



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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USC School of Journalism Holds Forum on Homelessness With The Midnight Mission

- Who:** USC School of Journalism Students and the Skid Row Community will explore the crisis of homelessness with a panel of service providers including The Midnight Mission President & CEO **G. Michael Arnold**, The Midnight Mission Managing Director **Clancy Imislund**, LAPD Officer **Deon Joseph**, Mayor Garcetti’s Homelessness Policy Director **Alisa Orduna** and USC’s Roy P. Crocker Professor of Law **Jody David Armour**. The forum will be moderated by USC Annenberg School Professor **Sandy Tolan** and Associate Professor **Mary Murphy**, who are teaching a class called “Reporting on Homelessness.” Their students – **Andres Guzman, Razzan Nakhlawi, Julia Poe, Savanna Robinson, Daniela Silva, Ariel Tu** and **Ashley Vasquez** – are exploring a range of issues facing people experiencing homelessness, with a special focus on innovative, systemic and practical solutions.
- What:** The class approached The Midnight Mission with the hope of holding a public forum that would be open to people experiencing homelessness and to those who work with the homeless population. What will be unique about this forum is that the voices of the homeless community and those who have made it out of Skid Row will be heard. We will ask them for their suggestions, encourage them to discuss their concerns and find out what *they* see as solutions. The USC students participating in the forum will also be covering the event for the USC media outlets.
- Where:** The Midnight Mission Dining Room, 601 S. San Pedro Street, Los Angeles, CA 90014
- When:** Thursday, October 5, 2017, from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
- Why:** Since homelessness in Los Angeles is a top priority at the University of Southern California, USC Associate Professor Mary Murphy and USC Professor Sandy Tolan decided to teach a class about how journalists do and should cover this burgeoning crisis in our city. Murphy and Tolan are multi-media journalists who work in print, radio and on television.
- How:** The event will be hosted at The Midnight Mission and is free of charge to anyone who wishes to attend.

About The Midnight Mission: Founded in 1914, The Midnight Mission offers paths to self-sufficiency to men, women and children who have lost direction. Our emergency services and 12-step recovery, family living, job training, education and workforce development programs offer a compassionate bridge to achieve and maintain healthy, productive lives. We remove obstacles and provide the accountability and structure that people who are experiencing homelessness need to be productive in their communities. Our conviction and commitment to their success define us. For additional information, please visit www.midnightmission.org.