



MEDIA RELEASE

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Update on the 2nd Street Campsite: Compassionate Enforcement of Camping Ordinance

Sutter County - The 2nd Street Overnight Campsite in Sutter County has recently served as a helpful transition spot for many struggling with homelessness as the County implements its camping ordinance enforcement via a compassionate, collaborative, and proactive approach. Since August 7, 2025, the 2nd Street Campsite has seen an increase in use, with 67 unique individuals utilizing the overnight campsite.

The 2nd Street Overnight Campsite serves as an entry path to available emergency shelter to include Sutter County Health and Human Services (HHS) Better Way Shelter, with 26 individuals accepting placement at Better Way via Coordinated Entry. In addition, the Twin Cities Rescue Mission, Habitat for Humanity, and the Life Building Center have expanded capacity, when possible, by adding cots as real time information sharing on needs is occurring.

The collaboration of multi-disciplinary teams providing services to unhoused individuals continues to make a significant impact by providing coordinated support to folks at the 2nd street campsite through multi-agency response. While no one agency has the resources to respond on its own, Sutter County collaborates with external partners Adventist Health & Rideout, Ampla Health, Habitat for Humanity, Harmony Health and Partnership HealthPlan. "There is a tremendous benefit to working together," said Sarah Eberhardt-Rios, Sutter County's HHS Director. "All these agencies bring specific resources and skills, and it takes all of us to help address the needs and complexities of folks struggling with homelessness in a coordinated fashion. From primary and specialty care to housing and sheltering services, it takes us all working together, and there is no one more important in this team than the client."

Chuck, a recent resident at Better Way, stated that he is "better off at Better Way than down there at 2nd Street. I want people to know you're better off here than on the streets."

"Certainly, this is a commitment of significant resources," Sheriff Brandon Barnes said. "Sutter County Sheriff's Department does not have a Homeless Liaison Officer position, so this work is on top of other duties. While we know this work is valuable to the community, a more permanent solution is needed from a staffing perspective."

Sutter County HHS, along with community homeless partners, will continue to coordinate with local law enforcement agencies, as enforcement of the camping ordinance continues.

For more information about the 2nd Street Campsite Compassionate Enforcement of Camping Ordinance, email sgonzal@co.sutter.ca.us or phone 530-649-6882.