



LOCATION:
BALDWIN PARK, CA

SIZE:
25 SHELTERS

POPULATION SERVED:
LOCAL UNHOUSED
NEIGHBORS

OPENING DATE:
NOV. 22, 2021

FUNDING:
\$1.3 MILLION PROVIDED
BY THE SAN GABRIEL
VALLEY REGIONAL
HOUSING TRUST, WHICH
INCLUDED \$530,000
FOR CONSTRUCTION
PLUS ONE YEAR OF
OPERATING EXPENSES

Creating a Community

People experiencing homelessness in Baldwin Park now have a safe space to sleep: Esperanza Villa.

Pallet worked with local leaders to build a 25-shelter community complete with on-site services. The effort was led by the San Gabriel Valley Council of Governments in partnership with the City of Baldwin Park.

The San Gabriel Valley had a severe lack of shelter beds. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority counted 556 homeless individuals in the city of Baldwin Park. The January 2021 point-in-time count didn't include unsheltered minors and young adults, individuals in domestic violence shelters, and people receiving motel vouchers.

Now, some people experiencing homelessness can have a sense of peace in a safe environment. Esperanza Villa has 25 Pallet shelters, each with locking doors, heating and air conditioning, storage space, and safety features. Each shelter has a vinyl-wrapped, sky blue door to brighten the community.

The entire site took 90 days from start to finish. A majority of the build time was spent on infrastructure for underground utilities and laying asphalt. The City of Baldwin Park used the public works department to complete most of the infrastructure and site work, including a beautiful decorative fence and entrance to the site.

Pallet was contracted to provide all of the structures on site, in partnership with the LA Conservation Corps. The actual build time of the shelters, bathrooms, and laundry units on-site was less than a week.

Esperanza Villa has a variety of amenities on-site too. Restrooms – designed and built by Pallet – have private showers, toilets, and sinks. Each has a locking door for privacy and dignity.

The village features Pallet’s first laundry room. At no cost to residents, residents can use one of the 5 washers and dryers to clean clothes, sheets, and dog beds throughout the day.

Creating a sense of community is important. Esperanza Villa has cozy picnic tables, tree planters, and a dog run. The ability to bring pets is often a barrier to admission at congregate shelters; to encourage people to seek safe shelter, animal companions are welcome at this location.

As part of Pallet’s model, we require each village to have on-site services and case managers. Volunteers of America, a nonprofit serving low-income people, is the service provider for Esperanza Village. From replacing SSN cards to opening savings accounts, these steps are fundamental to moving people toward permanent housing.

“Tiny homes provide the safety and privacy that is lacking in more traditional congregate shelters while helping residents’ transition to permanent housing”

EMMANUEL J. ESTRADA
MAYOR OF BALDWIN PARK

Each 64 sq. ft. Pallet shelter has one or two beds, locking doors, personal climate control, and storage for possessions.

Village Amenities:

- 25 personal shelters with heating and A/C
- Pallet restrooms with toilets and showers – all with lockable doors for privacy
- Electricity and LED lights
- Individual folding desks inside shelters
- Pallet washer and dryer units in a community laundry room
- On-site services

