

END OF THE YEAR REPORT 2020-2021





SafeParkingLA



A message from Executive Director, Silvia Gutierrez

People have been living in their vehicles for a very long time. Becoming unhoused usually means losing a great deal. Imagine having to give up your home, your belongings, and even your relationships. For our clients, the decision to sleep in a vehicle overnight is at least one choice they can make when life feels out of control. Safe Parking LA was founded to ensure that Angelenos living in their vehicles have a safe place to sleep at night with access to hygiene services.

Over the last year, Safe Parking LA has experienced significant growth, becoming more than just a safe place to sleep. Ending homelessness is about creating pathways to stable housing. To meet the needs of the clients and families we serve, Safe Parking LA has expanded our supportive services and we are creating community through our case management team where our clients are at the center of our work. Building relationships and providing opportunities for engagement is how we walk with our clients towards stable housing and support them to remove barriers along the way.

The COVID-19 pandemic has compounded our challenges and Safe Parking LA has pivoted our work to support the health and safety of our clients while they live outside in their vehicles. We have prioritized self-care for our clients and for ourselves as we all do our part to see an end to the current health crisis. I am proud of our team that has learned to take initiative and be creative with resources, providing clients with new opportunities to support them in their journey out of homelessness every day.

Today, Safe Parking LA operates ten safe parking programs across LA County, and we have worked diligently to develop more effective case management programs, refine lot operations, and streamline administrative functions. As we move into a future filled with hope, we are building the organizational infrastructure we need to be a sustainable solution to the problem of vehicular homelessness in Los Angeles.

As we incorporate a diversity, equity, and inclusion lens in every aspect of our work with our clients, staff, board, and stakeholders, Safe Parking LA seeks to lead and develop systems that open doors to progress and create an organizational culture that welcomes and grows from each of us. We cannot accomplish success without each other.

Silvia M Gutierrez





The Board



Steven Breuer



Jesse Creed



Ira Cohen



Pat Cohen



Gary Cohn



Nancy Hammerman



Victor Hinderliter



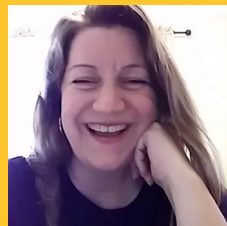
Gregory Kushner



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Scott Sale



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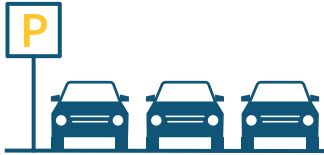
A Message from Scott Sale, Co-Founder

As one of the three founders of Safe Parking LA, along with Pat and Ira Cohen, I am thrilled to be a member of the Safe Parking LA Board!

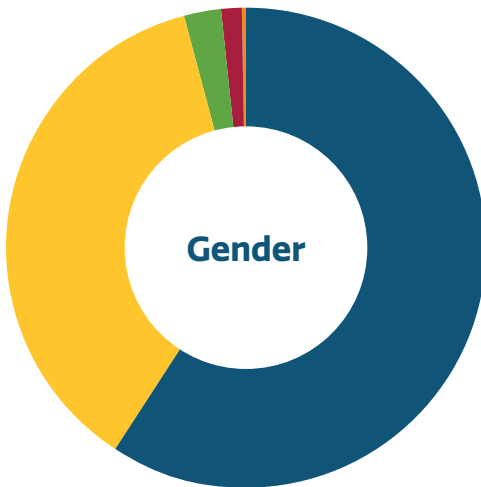
This year, Safe Parking LA has welcomed several new board members who bring significant talent and wisdom to our leadership team. With so many years of experience on our board, we are prepared to lead Safe Parking LA into the future with great confidence.

Thinking back to 2010, when the Cohens and I explored the concept of safe parking and to 2017 when we opened our first parking lot in Koreatown, I am overwhelmed by how many people we have helped over the last 4+ years. I love who we are and what Safe Parking LA does for people experiencing vehicular homelessness by providing them with a safe place to park and access to vital services. The safe parking model is now a widely accepted interim and humane strategy for people who have become displaced and are sheltering in their vehicles.

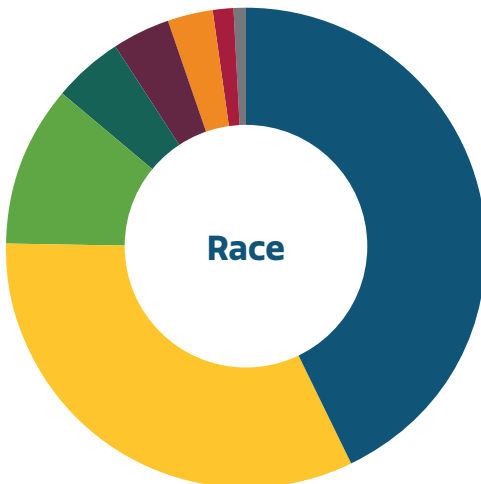
Under the talented leadership of our outstanding Executive Director, Silvia M Gutierrez, Safe Parking LA has become a leader in the safe parking space and an effective model for replication across the nation. I personally want to thank Silvia and each board member for working together so effectively and for their commitment to our mission.



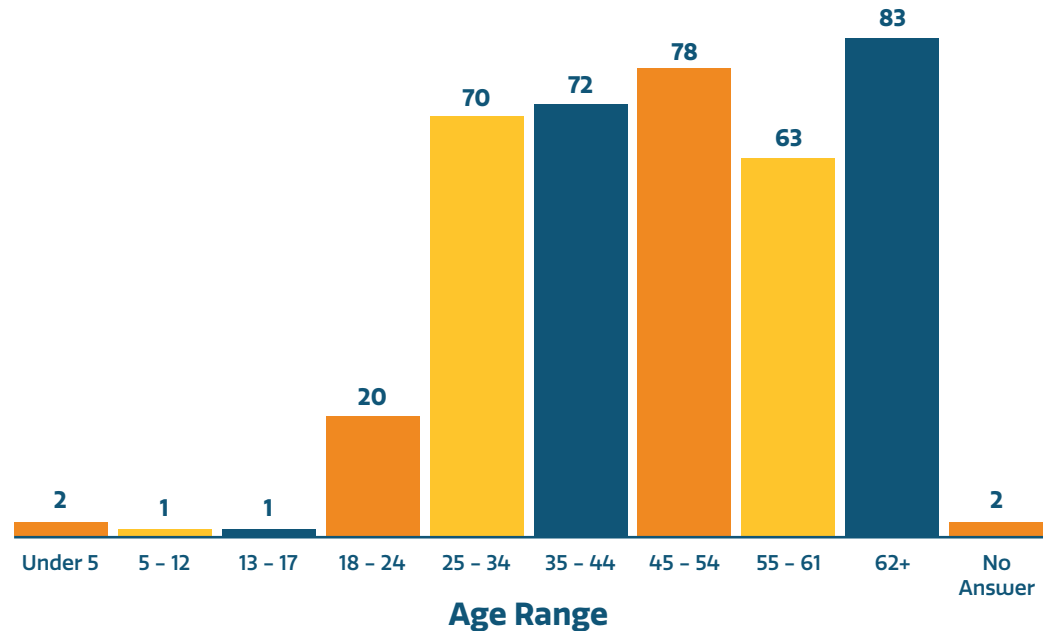
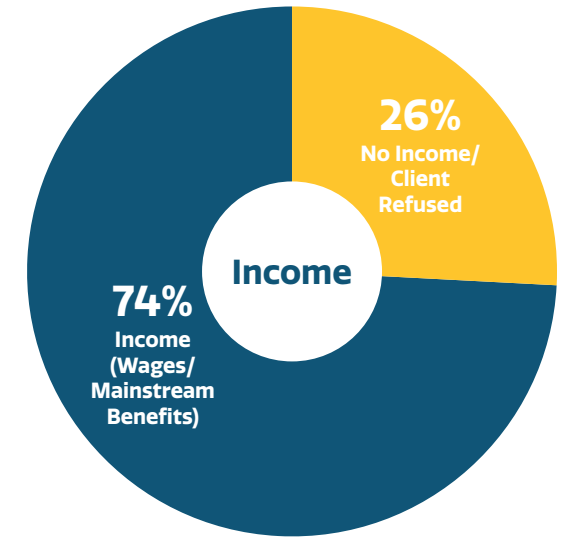
TOTAL
ENROLLED: **395**



- 59.44% – Male
- 36.48% – Female
- 2.55% – Trans
- 1.28% – No Answer
- 0.26% – Gender Non-Conforming



- 44.64% – White
- 33.93% – Black
- 11.22% – No Answer
- 4.85% – Asian
- 4.00% – Hispanic
- 3.06% – Multiple Races
- 1.53% – American Indian or Alaska Native
- 0.77% – Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander



**Client Financial Assistance**

Vehicle Assistance	\$79,526.31
Housing Assistance	\$27,057.83
Other Barrier Assistance	\$5,756.55
Total	\$112,340.69

Case Management Outcomes**40%**

Exited into Housing

**58**

Gained Employment/Benefits

**316**

Developed Housing Stability Plans

**512**

COVID-19 Health Referrals/Screenings

**1,500+**

COVID-19 Hygiene Kits/Food Support



Safe Parking LA kept me off the streets, and helped me to stay safe at night. My kids are doing a lot better now that I have a place to stay, thanks to Safe Parking LA."

– JOSEPH

Joseph, Safe Parking LA – National

Joseph is a 35-year-old father of four who enrolled in Safe Parking in December 2020. Joseph became homeless after a difficult separation from his partner. Despite having custody of his children, he felt he had no choice but to send them away while he lived out of his vehicle.

With the help of his case manager, Joseph was able to resolve ongoing legal issues, reduce his debt, and identify an apartment unit that was affordable and spacious enough for his children. Safe Parking LA provided Joseph with move-in assistance to which he responded, "This gives me an opportunity to provide more clothes for my kids...new school supplies for my son." Joseph moved into his apartment in March 2021.





INTERN
TOTAL HOURS:
603



Working with Safe Parking LA has been a true pleasure. I have learned so much about a demographic that is often excluded from our typical idea of homelessness: people experiencing vehicular homelessness. Safe Parking has truly included me in their community and given me a variety of opportunities to utilize my skills in order to make a change.”

– VIDA KEYVANFAR, SERVE THE MOMENT



Donations

Units Received



Personal Care

9,835



Health/PPE

2,733



Clothing

696



Pet Care

262



Home & Accessories

137

Totals

13,663



If I was younger, I could take care of myself, but at 70, it is difficult. Changed my life. If I didn't go to Tiny Homes this summer, maybe I would have died in the car because it was so hot. Saved my life."

– IRAJ

Iraj, SPLA – Vanowen

Iraj, a 71-year-old engineer, has been experiencing homelessness on and off for the last 7 years. He stated that he had been struggling to recover from a difficult divorce and several health issues. Getting back on his feet has been especially challenging as Iraj's green card was revoked during the divorce, leaving him unable to collect SSI.

When he enrolled in Safe Parking LA in March 2021, Iraj's life was cluttered. His vehicle was non-compliant and had not been maintained. Above all, he was discouraged and lacked motivation. Through regular meetings with his case manager, they began setting and accomplishing small goals. Together, they brought his vehicle to full legal compliance and linked up with a legal aid group for his green card renewal. With each met goal, Iraj's confidence and motivation grew. In June 2021, Iraj was accepted into the Tiny Homes Community in Reseda where he will continue working on his goals towards permanent housing.



Yolanda and Luis, SPLA – Vanowen

Yolanda (70) and her husband Luis (68) lost their housing earlier this year when Luis was out of work and Yolanda could not afford to pay their rent on her income alone.

Yolanda and Luis enrolled in Safe Parking LA in February 2021. Shortly after enrolling, they began experiencing car problems. With case management support and financial assistance from Safe Parking LA, Yolanda and Luis resolved their vehicle issues allowing Yolanda to get to work safely. Their case manager also helped the senior couple to identify a suitable retirement community and submit an application. In May 2021, their application was accepted and, with move-in assistance from Safe Parking LA, Yolanda and Luis transitioned into their new home.



People would shine lights in my car to look inside my car. Safe Parking LA was a big help. I no longer felt scared with security watching over me. I finally felt safe."

– YOLANDA

Rodney and Tennell, SPLA – Edendale

Rodney (51) and his younger brother, Tennell (32), both on disability, enrolled with Safe Parking LA in June 2021. Their car was in serious disrepair and out of compliance. Living on a very limited income, they were unable to address their vehicle issues on their own.

With support from Safe Parking LA's case management team, Rodney and Tennell's vehicle was brought up to full legal compliance. They also received support to identify affordable housing and move-in assistance from Safe Parking LA, and transitioned into their new apartment in October 2020. Rodney described the process of working with Safe Parking LA as "...if the fallen dominoes were being lifted and the momentum had finally shifted in the other direction."



Safe Parking LA helped us through a bad situation. We were out there. But God came through, you came through, and now we have an apartment."

– RODNEY





Thank you. Safe Parking LA is grateful to the donors who have supported us over the last year. Together we will support people experiencing vehicular homelessness in their journey to becoming housed.

Our Funders

California Community Foundation

City of Beverly Hills

Conrad N. Hilton Foundation

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Jewish Community Foundation

Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority

Mayor's Fund for Los Angeles

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SAM Initiative Grant

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Tech SGT Jack Kushner Ret'd Foundation

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