



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**The Midnight Mission is Awarded \$200,000 from Bank of America**

*Neighborhood Builder awards will help scale programs addressing systemic challenges to employment, housing for the formerly incarcerated and homeless Angelinos*

The Midnight Mission is honored to be named, with the Anti-Recidivism Coalition, the 2018 Bank of America Neighborhood Builders® award recipient for our work helping homeless individuals overcome obstacles to become self-sufficient. As part of the award, each organization will receive \$200,000 in unrestricted grant funding to expand our successful programs with these vulnerable populations.

While Los Angeles has established itself as a hub for creativity, technology, and economic opportunity, it has also become home to the nation's largest homeless population and jail system. Unfortunately, the two populations are often interconnected, with a 2018 report from the Prison Policy Initiative citing that formerly incarcerated people are almost 10 times more likely to become homeless than the general public. These groups are also linked by their extensive impact on the city's economy; with homelessness expected to cost the city an estimated \$372 million from 2018-2019 and the average cost per prisoner in California exceeding \$70,000 annually.

The Midnight Mission is tackling these hurdles by finding ways to give individuals another chance at sustainable self-sufficiency. We take a holistic approach in serving our program participants ranging from education and career counseling to wraparound services that ultimately empower individuals to skillfully rejoin and contribute to society.

"The Midnight Mission and the Anti-Recidivism Coalition are helping vulnerable Angelinos break the destructive cycle of homelessness and criminal recidivism through supportive services and job readiness with an impressive track record of success empowering their clients to once again positively contribute to our communities and economy," said Raul Anaya, Bank of America Market President for Los Angeles. "We share their missions to make lives better by putting people back on the path to self-sufficiency, and the Neighborhood Builder program enables them to help even more people succeed."



The grant funds will expand two Midnight Mission programs that have seen great success to date: the Crisis & Bridge Program, which transitions 250 homeless participants to housing each year and the HomeLight Family Living program which has secured housing and employment for 86% of its participants. Both programs will incorporate new tailored services and offerings for women, youth and the LGBTQ communities to ensure that their unique challenges are addressed while on the path to self-sufficiency.

“The Midnight Mission is honored to be selected as one of this year’s Neighborhood Builders awardees. As our programming has evolved to better serve our growing and changing homeless community, Bank of America has been with us every step of the way,” said Michael Arnold, President and CEO of The Midnight Mission. “This grant will have an incredible impact on our organization and those experiencing homelessness and struggling to make ends meet, particularly for women, youth and those identifying as LGBTQ.”

As Neighborhood Builder awardee, The Midnight Mission will also receive a year of leadership training for their Executive Director and an emerging leader at the organization, access to a network of peer organizations across the U.S., and the opportunity to access additional capital to expand their impact.

Over the course of Neighborhood Builders’ 15 years, Bank of America has partnered with 44 nonprofits in Los Angeles, investing \$8.4 million to help address issues fundamental to improving economic mobility for individuals and families, such as workforce development, community development and basic needs.

**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).

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