

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: Hello My name is Shenette Holman, I am an advocate and for women experiencing homelessness and domestic violence survivors. As a survivor of domestic violence I can honestly tell you it is both a terrible and scary feeling to have to wonder will you be placed back into the streets during an unprecedented coronavirus infections surge as Los Angeles nears a shut down or return back to the abusive partner that they were extremely fortunate to be able to flee with not only your life but your families life(s) as well. Ask yourself is that a decision that you or anyone in your family should have to make? In Less than a year Project Safe Have has helped house and provide services to nearly 2 thousand Domestic Violence survivors and their families. Without continued funding in that same amount of time that a possible news headline could read nearly 2 thousand victims and their families have died from either being homeless and becoming infected with Covid-19 or murdered by their abusive partner due to the lack of funding to provide a safe Haven. This is a challenging time for the city's budget, yet as this public-spirited committee talks about how to use future H-HAP money from the state of California, I sincerely urge you to use these funds, or any other source of money, to extend Project Safe Haven. Often times when survivors are able to flee their abusive households they are only able to flee with the clothes on their back. Due to the pandemic a substantial amount of our business, and essential employess are only able to be accessed or offer services virtually. Therefore without the use of a smartphone, tablet, or computer with internet data or access to Wifi it is even more challenging to locate or even access shelters and other much need resources. Which then leaves the survivor feeling powerless. This can lead to the survivor feeling the need to abandon hope of living an unabusive life and return to their abusive household or reject the thought of fleeing the abusive household all together. There is an abundant amount of E-Waste (discarded electronics) that can be recycled and repaired and given to survivors to allow them to seek services and rescoures. Wifi and hotspots should not be a barrier to ones survival. On the behalf of future survivors, I would like to thank you for your time and attention.