

# ATTACHMENT

For Item

#21

Tuesday,  
September 27, 2022

PUBLIC COMMUNICATION RECEIVED BY THE  
CLERK OF THE BOARD

DISTRIBUTED 09/23/2022

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**From:** Andrade, Brian  
**Sent:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 8:18 AM  
**To:** Zurita, Teresa; Vizcarra, Nancy; Perez, Savannah  
**Subject:** FW: Letter of Support Item 21  
**Attachments:** Think Dignity\_Letter of Support.pdf

Hi Board Ops,

This looks like comments related to an upcoming agenda item for your processing.

Thanks,  
Brian Andrade, Senior Board Assistant  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
1600 Pacific Highway, Room 402  
San Diego, CA 92101  
MS: A-45  
PH: (619) 531-5601

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**From:** Nyce, Kate <Kate.Nyce@sdcounty.ca.gov>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, September 21, 2022 6:13 PM  
**To:** Potter, Andrew <Andrew.Potter@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Andrade, Brian <Brian.Andrade@sdcounty.ca.gov>  
**Cc:** Coyne, Joshua <Joshua.Coyne@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Ramirez, Griselda (BOS) <Griselda.Ramirez2@sdcounty.ca.gov>; Flores, David <David.Flores@sdcounty.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Letter of Support Item 21

Andrew and Brian,  
I am attaching a letter from Think Dignity in support of Item 21.  
Best regards,  
Kate



**Kate Nyce** (she/her)  
*Special Projects Advisor*  
Office of Vice Chair Nora Vargas | County Supervisor, First District  
1600 Pacific Highway, STE 335, San Diego, CA 92101

Direct: 619.531.5664 | Mobile: 619.913.3233 | Office: 619.531.5511  
Website: [www.SupervisorNoraVargas.com](http://www.SupervisorNoraVargas.com)  
E-Mail: [Kate.Nyce@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Kate.Nyce@sdcounty.ca.gov)



*"Building Healthier and Stronger Communities"*



Think Dignity's mission is to inspire, empower, and organize our community to advance basic dignity to people experiencing homelessness.

September 21, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego  
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 335  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Re: Letter of Support for Declaring Homelessness a Public Health Crisis (Item 21)**

Dear Chair Fletcher, Vice Chair Vargas, and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Think Dignity, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for declaring homelessness a public health crisis. This is an opportunity to send a clear message that our region is united and committed to finding solutions. As we continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to prevent and end homelessness, we are focusing on the health and wellness of our unhoused community as well as that of the broader community. At Think Dignity, we are committed to supporting policies that help support ending homelessness. We strongly support, declaring homelessness a public health crisis and the specific and measurable action items that are presented in the Board Letter.

Under the leadership of the Board of Supervisors and the County's Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities, the County has demonstrated its dedication to addressing homelessness with an emphasis on the social determinants of health and with the goal of improving the health of people experiencing homelessness. Declaring homelessness a public health crisis will advance the priority of solving homelessness in the region and will allow our local agencies to collaborate and implement innovative strategies. Moreover, the call for continued assessment of County programs, paired with a plan for implementing the County's bold policies, such as supporting efforts to minimize disruptions in public health benefits when people experience life disruptions and 24-hour access to trained professionals who can help with housing options and other services, will result in meaningful progress in helping prevent and end homelessness.

There is significant overlap between having a home and one's health. Housing is a key social determinant of health. Stable housing improves the well-being of people and communities. Homelessness is an unacceptable crisis across the San Diego region. It is a traumatic for those experiencing it and can exacerbate serious health conditions or make a person susceptible to new conditions. There is also a strong connection between the wellbeing of the community and

homelessness. Our communities thrive when our workers feel safe and families want to live and play in our neighborhoods.

Together we can solve the crisis of homelessness, but we must move out of disciplinary and jurisdictional silos to collaborate and work as partners with measurable goals. The declaration of a public health crisis is a key step to drive further collaboration between our local jurisdictions, community organizations, health care professionals, and others to develop resources and a comprehensive approach.

Think Dignity is honored to stand with Vice Chair Vargas and Chair Fletcher in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Michelle Woodson". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Michelle" and last name "Woodson" clearly distinguishable.

Mitchelle Woodson, Esq.  
Executive Director, Managing Attorney

**From:** [Nyce, Kate](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Item 21  
**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 3:30:49 PM  
**Attachments:** [LOS- Public Health Crisis of Homelessness TK signed.pdf](#)  
[image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)

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Hi,

I am attaching a letter from RTFH in support of Item 21 for Tuesday's Board Meeting.

Best regards,

Kate



**Kate Nyce** (she/her)

*Special Projects Advisor*

Office of Vice Chair Nora Vargas | County Supervisor, First District  
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*"Building Healthier and Stronger Communities"*



September 22, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego  
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 335  
San Diego, CA 92101

**Re: Letter of Support for Declaring Homelessness a Public Health Crisis (Item 21)**

Dear Chair Fletcher, Vice Chair Vargas, and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Regional Task Force on Homelessness San Diego, I am pleased to provide this letter of support for declaring homelessness a public health crisis. This is an opportunity to send a clear message that our region is united and committed to finding solutions. As we continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to prevent and end homelessness, we are focusing on the health and wellness of our unhoused community as well as that of the broader community. At Regional Task Force on Homelessness San Diego, we are committed to supporting policies that help support ending homelessness. We strongly support, declaring homelessness a public health crisis and the specific and measurable action items that are presented in the Board Letter.

Under the leadership of the Board of Supervisors and the County's Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities, the County has demonstrated its dedication to addressing homelessness with an emphasis on the social determinants of health and with the goal of improving the health of people experiencing homelessness. Declaring homelessness a public health crisis will advance the priority of solving homelessness in the region and will allow our local agencies to collaborate and implement innovative strategies. Moreover, the call for continued assessment of County programs, paired with a plan for implementing the County's bold policies, such as supporting efforts to minimize disruptions in public health benefits when people experience life disruptions and 24-hour access to trained professionals who can help with housing options and other services, will result in meaningful progress in helping prevent and end homelessness.

There is significant overlap between having a home and one's health. Housing is a key social determinant of health. Stable housing improves the well-being of people and communities. Homelessness is an unacceptable crisis across the San Diego region. It is a traumatic for those experiencing it and can exacerbate serious health conditions or make a person susceptible to new conditions. There is also a strong connection between the wellbeing of the community and homelessness. Our communities thrive when our workers feel safe and families want to live and play in our neighborhoods.



Together we can solve the crisis of homelessness, but we must move out of disciplinary and jurisdictional silos to collaborate and work as partners with measurable goals. The declaration of a public health crisis is a key step to drive further collaboration between our local jurisdictions, community organizations, health care professionals, and others to develop resources and a comprehensive approach.

Regional Task Force on Homelessness San Diego is honored to stand with Vice Chair Vargas and Chair Fletcher in this effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tamera Kohler'.

Tamera Kohler

Chief Executive Officer

Regional Task Force on Homelessness San Diego

**From:** [Nyce, Kate](#)  
**To:** [FGG, Public Comment](#)  
**Subject:** Letter of Support for Item 21  
**Date:** Thursday, September 22, 2022 4:20:36 PM  
**Attachments:** [image002.png](#)  
[image003.png](#)  
[image004.png](#)  
[Letter of Support - Public Health Crisis of Homelessness.pdf](#)

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Hi,

I am attaching a letter from Lived Experience Advisers in support of Item 21 for Tuesday's Board Meeting.

Best regards,

Kate



**Kate Nyce** (she/her)

*Special Projects Advisor*

Office of Vice Chair Nora Vargas | County Supervisor, First District  
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E-Mail: [Kate.Nyce@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Kate.Nyce@sdcounty.ca.gov)



*"Building Healthier and Stronger Communities"*



September 23, 2022

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of San Diego  
1600 Pacific Highway, Suite 335  
San Diego, CA 92101

Lived Experience Advisers  
5060 Shoreham Place, Suite 350  
San Diego CA 92122

**Re: Letter of Support for Declaring Homelessness a Public Health Crisis  
(Item 21)**

Dear Chair Fletcher, Vice Chair Vargas, and Honorable Board of Supervisors,

On behalf of Lived Experience Advisers, we are pleased to provide this letter of support for declaring homelessness a public health crisis. This is an opportunity to send a clear message that our region is united and committed to finding solutions. As we continue to work collaboratively with all stakeholders to prevent and end homelessness, we are focusing on the health and wellness of our unhoused neighbors as well as that of the entire community. At Experience Advisers, we are committed to supporting policies that help support ending homelessness. We strongly support, declaring homelessness a public health crisis and the specific and measurable action items that are presented in the Board Letter.

Under the leadership of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors and the County's Department of Homeless Solutions and Equitable Communities, the County has demonstrated its dedication to addressing homelessness with an emphasis on the social determinants of health and with the goal of improving the health of people experiencing homelessness. Declaring homelessness a public health crisis will advance the priority of solving homelessness in the region and will allow our local agencies to collaborate and implement innovative strategies. Moreover, the call for continued assessment of County programs, paired with a plan for implementing the County's bold policies, such as supporting efforts to minimize disruptions in public benefits when people experience life disruptions and 24-hour access to trained professionals who can help with housing options and other

services, will result in meaningful progress in helping prevent and end homelessness.

There is significant overlap between having a home and one's health. Housing is a key social determinant of health. Stable housing improves the well-being of people and communities. Homelessness is an unacceptable crisis across the San Diego region. It is a traumatic for people experiencing being unhoused and can exacerbate serious health conditions or make a person susceptible to new conditions. There is also a strong connection between the wellbeing of the community and homelessness. Our community is elevated when all of our neighbors have the opportunity to thrive. Ending homelessness begins with a home.

Together we can solve the crisis of homelessness, but we must move out of disciplinary and jurisdictional silos to collaborate and work as partners with measurable goals. The declaration of a public health crisis is a key step to drive further collaboration between our local jurisdictions, community organizations, health care professionals, and others to develop resources and a comprehensive approach.

Lived Experience Advisers is honored to stand with Vice Chair Vargas and Chair Fletcher in this innovative effort.

Sincerely,

John Brady, Executive Director

Lived Experience Advisers – Leadership Advisory Committee

JeXsi Grey

Bruce Carron

Levi Giafaglione

Kuni Stearns

JB:ks