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From: Robin Ferencz Kotfica <rkotfica@gmail.com>

Sent: Saturday, November 9, 2024 8:17 AM

To: Christian Gutierrez <christian.gutierrez@carlsbadca.gov>

Subject: More ideas about the homeless situation

Dear Christian Gutierrez,

I have reviewed the reports on Homelessness and commend the City for doing what they are. But there are two things that have not been considered.

The City might consider setting up a special Fund, comprised of tax-free donations, from local residents and businesses, that could supply local families in need, with temporary and immediate assistance, providing rent money or mortgage shortfalls, when these families have suffered an unforeseen set-back, leaving them in situations where they would become homeless. Many people in Carlsbad have extra money, and would be willing to help these families, rather than seeing them begging on street corners with their children and pets. A special homeless relief fund could be held within the Housing Department. The local council representatives could let their constituents know that donations would be accepted, and that families with a temporary need could be assisted.

Also, the City could maintain a list of donors, and in the event of insufficient money in the Fund, if they were willing, some of those donors could be called on to make additional donations, if needed.

Vagrants can sometimes be seen near the beaches and bus stops, who often leave remnants of drugs, alcohol, trash, clothing and more unsightly messes before they move on. The City could consider providing a small community space with tents, if needed, near some of these locations, and provide bathrooms and showers, similar to what exists in train stations, drinking water, and trash disposal. These facilities should be available to these people, with the condition that they must WORK there for 2- 4 hours a day, helping to maintain the cleanliness of the facility. The program could be overseen by a Carlsbad employee or a Carlsbad community volunteer. By requiring a few hours of maintenance work, the facility would remain sanitary, and also would provide these individuals with an opportunity to help improve their self-esteem through productive work. If other passers-by needed to use the facilities, that should also be accommodated for a fee, or, for help with trash clean up or other maintenance work.

Please share these ideas with the appropriate people.

Many thanks,

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