

Communication from Public

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Comments for Public Posting: One of Los Angeles County's largest housing and social services agencies, The People Concern is an expert in connecting with people on the streets, bringing them inside and then keeping them inside. Drug overdoses are sadly the leading cause of death among people experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County. Specifically to counter opioid overdoses, The People Concern has been utilizing naloxone since 2018 and distributing to community members since 2020. In our 2021-2022 fiscal year, our agency distributed 3,576 naloxone overdose prevention kits and reversed at least 56 opioid overdoses. The People Concern trains all staff and interns in the use of naloxone and all community members that receive naloxone from us. More agencies and individuals need to have access to naloxone and be prepared to administer it to prevent rising, avoidable opioid overdose deaths. The People Concern strongly supports the recommendations in the October 4, 2022 CLA report regarding the training of additional city staff on the use of naloxone and the staff of organizations who contract with departments who encounter people experiencing homelessness. The agency also supports efforts to sponsor or support legislation regarding drug overdose prevention and treatment, and expanded harm reduction efforts.