

February 6, 2024

Contact: Amanda F. Totah
Communications Officer
Amanda.totah@bos.sbcounty.gov



PRESS RELEASE

COUNTY SUPERVISOR JESSE ARMENDAREZ SECURES \$10 MILLION FOR HOMELESS HOUSING PROJECTS

Fontana, CA. - Today, San Bernardino County Supervisor Jesse Armendarez, with the support of the Board of Supervisors, has successfully secured \$10,000,000 to support new homeless housing projects with beds expected to be provided as early as Summer 2024. This funding aims to address the pressing issue of homelessness in our community.

County Supervisor Jesse Armendarez emphasized the urgency of the situation, stating “Seniors, veterans, and at-risk youth are facing the harsh reality of homelessness and we have a responsibility to act swiftly. These programs will ensure that beds are made available within just months allowing us to begin the crucial work of transitioning individuals off the streets and into housing programs.”

One of the flagship projects successfully securing \$5,000,000 is the CityLink Campus, located at the corner of Arrow and Citrus in Fontana. This transformative initiative, developed in partnership with the Water of Life Community Church and the City of Fontana, will serve as a multi-use community support outreach center and supportive housing site. The CityLink program aims to expand essential services such as food distribution, interim housing units, childcare services, and permanent housing units significantly increasing sheltering and housing capacity countywide.

Dr. Dan Carroll, the Founder and Senior Pastor of Water of Life Community Church in commended Supervisor Armendarez and the Board of Supervisors for their commitment to addressing homelessness. “This investment reflects the County’s dedication to providing essential services to those in need within our community. Supervisor Armendarez’s leadership exemplifies our collective commitment to creating a better future for all residents.”

Promises Made. Promises Kept.

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In addition to the CityLink Campus, the City of Fontana successfully also received \$5,000,000 from San Bernardino County towards advancing its efforts to acquire a motel on Valley Boulevard in Fontana for use as interim housing for families and individuals who are experiencing homelessness or are at risk of homelessness. This project expected to open in July of this year, will provide 60 rooms with double beds in each operating 24 hours a day to offer vital services to those in need.

Fontana Mayor Acquanetta Warren expressed her appreciation from San Bernardino County stating, "This grant represents a significant step forward in our ongoing efforts to address homelessness in Fontana. With the support of San Bernardino County, we are expanding our capacity to provide vital housing resources for those most in need within our community."

The collaboration between County Supervisor Jesse Armendarez, the Board of Supervisors, and local partners underscores a collective commitment to addressing homelessness and creating a more inclusive and supportive community for all residents.

Both grants awarded by the Board of Supervisors are initial project recipients from the San Bernardino County Housing Development Grant Fund approved by the Board of Supervisors in March 2023. The County Housing Development Grant Initiative was funded with \$20,000,000 of General Fund Discretionary Funds is offered to third parties to support homeless housing projects, with a focus on the construction of new units, that provide additional housing beds, which may include emergency shelters. The goal of the initiative is to create and operate additional low-cost housing units for homeless and displaced individuals.

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