



FACT SHEET

PRESS/OUTREACH INQUIRIES

Immediately direct all inquiries/outreach opportunities/requests from the press and other communications organizations to any member of the Admin Team - Daniel, O'Neill, Tomi, Mickel, Amanda, Mai, or Morgan. Morgan is the Communications Coordinator and can be reached at mrichie@sos-richmond.org / 808.321.7757. If you want the opportunity for media exposure, we will prepare you and vet the organization. If you do not want to engage with the media, we will handle it.

ORGANIZATION BACKGROUND FACTS

SOS Richmond was founded in 2021 by Daniel Barth, our Executive Director. SOS was incorporated in January 2021 and has been a 501(c)(3) non-profit since June 2022, but started going into encampments in January 2020 at the beginning of the pandemic.

WHAT WE DO

SOS empowers our unhoused neighbors on their journey to health and housing. We are helping people from tent to home with empowerment as the first step toward housing. Hiring people straight out of encampments for work experience, we utilize their expertise for earning peer-to-peer trusted relationships, delivering essential services, and navigation for health, income, and housing. The four aspects of our work are:

- Building relationships and trust with unhoused individuals to support their survival and personal development. Opening communication channels with their neighbors and public agencies.
- Delivering water, sanitation, hygiene, food, and power interventions. Services improve the quality of life and personal well-being where people live currently and in the future villages.
- Creating work opportunities for our unhoused neighbors that encourage job advancement, longer-term career development, wellness, and housing.
- Developing interim housing free from violence, instability, and insecurity. Safe spaces will empower changes and offer pathways to permanent housing.



Mail: SOS Richmond
P.O Box 1490
Richmond, CA 94802



Physical: 410 S. 2nd St.
Richmond, CA 94804
(under 580 freeway)



sos-richmond.org



Neighbor care line
510.806.8650

BY THE NUMBERS - AVERAGE PER QUARTER

	AVERAGE PER QUARTER
ENCAMPMENT SERVICES	
Major Encampments Regularly Serviced per month	21
Showers Provided	587
Trash Tons Disposed	91
Major Cleanups Coordinated	7
RVs Weatherized	9
Portable Toilets	5
Drinking Water Gallons	7790
Laundry Participants (2 loads)	451
ENGAGEMENT	
# Shuttled to SOS Services and Documents	672
# Shuttled to Urgent Services, Moves to Housing	15
Individuals Navigated into Housing	3
Personal Vision Curriculum Graduations	6
Individuals Navigated to Mainstream Jobs	2
Encampment Households Relocated for Safety	17
SOS WORK EXPERIENCE	
Total Employees Hired	7
Employee Upgrades to Interim Housing	1
Employee Upgrades to Permanent Housing	4



FAQs

Where does your funding come from?

SOS is funded by grants from the City of Richmond and other organizations along with donations from private individuals.

What is your location?

Our physical location is Physical: 410 S. 2nd St. Richmond CA 94804 (under 580 freeway). Mailing and other contact information can be found on our website www.sos-richmond.org.

How do I make in-kind donations?

If you would like to make an in-kind donation, please leave a message on the Neighbor Care Line and visit our in-kind donation page on our website for a list of our most needed items. We accept in-kind donations at our yard by appointment.

What services are there and how can I get them?

- SOS offers mobile showers, laundry support, a workforce clinic (help with documents), and mobile clean-up (removing garbage, etc).
- Contact O'Neill Fernandez at 925.758.0482 for information and, if needed, a ride.
- Ask for a services flyer to learn when and where services will be offered

How can I help?

Here's a list of ways that you can partner with SOS:

- Sign up for our newsletter
- Follow us on social media
- Inquire about our open positions
- Volunteer for neighborhood clean-ups
- Call the Neighbor Care Line when needed
- In-kind donations (there is a special page for this on our website)
- Cash donations (there is a special page for this on our website)

I am having a concerning/negative experience (illegal dumping, interaction, vehicles on property) - what do I do?

If you are experiencing something distressing, call and leave a message on our Neighbor Care Line. A member of the SOS Engagement Team will call you back and help you navigate the situation.



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When mobile showers come to a neighborhood, does that mean you are bringing the encampment to the area?

No, we do not relocate encampments. If we are present in an area with a mobile shower, this means we are helping an existing nearby encampment. By providing services that make people feel better about themselves, we are empowering them to seek healthier alternatives in their own lives.

Does SOS want the encampments to persist? Aren't encampments your bread and butter? No, SOS is not supporting the development of new encampments or advocating for the persistence of existing ones. We are bringing our services to clean up the whole neighborhood, not just the encampment.

Is SOS able to go to private property?

If you are the property owner, you can request that we come to your property on a fee-for-service basis. If you are not the property owner, you can provide our Neighbor Care Line number to the property owner and let them know that they may request us.

What does SOS do to help the elderly and those with mental health issues?

This is on our radar, and we are currently considering whether our programming should include special services for these folks.

Is it better to call SOS or my city council member/police/other government agency?

SOS offers a friendly and collaborative approach to finding solutions with our unhoused neighbors. We are an intermediary step between the unhoused communities and government organizations. Our staff are unhoused or formerly unhoused, have trusted relationships in the community, and can often negotiate care-based solutions.



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