



# MORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

This Memorandum of Understanding (“MOU”) is entered into by and between the **Los Angeles Dream Center**, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation (“Dream Center”), and the **City of Hawthorne**, a California municipal corporation (“City”). Dream Center and City may be referred to individually as a “Party” and collectively as the “Parties.”

## I. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this MOU is to establish a cooperative and non binding framework for collaboration between the Parties to address the needs of persons experiencing homelessness (“PEH”) within the City of Hawthorne. This MOU is intended to clarify roles, outline areas of collaboration, and promote coordinated service delivery consistent with each Party’s mission, authority, and available resources.

Nothing in this MOU is intended to, nor shall it be construed to, create a partnership, joint venture, or agency relationship between the Parties, nor to obligate either Party to expend funds or enter into any contract.

## II. PROGRAMMATIC GOALS

The Parties share the following programmatic goals:

- To improve engagement and outreach to PEH in Hawthorne;
- To increase access to supportive services, referrals, and basic needs resources;
- To enhance coordination among service providers;
- To support City led initiatives and events focused on homelessness response; and
- To explore funding and resource opportunities that advance these objectives.

## III. AREAS OF COLLABORATION

Subject to available capacity, funding, and mutual agreement, the Parties may collaborate in the following areas:

### A. Outreach and Engagement

- Coordinated street based and site based outreach efforts within Hawthorne.
- Engagement activities designed to build trust and connect PEH to services.

## B. Dream Center Programmatic Services

The Dream Center may provide, as available and appropriate, the following services to PEH in Hawthorne:

- **Homeless Outreach and Engagement**
- **Case Management and Service Navigation**
- **Referrals to Emergency Shelter, Transitional Housing, and Recovery Programs**
- **Food Distribution and Hunger Relief Programs**
- **Clothing, Hygiene, and Basic Needs Support**
- **Life Skills, Employment Readiness, and Recovery Oriented Programming**

Services are provided at no guarantee of capacity and are subject to Dream Center policies and program eligibility requirements.

## C. Service Provider Coordination and Referrals

- Bi-directional referrals between the Parties and partner agencies.
- Participation in care coordination meetings, case conferencing, or service alignment efforts when appropriate.

## D. Monday PEH Events at the Hawthorne Memorial Center

- Collaboration on PEH-focused Monday events hosted at the Hawthorne Memorial Center.
- Dream Center participation as a service provider, resource partner, or outreach entity, subject to scheduling and space availability.

## E. City-Driven Events and Vendor Opportunities

- Opportunities for Dream Center to participate as a vendor or nonprofit partner at City-sponsored events.
- Outreach, service promotion, and resource distribution during such events, subject to City policies and approvals.

## F. Grant and Funding Collaboration (When Applicable)

- Exploration of joint or complementary grant applications.
- Any financial obligations, scope of work, or reporting requirements shall be governed by separate written agreements.

## G. Donations and In-Kind Resources

- Coordination related to donated goods or in kind resources, subject to availability and applicable regulations.

## IV. ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

### A. Los Angeles Dream Center

The Dream Center shall:

- Provide services consistent with its mission, capacity, and nonprofit status;
- Maintain all required licenses, insurance, and compliance obligations;
- Coordinate with the City and partner agencies as appropriate;
- Protect confidential client information in accordance with applicable law; and
- Bear sole responsibility for its staff, volunteers, and operations.

### B. City of Hawthorne

The City shall:

- Support coordination of homelessness response efforts within the City;
- Facilitate access to City led events and facilities as approved and appropriate;
- Provide communication and logistical coordination related to City initiatives;
- Maintain compliance with all applicable municipal, state, and federal laws.

## V. DATA SHARING AND CONFIDENTIALITY

The Parties acknowledge that any exchange of information involving PEH may be subject to confidentiality and privacy laws, including but not limited to HIPAA, HMIS requirements, and applicable state and federal regulations.

- No personally identifiable information shall be shared without proper authorization.
- Any data sharing shall occur only as permitted by law and, if necessary, pursuant to a separate written data sharing agreement.
- Each Party agrees to maintain the confidentiality of non public information received from the other Party.

## VI. INDEMNIFICATION AND LIABILITY

Each Party shall be responsible for the acts and omissions of its own officers, employees, agents, volunteers, and contractors. To the extent permitted by law, each Party agrees to indemnify, defend, and hold harmless the other Party from claims arising out of its own negligent or wrongful acts or omissions.

## VII. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS

Each Party shall designate a principal contact for coordination under this MOU.

### **Los Angeles Dream Center**

Chase Garcia  
Director of Transitions and Veterans Programs  
(714) 605-2726  
Email: cgarcia@dreamcenter.org

### **City of Hawthorne**

Kimberly Mack  
Director of Housing  
(310) 349-1603  
Email: kmack@cityofhawthorne.org

## VIII. TERM, AMENDMENT, AND TERMINATION

This MOU shall become effective on **February 24, 2026**, and shall remain in effect on an open-ended basis unless terminated by either Party upon written notice.

This MOU may be amended only by a written document signed by authorized representatives of both Parties.

## IX. NON-BINDING NATURE


This MOU is not a contract and does not create enforceable financial or legal obligations. Any future agreements involving funding, services, or use of facilities shall be documented in separate written agreements approved by the appropriate authorities.

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## X. SIGNATURES

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Parties have executed this Memorandum of Understanding as of the dates set forth below.

### **Los Angeles Dream Center Foundation**

Signature:   
Chase Garcia  
Chief Program Officer  
Date: 2/17/26

### **City of Hawthorne**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Vontray Norris

City Manager

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Authorized Representative (Third Signature)**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

David Caceres

Interim City Attorney

Date: \_\_\_\_\_