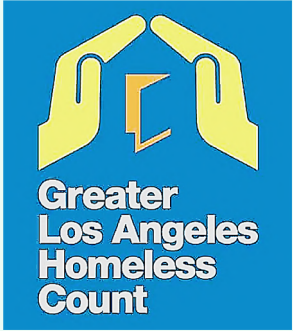




Happy New Year!

How your investment is changing the future for individuals and leading the way to life in recovery!

By the Numbers: Count and Be Counted!



The Point-in-Time (PIT) count assesses the number of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness in LA County on a single night in January. The PIT count helps the County of Los Angeles determine where funds are needed the most. Each count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally. Knowing where our homeless neighbors are is key to making sure they get on their feet.

The Greater Los Angeles PIT Count takes place on January 21, 22 (West Los Angeles), and 23, and covers all LA County except the cities of Glendale, Pasadena, and Long Beach, which conduct their own counts. Please sign-up to volunteer in your neighborhood today at www.theycountwillyou.org. If you live in Santa Monica please visit www.weare.santamonica.gov/homeless-count

If you are interested in seeing the 2019 results, visit www.stepuponsecond.org/news-up and download the report.

PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING



When Luke (pictured with Lorraine Iocolano and Eunice Aguilar) first enrolled in Step Up's Intensive Service Recipient Full Service Partnership

Program in September 2018, he was living in a shelter on Skid Row and displayed symptoms of severe schizophrenia and active substance dependence. Luke was unable to communicate and spent much of his time isolated in his room. In a collaborative partnership with the Department of Mental Health Whole Person Care (WPC), Luke received a housing voucher and is now actively seeking housing. He is working part-time and loves to socialize.

Luke was honored at the DMH WPC Becoming Whole Again Peer Resource Event where he received the "Light of Hope Award" for "striving to make continued progress in never giving up to become whole again." Step Up is proud of Luke's rapid success and looks forward to seeing him advance as he continues to work on his recovery.

A SPECIAL CELEBRATION



On Thursday, December 19th, Step Up celebrated the holidays at Building 209 with the Vets and our volunteer crew (pictured). Thank you to our volunteers for all their amazing work in 2019. They helped our garden grow and led cooking classes! They helped create monthly dinners. The volunteers donated and sorted welcome kits. They stuffed envelopes... and much more! Much gratitude to each and every volunteer for all your efforts to connect and contribute to our community. Looking forward to lots more volunteer fun in 2020!

A SENSE OF BELONGING



Carolyn Healy (pictured on right with Kat Fitzmorris on left) has started as Step Up's first Community Engagement Coordinator. Carolyn has spent the last year as an AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer Coordinator building out a formal volunteer program for the agency. Carolyn will continue to engage the community on Step Up's behalf to build relationships that bring more volunteers and more resources to assist with our programs.

Step Up has been awarded another AmeriCorps VISTA Volunteer Coordinator through L.A. Works. Katherine "Kat" Fitzmorris is excited to serve the community and work alongside Carolyn. A recent graduate with a B.A. in linguistics from the University of California - Davis, Kat will continue improving the Volunteer Program and collaborate with Carolyn, Step Up staff, and members. If you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please visit www.stepuponsecond.org.

LEARN MORE ABOUT STEP UP.
Take a Tour! New Times!



Hollywood • Step Up on Vine
Wednesday, January 22
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

Santa Monica • Step Up on Colorado
Wednesday, January 29
4:30 pm - 5:30 pm

For more information, please contact
Julia Salazar, Director of Development
(310) 696-4510 ext 2210