



WCH NOTES for December 12, 2018

Whittier College On Point

College's Center for Engagement With Communities Moves on Students & Homelessness in Whittier



Last year, Whittier College's [Center for Engagement with Communities](#) (CEC) partnered with the WCH in an effort to join the conversation on homelessness in our community. During a WCH meeting, a saddening set of statistics was discussed: [homelessness among students in Whittier](#) (and the Greater Whittier area). In short, **there is estimated to be about 2,500 students in our K-12 system who are experiencing homelessness** (endsource.org, 2017). The WCH has representation from Whittier City School District, and through the CEC, Whittier College. The representative from Whittier College, Gina DiPierro, wasted no time in catalyzing ideas to address not only their own College's concerns related to homelessness, but concerns related to students on all campuses in Whittier and homelessness. Whittier College also reached out to Rio Hondo College. The CEC, with the support of the WCH, convened a Student Homeless Coalition and brought districts, agencies

and departments together to dig into the issues and to find ways to help. The Rotary Club of Whittier heard of the CEC's work and decided to support the cause for both Rio Hondo and Whittier Colleges this holiday season. The Rotary raised funds by hosting a Bingo night fundraiser at [Brookdale, Uptown Whittier](#) (with help from [Tom Rios](#). Chairperson from Rotary set an initial goal of raising \$1,000, however through the groups passion and dedication, a total of \$1,841.90 was raised.

CEC is presently collecting toiletries for Whittier school districts for their efforts in supporting students experiencing homelessness. If you are able to give, please contact the [CEC](#).

A Community Response



Whittier Happenings on Homelessness

WHITTIER FIRST DAY CELEBRATES IN THE PARADE TO BRING AWARENESS

[Whittier First Day](#) participated in the 2018 Uptown Whittier Christmas Parade. Bringing awareness to the concern of homelessness and its mission to support transition to self-sufficiency. Whittier First Day's executive director Irene Muro is instrumental in the community with finding help and solutions for people experiencing homelessness. Whittier First Day has been a key partner in the Whittier Consortium on homelessness and can always use your support. If you would like to support Whittier First Day, please use the link above to contact them or email admin@whittierhomeless.org.

WHITTIER TOGETHER, GIVES TO SUPPORT WHITTIER COLLEGE'S CEC

A group of Whittier community members called Whittier Together sent a delivery of over 1,000 toiletry items to Whittier College's Center For Engagement With Communities. Collected during a weekend Christmas party, the group collected the items from guests in support of the CEC's work with our public school partners.

STILL TIME TO GIVE

If you are looking for a way to support, please consider stopping by Saturday, December 15th from 5:00 p.m. - 7 p.m. For more information, please contact Cecilia Gomez Reyes at Whittier First Day (562-945-4304).



TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING AND GOOD CHEER!

Holiday Community Dinner

PLEASE HELP THOSE IN NEED BY DONATING
Blankets, Jackets and Socks
for
Men, Women and Children

If you are interested in becoming an event sponsor or providing a contribution please contact Whittier First Day, Cecilia Gómez Reyes at 562.945.4304 or cecilia@whittierfirstday.org

Whittier First Day, a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit, was built on the mission to help homeless and at-risk individuals and families in the Greater Whittier Area to transition toward self-sufficiency.

TIS THE SEASON OF GIVING AND GOOD CHEER!

Mayor Pro-Tem Josue Alvarado and Whittier First Day invite you to a

Holiday Community Dinner

Free to the Community
All are Welcome

DECEMBER 15, 5 PM - 7 PM

BOYS & GIRLS CLUB OF WHITTIER
7905 GREENLEAF AVE., WHITTIER
TO RSVP OR MORE INFO: 562.945.4304

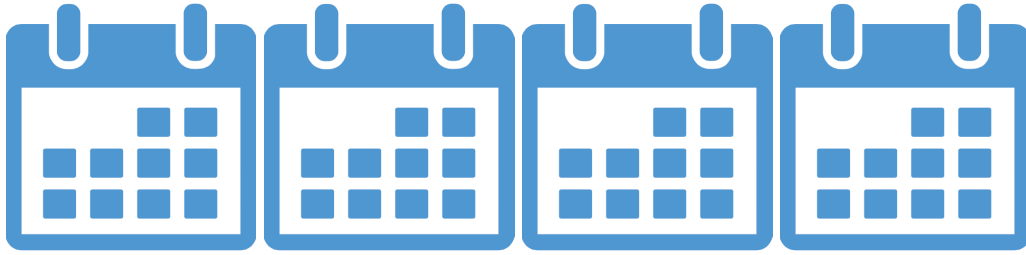
Special thanks to the support of Majority Leader Ian Calderon and Boys & Girls Club of Whittier

AUNTIES CARES WITH COOKIES!

If you attending this year's Christmas Sonata, you may have stopped by [Aunties Bakery and Cafe](#) on Greenleaf. If you are one of those many people who did stop by to decorate cookies, did you know that a portion of what you purchased went to the Whittier Consortium on Homelessness? Aunties committed to giving the WCH a portion of the income from the Christmas cookie sales. We were present to meet and greet customers and to share in the fun! Thank you to Aunties!



**money from Aunties will be used to support WCH website, and office supplies type resources needed to run the community meetings. All WCH work is done by community, unpaid volunteers and participating partners such as Whole Child, Whittier First Day, and the City of Whittier (for a list, please see our [website](#)).



Upcoming

JAN.2019: **Mark your calendars for the January 2019 [LAHSA](#) Point in Time count.**

Popularly called *the homeless count*, this annual volunteer activated count is an important activity that results in an estimation of the number of people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County. The count is done by community/city, and we hope you will consider helping Whittier Count. The count date is Wednesday, **January, 23, 2019 (7:30p-midnight)**. For more information, please see the “They Count, Will You” website: <https://www.theycountwillyou.org/>



admin@whittierhomeless.org

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