



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas Tours The People Concern's Newly Opened C3 Homeless Services Center

The Newly Renovated Mollie Lowery and Frank Rice Center will serve The People Concern's C3 program participants who are experiencing homelessness in Skid Row.

(LOS ANGELES – June 29, 2020) Los Angeles County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas toured the new Mollie Lowery and Frank Rice Center (C3 Center) in Skid Row Friday alongside staff from the Department of Health Services and The People Concern -- a nonprofit at the forefront of ending homelessness and domestic violence in our community through housing and comprehensive services. The C3 Center takes over an existing building that has been newly renovated to serve C3 (County, City, Community) Outreach program participants who are experiencing homelessness in Skid Row using a comprehensive, multi-disciplinary approach.

The C3 Center is a two-story facility located in the heart of Skid Row that will provide access to showers and hygiene products, food, mental health services, medical care, case management services and life skills and wellness workshops to C3 program participants. On-site medical services administered by Los Angeles Christian Health Centers will also be housed in the remodeled building. The C3 Center will accommodate 30 trained staff members.

"C3 street outreach teams are essential workers in the fight against homelessness, and they're on the frontlines every day," said Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, who helped fund the first C3 street outreach teams in Skid Row in 2015 that became the prototype for the multi-disciplinary street outreach teams currently operating all over Los Angeles County, thanks to Measure H. "With homelessness and COVID-19 deepening, we have a crisis within a crisis and must redouble our efforts to help the homeless. The Mollie Lowery and Frank Rice Center is an expansion and evolution of our services for our unsheltered neighbors, and underscores our commitment to bringing Everyone In."

The construction of the C3 Center was funded and contracted through the Department of Health Services' (DHS) Housing for Health Division in partnership with The People Concern.

"DHS-Housing for Health is excited for the re-opening of the Mollie Lowery and Frank Rice Center. The partnership between The People Concern and DHS-Housing for Health in

renovating and revitalizing this building has been amazing and will result in critical services being provided to the residents of this neighborhood,” said Elizabeth Boyce, Director of Street-Based Engagement, Interim Housing, Enriched Residential Care for DHS Housing for Health.

Before the completion of this site, all services rendered by The People Concern’s C3 Outreach Team took place on the streets with the goal of forming relationships and providing services to establish trust, and ultimately connect people with stable housing - from Board & Care facilities to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH). C3 Outreach Teams are made up of mental health clinicians, substance abuse case managers, case managers, and medical staff.

“Our team serves the most vulnerable folks and we are thrilled to be able to expand our services and offer C3 participants a safe community space to catch their breath and receive critical services,” notes Ciara DeVozza, C3 Director for The People Concern.

The C3 Center will not be a “walk-in” center for the public, but instead is exclusively aimed to serve the 250+ individuals who have been identified by The People Concern’s C3 Outreach Team as the most vulnerable and hard to reach.

“The opening of this Center enables our C3 Outreach Team to streamline service delivery by having a brick-and-mortar location where C3 participants can find comprehensive care under one roof. This facility makes it possible for the most vulnerable in the Skid Row area to rebuild their lives,” said John Maceri, CEO of The People Concern.

About The People Concern

One of Los Angeles County’s largest social services agencies, The People Concern is at the forefront of ending homelessness through its proven approach that focuses on housing first with wraparound services. The People Concern provides a fully integrated system of care – including outreach, housing services, mental and medical health care, substance abuse services, life skills, and wellness programs – tailored to the unique needs of homeless individuals and victims of domestic violence. Ninety-two percent of those in housing supported with wraparound retention services will never be homeless again. For more information, visit www.thepeopleconcern.org.