

GRACE

ONE COMMUNITY. ONE MISSION. **END HOMELESSNESS.**

COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT: GAINESVILLE, FL

- County population 270,000
- Warm weather, good services, college town
- Roughly 800 people without housing, down 36% since 2014
- 68% reduction in unsheltered homelessness since 2014
- Ongoing attempts to solve homelessness
- Established GRACE and “Dignity Village” in 2014

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A TALE OF TWO HOMELESS CAMPS: DIGNITY VILLAGE

- Started in 2014 preceding closure of large downtown homeless camp
- Insufficient services and staffing - goal was simply to provide a place to go and a “solution” to Pottinger issues
- Approx. \$400,000 investment annually

OUTCOMES

- Population jumped to 300
- **No verified housing outcomes**
- A “chronic homelessness factory”
- 3-4 EMS/Fire Rescue responses daily
- Ongoing problems with violence

A TALE OF TWO HOMELESS CAMPS: GRACE Camp

- Opened March 2, 2020 as part of the Dignity Village closure
- 90 people on campground
- Strong housing focus
- Controlled ingress/egress
- Key piece of plan that led to a 90% roster reduction

OUTCOMES TO DATE:

- DV closed with zero arrests
- 129 people housed
- 38% decrease in unsheltered PIT
- 90% housing retention rate
- 8/10 average score on questions about respect and support

DIGNITY VILLAGE: PROJECT TIMELINE

3/2/2020

On-site campground opens
Dignity Village closed

Original 6-month goal:
50% reduction

12-month goal:
80% reduction

24-month goal:
100% reduction

- 12 months after Dignity Village closed:
- We have reduced the roster by **89%**
 - **129 people** have been housed
 - **25** remain to be housed

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CORE COMPONENTS



Resident input

Low-barrier access

Roster closed/fencing

Access to services + diversions

Answer: “Where do I go?”

Hit the tipping point

No return to campground

Dynamic prioritization

RRH/PSH bridge

City/law enforcement buy-in

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Campus Expectations

- + Please respect the rights, property, and peace of everyone here.
- + Drugs, alcohol, and weapons are not permitted on campus.
- + Physical or verbal violence and threats are not permitted.
- + We do not allow gambling, sexual activity, or unwanted physical contact.
- + Personal property can only be stored in assigned lockers.
- + Please leave all spaces cleaner than you found them.
- + We ask that all guests work toward their housing plan while utilizing shelter resources.

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