



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

HUMAN SERVICES CAMPUS WELCOME CENTER NOW OPEN 24 HOURS A DAY

PHOENIX, Ariz. (Dec. 8, 2021): The Brian Garcia Welcome Center, the entry point for individuals experiencing homelessness and seeking help at the Human Services Campus (HSC), is now open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

“Expanding the hours at the Brian Garcia Welcome Center has been a goal for us for quite some time because people are homeless 24 hours a day and having access to resources Monday through Friday from 8-to-5 is simply not enough,” said HSC Executive Director Amy Schwabenlender. “It’s been important for us to find ways to make this happen.”

Through grants and funding, HSC was able to hire additional staff to maintain a 24-hour operation which includes intake and assessment, conversations about diversion to reconnect individuals experiencing homelessness with friends and family and access to emergency showers and bathroom facilities.

“The next step is to ensure longterm sustainability of the 24-hour operation and efforts are underway to secure future funding,” Schwabenlender said.

Every year, more than 12,000 unduplicated individuals are served at The Brian Garcia Welcome Center at the campus at 12th Avenue and Madison between downtown Phoenix and the state Capitol.

“With expanded hours, we’re able to reach more people to meet them ‘where they are at,’” Schwabenlender said. “If someone works until 5, 6 or 7 at night or even overnight, they can now come to the campus when they’re finished working. Previously, they couldn’t access any services until 7 a.m.”

Through a collaboration of 16 independent nonprofit social service agencies on the 13-acre campus, HSC is uniquely positioned to help connect individuals

experiencing homelessness with a wide range of wrap-around services including assessment, health, legal, identification and office services, meals, shelter, housing and employment.

During the past 12 months, HSC has connected more than 700 individuals to permanent housing and diverted nearly 500 individuals from becoming homeless.

For more information or to make a donation, visit www.hsc-az.org.

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ABOUT THE HUMAN SERVICES CAMPUS: Founded in 2005, The Human Services Campus is a collaborative force of partner organizations united on one campus to end homelessness. Located just west of downtown Phoenix, nearly 20 independent agencies on the Campus see nearly 800 individuals every day, offering a holistic range of client services including: reunification with family and friends; mental, physical and dental health; shelter; employment; meals; legal services and housing. Having all of these resources in one location with intra-agency communications makes it more feasible to provide a customized engagement for each client to help end their homelessness. For more information, visit www.hsc-az.org.

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