

Media District Business Improvement District (“Media BID”)

Core Values

August 2009

1. 1. A well-run food program exists in partnership with the community in which it is located, working with businesses, residents, and other service providers to help those in need. The ideal program is supported by the community, including city officials, and because of the environment of mutual respect, when necessary and appropriate, the program is able to draw on municipal and community resources to achieve its mission.
 - A. A. The BID as an organization is committed to supporting a homeless services project within our community that provides comprehensive services to our homeless neighbors. We are realistic about the presence of homeless individuals within the BID boundaries and believe that their presence requires and deserves our attention and assistance. We believe that a well-run food program helps create a sense of community for the homeless population it serves and actively works to prevent itself from becoming a magnet for those who engage in destructive, disrespectful or criminal activities.
 - A. B. We would encourage and support, both philosophically and financially, the efforts of a food program within our boundaries to purchase an indoor site where comprehensive services such as meals, beds, job training, and counseling could be provided.
 - A. C. In a city as large and complex as Los Angeles, we question whether a food program can exist without the support of city officials and city services. We believe that a smaller municipality may be more equipped to support a food program and give the attendant issues the attention they deserve.
1. 2. A well-run food program is best described by the following adjectives:
 - A. A. Clean and Hygienic
 - - Leaves the area in which it operates in a clean and hygienic condition.
 - - Provides indoor bathroom facilities for clients and provides cleaning services in outdoor areas, such as alleyways, sidewalks and residential property, when and if clients use these areas in lieu of indoor bathrooms.
 - A. B. Safe , Orderly and Consistent
 - - Provides security. Optimally, security is provided one hour before and one hour after the program serves, with a plan for enforcement and consequences for clients who violate rules.
 - - Observes set hours so that the community and clients can depend on services being provided during a certain timeframe. Enforces those hours

and does not permit clients to loiter before or after the program's "open" hours.

A. C. Respectful

- - Respectful of clients and their needs, demonstrating sincere interest in helping clients to improve their lives and move away from a life on the street.
- - Respectful of the community and its needs, understanding that businesses and residents are affected by the way in which the program operates and the choices it makes.

A. D. Self-Sufficient and Accountable

- - Provides all services necessary to allow the program to operate as a good neighbor, ie., security, cleaning, etc. . .
- - Explores creative solutions for involving clients in efforts to achieve self-sufficiency, both as a means of accomplishing tasks and helping clients feel invested in the community.
- - Welcomes time and financial contributions from community members but does not expect community members to pay for services such as security and cleaning.
- - Understands that a BID's charter requires that no one property get more attention than any other property and that the BID violates its charter when it must provide extra daily cleaning and security services at any one location.
- - Assumes responsibility for the financial impact on community organizations, such as a BID, when those organizations are required to provide services above and beyond the ordinary as a result of the food program's presence. If the food program chooses not to provide its own services, it reimburses the organization that provides such services.

A. E. Comprehensive and Coordinated

- - Provides more than food.
- - Develops relationships with other homeless services providers, in order to become a part of the larger referral network that exists to serve the homeless population.
- - Interested in getting to know the individuals it serves, so that needs can be identified and addressed.

1. 3. A well-run food program has a community liaison and has articulated guidelines for the provision of services.

A. A. The liaison would facilitate an ongoing dialogue with a diverse cross-section of the community, including businesses, residents, law enforcement and government officials, in order to create and maintain a program that best meets the needs of the homeless population and the larger community.

A. B. The program has written and articulated guidelines that address its place in, and responsibility to, the community and clearly describe how services are to be provided.