



Help Orange County Families Connect  
#homelessfamiliescount

# Orange County Family Assessment Week

## Ending Family Homelessness in Orange County

Tuesday May 23rd–Thursday May 25th

Community Briefing: Friday, June 2nd 9am–11am • Costa Mesa City Council Chambers

### What is the Family Assessment Week?

The Orange County Family Assessment week will be a focused effort to reach all of the community’s homeless families through the combined effort of the County of Orange, 211OC and the A2 Family Cohort. The A2 Family Cohort is comprised of the following organizations: American Family Housing, Families Forward, Family Assistance Ministries, Mercy House, Pathways of Hope, and South County Outreach. The A2 Family Cohort was created in 2014 to collaborate in the shared vision of ending family homelessness. Since its start, the A2 Cohort has added partners such as Serving People In Need and Colette’s Children’s Home to align our efforts and end family homelessness.

### Our principles

We believe we can end family homelessness in Orange County by providing appropriate housing interventions to meet each family’s needs. By knowing each homeless family by name and having an assessment of their needs, as a coordinated system, we can provide the needed housing interventions and supportive services to reduce the time each family experiences homelessness, in turn bringing us closer to ending family homelessness.

### Based on best practices nationwide we will follow this key framework:

- **Housing First:** Permanent, safe, appropriate and affordable housing, with the support necessary to sustain it, happens first and fast. We believe housing is a right for all families.
- **Knowing who’s out there:** Every homeless family is known by name because a system of care has been established that any family on the verge of homelessness can easily access.
- **Tracking our progress:** With the support of all participating local family-serving agencies, data collected during the Family Assessment Week will be incorporated into our local Coordinated Entry System. This effort will help inform the increase of needed interventions and create a plan and timeline for ending family homelessness.
- **Improving local systems:** Support the local effort to build coordinated housing and support systems that are simple to navigate, while targeting resources quickly and efficiently to the families who need it the most.

### How can you join the campaign?

Assessment sites, volunteers, and monetary donations will be needed for the execution of the Orange County Family Assessment Week. Please visit [www.homelessfamiliescount.com](http://www.homelessfamiliescount.com) for further information or to sign up to support this endeavor to end family homelessness in Orange County.



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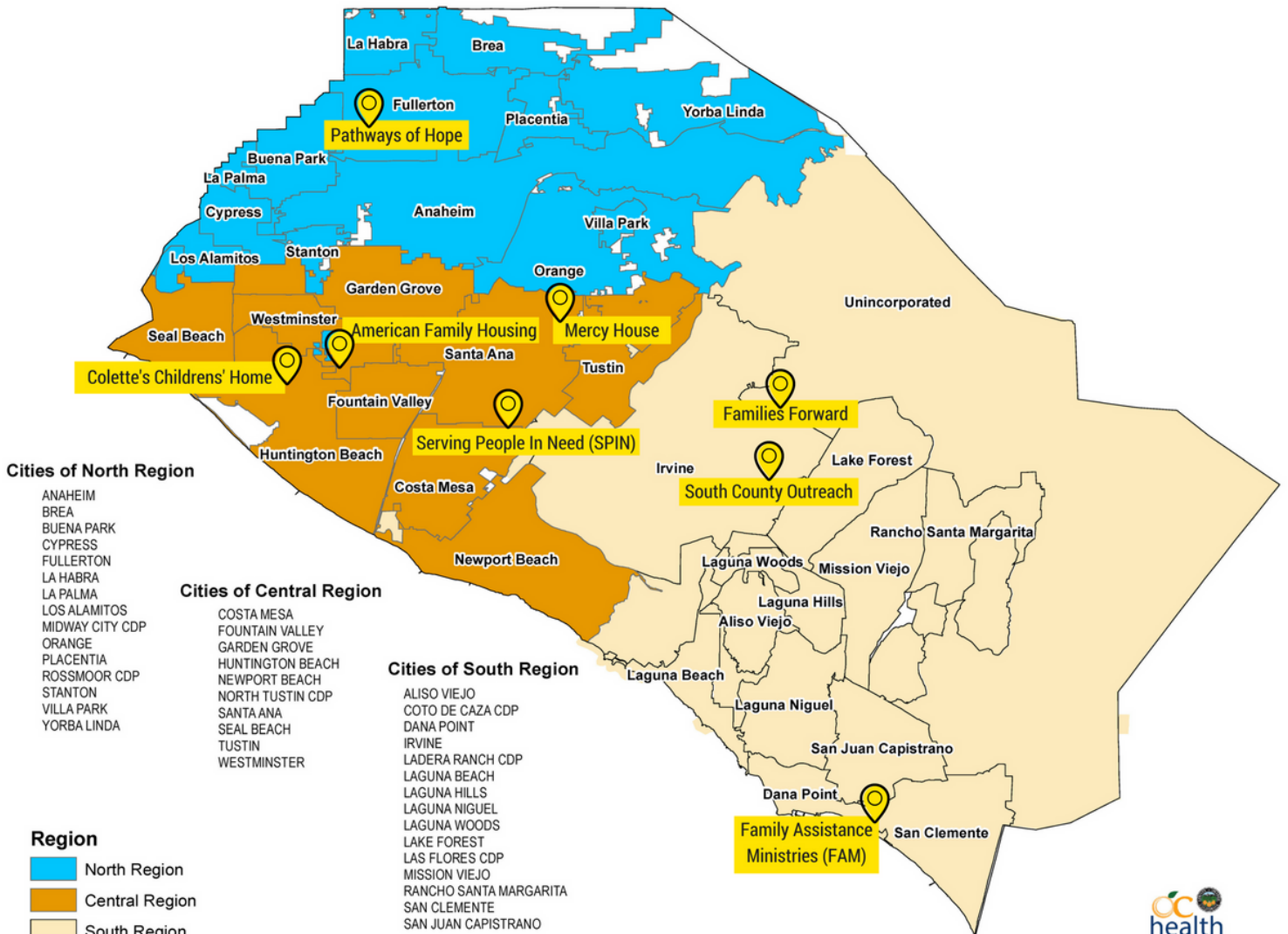
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### SERVICE PLANNING AREAS



Health Policy Research and Communication, March 2017