

REACHING OUT

EFFECTING CHANGE ONE PERSON AT A TIME



H U N T I N G T O N B E A C H P O L I C E D E P A R T M E N T

A Message From Chief Handy



It has been three years since the HBPD established its Homeless Task Force. Our first HTF officer hit the streets in 2015 and was dedicated exclusively to issues involving homeless individuals. He was tasked with a brand of enforcement that included relationship development and outreach. Officer Ricci, who is still with the HTF, was asked to help homeless individuals get off the street - a daunting challenge.



Kellee Fritzal (far right) of the Office of Business Development has been instrumental in HTF housing success

Since that time, we have added a Coordinator, a second officer and three Case Managers. We have constructed a philosophy built on self-respect. We do not give out items, but rather, hope. We encourage those asking for our assistance to do their part. As you know, this can be a difficult demographic to serve, but our team works hard to facilitate avenues we believe will be most effective in the long run. We are proud that we have helped 226 get off the streets. Thank you for supporting us and being a part of the solution.

And How is Officer Schloss...?

Making good use of his time in Cuba, it turns out. Not only is he working on a Master's Degree, Officer Schloss joined the Board of Directors of the Heroes of America Foundation Inc., a 501(c)(3) nonprofit based in Las Vegas, Nevada. Their mission is to provide aid to the people who dedicate their lives to public service - members of law enforcement, fire department agencies, nurses, teachers, social workers, and members of the United States Armed Forces. Their primary focus is disaster relief but their current project is called Operation Holiday Overseas, the goal of which is to give men and women serving overseas a memorable holiday season. You can check out their website at www.heroesofamerica.org and read about the good things they have done.



Officer Schloss' daily view of the Caribbean

Meet the New Case Managers



From left: Hayley Yantorn and Lisa Roberts

Hayley Yantorn earned a Bachelor of Science in Human Services with a focus in mental health, as well as a Master's Degree in Psychology. Hayley's experience includes social work with medically compromised senior citizens, in addition to years of work supporting the needs of autistic children.

Hayley was drawn to the HTF because she was interested in serving a new demographic. Yet, the issues attendant to homelessness are not entirely new to her, as many of her former clients were precariously housed themselves.

When asked about the best part of the job,

Hayley replies, "Seeing someone move forward and enjoy small successes – like getting an ID. All forward momentum creates motivation. It's palpable."

Lisa Roberts began her career as an attorney, practicing family law, estate planning and business litigation for years. She eventually shut down her practice to focus on raising her four children. When she decided to re-enter the job market, she was drawn to positions more aligned with her undergraduate major. Having obtained a degree from UCI in Social Ecology with an emphasis in social justice, Lisa sought employment that allowed her to focus her energy on helping others.

Best part of the job? "The physical transformation you see when somebody has hope. It changes their appearance and it can be heard in their voice. It is really incredible."

When asked what message they would impart to readers, Lisa states, "**There is no slogan solution to homelessness.** It's a lot more complicated than people realize. The stories we hear on outreach give us just a glimpse of the difficulties." To the same question, Hayley responds, "**My focus is on individuals, not numbers.** I serve one person at a time, hoping that my attention and encouragement will motivate them in a new direction.

RECENT SUCCESS



LEFT: These young people were brought to the attention of the HTF. They were both working part-time, but unable to afford rent and were living in a vehicle. After completing a certificate program in Criminal Justice, the young man asked for help returning home. **ECOLOGY TIRES** and **BIG O TIRES** ensured a safe trip. The HTF and a local church paid for gas. Teamwork! The couple was quite grateful and hope to one day pay it forward.

RIGHT: A recently housed client returned to thank Lisa for her effort.

