



Special Permit

Introduction

The site known as the Human Services Campus, is made up of properties owned by Human Services Inc, Diocesan Council for The Society of St Vincent de Paul Maricopa County, and Andre House of Arizona. Together these three entities operate the Campus which offers a collaboration of agencies aimed at assisting our homeless and at-risk populations. The Human Services Campus is a place where private, faith-based, and non-profit community organizations, along with local and state government agencies, come together to offer services and resources to individuals experiencing homelessness in Maricopa County. Nearly 20 independent groups operating on the Campus provides a holistic range of services ranging from mental, physical and dental health, to shelter, employment, legal services and housing. Beyond Saint Vincent de Paul and Andre House, the additional partner agencies within the Campus include: A New Leaf, Brighter Way Dental Center, Catholic Charities, Central Arizona Shelter Services (CASS), Community Bridges, Chaplaincy for the Homeless, Circle the City Healthcare for the Homeless, Department of Economic Security, Homeless Court Advocacy, Homeless I.D. Project, Maricopa County Adult Probation, Maricopa County Public Health, Mercy Care, Lodestar Day Resource Center, the Phoenix Symphony, St. Joseph the Worker, and the U.S. Post Office.

Background/History

The subject property is zoned A-1 and falls within the Capital Mall Overlay (CMO) District. This Overlay requires a Special Permit for certain uses, including a charitable dining hall and temporary shelters, which would otherwise be allowed within the A-1 Zoning District. In 2003, the City Council approved a Special Permit (Z-SP-21-02) on approximately 13 acres to allow charitable dining and temporary shelter on the subject property along with the other services for the homeless community provided on the Human Services Campus. The Special Permit for the Human Services Campus limits the temporary shelter to no more than 425 beds on the property.

Current Request

Since formally opening its doors in 2005, the Human Services Campus has assisted tens of thousands of individuals experiencing homelessness. Unfortunately, homelessness is not diminishing. While the main goal of the Campus is to identify barriers to housing and assist those individuals in finding and securing a roof over their head, temporary shelter is always in demand until a permanent home can be obtained. Each day the Human Services Campus provides a safe place to sleep for as many individuals as possible. The existing beds are just not enough forcing many men and women to return to the streets around the Campus each night after finding there is no shelter available.

With this application, we request an expansion of the existing Special Permit boundaries to a total of approximately 16.9 gross acres, which incorporates Andre House of Arizona and two additional parcels obtained by Human Services Campus Inc. and the ability to operate a maximum of 1,000 beds.