## **Global Community Foundations**

www.GlobalCommunityFoundations.org 12522 Brookhurst Street Garden Grove, CA 92840-1340 424-567-2222



## **GCF INITIAL PRESS RELEASE:**

"Coming together for global solutions

The Global Community Foundations would like to announce its support for a very important project that is moving to address a crisis that threatens our very humanity as well as our health as a society.

Many areas in and around our cities are beginning to resemble what you would see in many 'third-world' countries. This is unacceptable here in our great country of America as we would consider it to be unacceptable anywhere in the World where we see people are suffering. We must not stand by and 'wring our hands' in frustration because we cannot see an 'easy solution' to this problem. We must use our God-given creativity and ingenuity take proactive action now to address these issues and begin to come up with solutions to the problems that contribute to this condition of chronic homelessness being experienced by our fellow men and women (and children). Even in a recovering economy as we are experiencing today, we are finding that this is a 'still-growing and out-of-control' problem. THIS IS SIMPLY UNACCEPTABLE.

Every night hundreds of thousands of homeless people go to sleep on the streets of our nation's cities and byways. They live from day-to-day in the twilight of our society, where they may face a myriad of issues from their own personal safety and security, to risks to their health and wellbeing, to the damage of their own sense of self-worth, self-respect and the dignity that has come to elude them as they find themselves in their own unfortunate set of circumstances. Many of these individuals have lost jobs and homes in a changing economy, and many have fallen into the abyss of chronic substance abuse and daily survival. The people experiencing this condition include a range of individuals, from civilians to military veterans, men and women, and to entire families with children. This isn't just an issue for those affected. The danger to the rest of our society lies in the face that the unhealthy sanitary conditions that accompany the reality of living on the streets which have become potential breeding grounds for all sorts of microbiological threats that could at any time suddenly turn into an unexpected pandemic that could affect the rest of our society as well. And, I don't know of any sane person who would wish to see that happen!...

From my personal experience since I have been living in the Los Angeles area, I, on numerous occasions have driven the streets through the area known as 'Skid Row' in downtown LA. Over the years it has become increasingly and painfully obvious to me that it appeared that 'Skid Row' was continuously growing into other neighborhoods in and around the city. I have had on occasion to walk around some of the tent encampments that have cropped up on a number of side streets around the city as I had been going to and from various meetings. I personally was once a 'homeless veteran', and this issue has long been a very personal one for me. But, it wasn't until just recently that I had been given the 'golden opportunity' to actually take a walking tour of the most concentrated and blighted areas graciously given to several of us by a number of individuals who are now part of our team as we have formed a new foundation to address this growing problem. I'll tell you, it is one thing to do a 'drive by', and to look upon these scenes with much dismay--but it is quite another thing to actually walk through these same streets and to see the destitution, the despair, and the lack of sanitation 'up close and personal'. To see the sights and smell the smells, and to speak with a number of these individuals personally has had an impact on me that you could never get from the comfort of inside of your car speeding by, or in front of a television screen on the 5:00 news. This is very much like it is one thing to go to a movie and see even the bloody and gory depiction of war, but no matter how good the special effects, you will never know what it really is like until you yourself experience the battlefield, the fear, the terror, the explosions, the smoke and the flames, watching real people, your friends getting killed and maimed right before your eyes. You will never know what it is really like until you experience it for yourself 'up close and personal' firsthand (as nobody should ever have to do).... This is also very much like a 'war'... A 'war' for the heart and mind and wellbeing for every soul that has been lost to our society. This is a 'war' for us all to maintain our sense of humanity and compassion. This is a 'war' that we have to fight and we have to win!...

## WE NEED TO ADDRESS THESE PROBLEMS, AND WE NEED TO START THE SOLUTIONS AND THE HEALING PROCESS NOW!...

We have initiated two Non-profit, Public-Benefit 501(c)3 organizations to help facilitate this effort:

**The Global Community Foundations**, <u>www.GlobalCommunityFoundations.org</u>, to ultimately address this problem initially here, and eventually on a Worldwide basis...

And, The Homes4Vets Foundation, www.H4VF.org, to serve those who have served for us. We owe them at least that much!

Please consider attending this event if you can, and let's work together to come up with some lasting solutions to heal our fellow men and women and to help them become 'whole' again.

When: September 16, 2018, from 10 AM to 6 PM Where: 12522 Brookhurst St, Garden Grove, CA 92840 And: Event is to include Lunch, Dinner & Entertainment