Guiding Principles and Practices for the LA CES

We, the service and housing providers and systems partners working together to address homelessness in Los Angeles County, affirm the following principles in the Coordinated Entry System (CES) – respect, accountability, consistency, and integration. The following set of practices arise out of these principles.¹

**Promote Person-Centered Processes**

We will use client choice and strengths-based approaches to inform options for services, housing, and referrals in order to respect the whole person without reducing him/her/them to their housing need alone. We affirm and employ culturally competent and evidence-based practices, recognizing the unique needs of each population and subpopulation we serve.

**Increase Access and Reduce Barriers**

All people deserve safe and stable permanent housing. We work toward that outcome by “screening in” participants for interventions that are right for them. We help create opportunities for people to succeed by focusing on their strengths and abilities, and by using Housing First and other evidence-based practices that recognize the autonomy of the person being served.

**Strategically Prioritize Resources**

We use strategic prioritization to ensure that people are connected to housing and services appropriate to their needs and eligibility, and to match those with the greatest needs to limited resources.

**Ensure Consistency in CES Processes**

All people in LA County have fair and equal access to CES. All CES locations and methods offer the same assessment approach and referrals using uniform and transparent decision-making processes, promoting consistency and efficiency across providers and regions.

¹ The intent of this document is to guide the development of systems-level policy. However, tensions among each Principle/Practice may arise through application. In those cases, this articulation of Guiding Principles and Practices is intended to facilitate transparent and accountable decision-making.
**Integrate Services Between Providers and Across Systems**

Service providers and systems partners across LA County create continuity for CES participants by aligning programs within and allocating resources throughout CES.

**Collaborate and Coordinate Among All Stakeholders**

Service providers and other stakeholders across LA County share a mutual responsibility for system improvement, sharing resources and knowledge, and working collectively to end homelessness across the county.