



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Local Iranian American Volunteers and The Midnight Mission to Hold 7th Annual Nowruz Celebration**

The Midnight Mission has partnered with Iranian American community volunteers to stage the 7th annual Nowruz at The Midnight Mission on **Friday, March 16, 2018, from 3:00 pm to 6:00 pm**. Nowruz is the Iranian New Year celebration and this year's event is sponsored by Yucatan Foods, SKECHERS USA, Inc., KIRN 670am Radio Iran, Sadaf/Soofer Company, Edelman PR, Satrap Family Trust, Shay Maghame, David Pourbaba, Harry Nassib, Masoud Dejban, Inc., Setico, Inc., Farshad Melamed, Saidian Family, Blue Jay Center, Phil Paccione & Shoreen Maghame, The Razi Family Foundation, Doostan Investments, Inc., Downtown LA Law Group, Isaac Cohanzad, Rancho Park Rotary Club, Southern California Edison, Mahvash & Farrokh Yazdi, Santa Maria Commerce Center and Imperial Plaza.

At a time when our nation is so painfully divided, it is important that we continue to hold events that bring our community together. Occasions like this show those in our Skid Row community, who often feel lost and forgotten, that people care and that there is hope for recovery from homelessness and its many causes.

The festive event will bring together the homeless and near-homeless community in Skid Row, Los Angeles with Iranian American volunteers. Last year, more than 150 volunteers participated in the Nowruz celebration at The Midnight Mission, resulting in more than 2,000 meals served and 4,000 articles of clothing distributed. Hundreds of volunteers, Iranian celebrities and local leaders are expected to join in this year's celebration.

The event will feature a traditional Nowruz meal of Iranian delicacies, as well as live musical entertainment and performances by dance ensembles. In keeping with the Nowruz tradition of gift giving to the family at the New Year, a selection of clothing will also be donated to each person in attendance as well.

Nowruz, a 3,000-year-old Iranian holiday for people of all faiths, honors a time of deep spirituality when light symbolically conquers darkness and people open their hearts to help those less fortunate than themselves.

The Midnight Mission embodies the spirit of Nowruz year-round and has been a source of revival and renewal for the homeless population of Los Angeles for more than a century. Although The Midnight Mission has never missed a meal service in all of its 104 years of operation, the organization provides much more than meal service. It is a resource for life-saving and life-changing programs that range from education and workforce development to health and wellness and the 12-step recovery for the homeless population of Los Angeles.



We thank our dedicated Nowruz Committee: Abbas Satrap, Ali Razi, Amir Yazdi, Ardeshir Haerizadeh, Fardad Yazdi, Fatemeh Satrap, Fay Wazzan, Fred Shooshani, Guity Javid, I.J. Eshaghian, Joseph Saeedian, Kamran Mohanna, Larry Adamson, Maggie Stewart, Maryam Azarbayjani-Morovati, Mavash Yazdi, Sharam “Shay” Maghame, Shoreen Maghame and Tamila Rokhideh.

For more information, visit [www.nowruzinla.com](http://www.nowruzinla.com), call 213-553-2328 or email [knorris@midnightmission.org](mailto:knorris@midnightmission.org).

**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](http://www.midnightmission.org).