



# FactSheet

## La Mesa Emergency Shelter

- **What:** temporary homeless shelter with supportive services
- **Where:** 3035 E. La Mesa St.
- **Beds:** 102
- **Why:**
  - Expands Anaheim's ability to help people out of homelessness
  - Allows Anaheim to continue addressing impacts on parks, neighborhoods and streets
  - Part of settlement of Orange County Catholic Worker lawsuit against county of Orange, Anaheim and others
    - ▶ See *Catholic Worker Lawsuit* below
- **Building:** 12,500 square feet, with 10,000-square-foot outdoor space
- **Features:**
  - Men's, women's, couples, family living spaces
  - Single beds, individual nightstands, privacy partitions
  - Personal storage space
  - Restrooms, showers
  - Kitchen, dining
  - Lounge area with TV
  - Computers
  - Pets
  - Outdoor recreation space





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- **Owner:** city of Anaheim
- **Total cost:** \$12 million for building acquisition, buildout and operation
- **Funding:** proceeds from prior city land sales, surplus city revenue
- **Contractors:** Bentley Construction Remodeling Inc., Horizons Construction Co., Caisteal Builders Inc.
- **Operator:** Orange-based Illumination Foundation
- **Employees:** 15, including program manager, therapists, case managers, counselors
- **Operational period:** up to three years until the opening of Salvation Army Center of Hope and additional beds across north Orange County
- **Serving:** homeless referred by Anaheim's outreach workers, the Anaheim Police Department, others dealing with homelessness in the city
- **Security:** private security onsite; Anaheim Police to patrol, respond and oversee security to ensure public safety and minimal impact on surrounding areas, similar to what has been done at Bridges at Kraemer Place
  - ▶ *See Bridges at Kraemer Place in Addressing Homelessness below*
- **Timeline:**
  - **December 2018:** building acquisition, exterior work
  - **Jan. 7, 2019:** interior work begins
  - **Feb. 22, 2019:** build completed
  - **March 6, 2019:** shelter opening, first residents

### Illumination Foundation

- **What:** nonprofit working to prevent homelessness, transition families and others living in homelessness to housing
- **Founded:** 2007
- **Headquarters:** Orange
- **Services:** weekly outreach, case management, medical care, mental health and workforce services, emergency, transitional and permanent housing
- **Shelters, facilities:** 16
- **Locations:** Orange County, Los Angeles, Inland Empire
- **Anaheim:**
  - **2018:** Illumination Foundation opens, operates 200-bed Anaheim Interim Emergency Shelter
  - **2014:** Illumination Foundation starts program with Anaheim, Anaheim Union High School District for homeless students, families
  - **2015:** identified, placed families at Rockwood Apartments, an Anaheim community with supportive services for formerly homeless families and others that opened in 2016



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- **Location:** Anaheim Canyon industrial area, near Riverside (91) Freeway and across from county-run, 200-bed Bridges at Kraemer Place Homeless Shelter
- **Prior building use:** Piano Empire Megastore, family business with about five employees that sold pianos to families, schools, community center, others
- **Zoning:** shelter permitted under SB2 zoning created by California Senate Bill 2, a 2007 law streamlining emergency shelters
- **Anaheim shelter crisis resolution:** adopted August 2018, commits city to expanding shelter and services on an urgent basis



## Addressing Homelessness

- **What:** Anaheim's initiative to address homelessness through weekly outreach, access to services, permanent housing placement and enforcement through public safety and code enforcement
- **Impact:** Since January 2014, 1,819 homeless people have been helped off the streets of Anaheim and placed in housing or reunited with family, with a 90 percent retention rate
- **How:** Anaheim's comprehensive approach centers on housing first, a proven model that prioritizes getting people into housing with supportive services
- **Weekly outreach:** Five days a week, the city's nonprofit partner City Net and Anaheim Police homeless outreach officers contact those living in homelessness, offering case management services and a path to housing

**1,819**

People transitioned  
from homelessness in  
Anaheim since  
January 2014



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## Addressing Homelessness

- **Anaheim Homeless Collaborative:** more than 100 nonprofits, faith-based groups and government agencies working with City Net to provide access to housing, healthcare and other service
- **Bridges at Kraemer Place:** Anaheim serves as host city and contributed \$500,000 for Orange County's first year-round homeless shelter, the 200-bed Bridges at Kraemer Place, opened in May 2017
- **Drug Free Anaheim:** city program, led by the Anaheim Police Department, connecting drug users with treatment as a potential alternative to arrest and prosecution; has helped more than 400 people since starting in January 2017
- **Pathways to work:**
  - **Better Way Anaheim:** program offering volunteer community service projects for those who are homeless, launched December 2017 with more than 400 participants
  - **Chrysalis:** Los-Angeles based nonprofit offering a pathway to self-sufficiency through work with job placements, opened Anaheim office in November 2018
- **Affordable housing:** Anaheim is home to 12 affordable housing communities with rent-voucher assistance from the city's Housing Authority



## Catholic Worker Lawsuit

- **What:** federal lawsuit filed Jan. 29, 2018 by Orange County Catholic Worker and individual plaintiffs Lisa Bell, Shawn Carroll, Melissa Fields, Larry Ford, Cameron Ralston, Kathy Schuler and Gloria Shoemake
- **Against:** county of Orange, the cities of Anaheim, Costa Mesa and Orange
- **Presiding federal judge:** David O. Carter



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## Catholic Worker Lawsuit

- **Why:** plaintiffs contended that the county and cities did not have enough shelter beds in place to clear homeless living along the Santa Ana River Trail and asked for a suspension of camping laws in cities
- **Update:** 700 people were cleared from the river trail in February 2018 by the county of Orange; county, cities and plaintiffs began court-supervised talks about ways to expand shelters across Orange County
- **Anaheim settlement:** Nov. 2, 2018
- **Beds:** settlement commits Anaheim to providing 325 shelter beds by early 2019
- **Enforcement:** settlement allows Anaheim to uphold park hours and city ordinances with warnings for violations and offers of shelter and services
- **Plaintiffs' attorneys:** Brooke Weitzman, William Wise of Elder Law and Disability Rights Center; Carol A. Sobel, Monique Alarcon, Avneet Chattha of Law Office of Carol A. Sobel; Paul L. Hoffman, Catherine Sweetser and Colleen M. Mullen of Schonbrun, Seplow, Harris & Hoffman