

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

### **URGENT: FAMILY HOMELESSNESS AT CRISIS POINT; BOS RULES TO VOTE ON MONDAY 4/22 at 10 AM**

San Francisco, CA - April 22nd, 2024 - Newcomer immigrant families with children are sleeping outside in record numbers in San Francisco.

The family homeless response system was underfunded prior to the surging numbers of newcomer immigrant families arriving in San Francisco. 36% more families turned to the city for homelessness intervention in 2023 than in 2019; yet, funding for homeless families via the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing (DHS) budget is decreasing.

San Francisco's family shelter system can accommodate 266 families. Every space is filled, yet 442 families remain on the shelter waitlist. The number of families on the waitlist only continues to rise, and newcomer and non-newcomer families are resorting to sleeping in bus stops, parks, and under gas station roofs.

"We're at a crisis point that is more extreme than anything I've seen in thirty years," said Erica Kisch, Chief Executive Officer of Compass Family Services. "We can pretend it isn't happening, but infants are sleeping on the street. Without deeper intervention from the city, this will not stop."

#### **A Triage System That Often Leads to Nowhere**

Dolores Street Community Services, who operate the only "walk-up" family shelter in the city, are at capacity and turn away several families each week. Executive Director Laura Valdez says, "There is no emergency shelter left. On Friday we received a mother with a four month old and a twelve year old; on Saturday, two new families arrived directly from Venezuela. When is the help coming?"

Failure to support newcomer homeless families in the system impacts every homeless and at-risk family in the city. Because a family's length of homelessness in the US is heavily weighted, newcomer families generally do not score high enough on the mandated Coordinated Entry Assessment to receive "housing referral" status, or a referral into any subsidy or housing program.

In turn, even if they can get an emergency shelter bed, no formal route is available for most newcomer families out of the shelter system. Some newcomer families have been at the Buena Vista Horace Mann congregate emergency shelter for 10 months.

When families languish in shelters, beds that are meant to turn over to a family on the waitlist remain filled; the system has no outflow into permanent exits from homelessness, and new families cannot access services at entry points at all.

Advocates, providers, and impacted families are calling on the City to adjust coordinated entry and invest in family shelters and subsidies to bring every family inside.

## **Asking Electeds to Address the Family Homelessness Crisis**

District 9 Supervisor Hillary Ronen reflected the need for urgent, collaborative action to meet this unprecedented moment. "No child should be left to sleep on the streets of San Francisco, and our City departments must work together to fix this crisis. I am encouraged by the outpouring of community advocacy in support of homeless and newcomer families, and will work with my colleagues and the Mayor to do everything we can to expand shelter and supportive housing pathways and culturally responsive resources, in both the immediate and longer term."

The Rules Committee of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors will hold a hearing Monday, April 22nd, on a [Resolution](#) sponsored by Supervisors Safai, Ronen, Walton, Preston, Chan, and Peskin.

Resolution No. 240239 calls on Mayor London Breed and the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to address the crisis-level unmet need for emergency shelter and housing options for newcomer homeless families and families who became homeless while living in San Francisco.

The scale of need is far beyond the scope of the DSHS FY 24-25 available budget; it is imperative that Mayor London Breed allocates emergency funding commensurate with the 422 families waiting for shelter.

"The newcomer crisis isn't uncovering anything new, but the pressure is exacerbating very deep existing fissures in a safety net that has needed stronger investment for years," shared Kyriell Noon, Chief Operating Officer of Hamilton Families.

### **Call to Action**

Please join families, allies, and advocates on Monday, April 22nd, at 10 AM to give public comment to the Board of Supervisors Rules Committee in City Hall, Room 205; or, email public comment with File No. 240239 listed in the title to Victor Young, clerk of the board, at [victor.young@sfgov.org](mailto:victor.young@sfgov.org).

For media inquiries, please contact:  
Hope Kamer  
Compass Family Services  
[hkamer@compass-sf.org](mailto:hkamer@compass-sf.org)



To Mayor Breed and the Board of Supervisors -

I am a member of Bethany UMC, located in Noe Valley. Please support Supervisor Safai's Resolution 240239 to give shelter to families immediately and transparently. No one in our beautiful city should sleep on the street.

From

Lyra Halden

**1270 Sanchez St. San Francisco, CA, 94114 | [bethanysf.org](http://bethanysf.org)**

*Guided by God's radical love for all, Bethany seeks to... Offer sanctuary, Inspire personal transformation, Foster a faith community, and Engage locally and globally for social justice.*



04/21/22

Dear Board of Supervisors,

I want you to give HOME<sup>less</sup>  
people <sup>a place to</sup> sleep.

It is not healthy and safe  
for children, to ~~not~~ SLEEP  
on the street.

Please Find Money for  
Family housing from: Maranda  
Personius

1270 Sanchez St. San Francisco, CA, 94114 | [bethanysf.org](http://bethanysf.org)

*Guided by God's radical love for all, Bethany seeks to... Offer sanctuary, Inspire personal transformation, Foster a faith community, and Engage locally and globally for social justice.*



Sunday, April 21, 2024

Dear Mayor London Breed and  
the San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

I am writing to ask for your support for the  
Resolution that will prioritize housing  
for homeless families with children so  
they will have a place to sleep inside  
that <sup>is</sup> safe rather than sleeping on the  
streets in unsafe and unhealthy  
conditions that are distressing.

Thank you,  
Erin Halden

1270 Sanchez St. San Francisco, CA, 94114 | [bethanysf.org](http://bethanysf.org)

*Guided by God's radical love for all, Bethany seeks to... Offer sanctuary, Inspire personal transformation, Foster a faith community, and Engage locally and globally for social justice.*



04/21/24

Dear Mayor Breed, Board of Supervisors,  
and Director McSpadden,

I am a member of Bethany United Methodist Church, writing you to support Sup. Safai's Resolution 240239 which provides for a more humane housing support policy for families with children.

The Old Testament speaks of a community's responsibility to care for its most vulnerable members - in fact a government is to be judged by how well it does that.

Please help our city government do better than it is doing now, with 400 families with children waiting for housing. We can spend the resources we need to become a more caring city.

Thank you,  
Cathy Personius

1270 Sanchez St. San Francisco, CA, 94114 | [bethanysf.org](http://bethanysf.org)

Guided by God's radical love for all, Bethany seeks to... Offer sanctuary, Inspire personal transformation, Foster a faith community, and Engage locally and globally for social justice.

April 21, 2024

Shireen McSpadden

Director of Homelessness and Supportive Housing

City and County of San Francisco

Dear Director McSpadden,

I am a member of Bethany Church in San Francisco and a supporter of Faith in Action, supporting the migrants seeking asylum in the United States, have been here legally for long periods of time and have no housing for themselves and their families.

I write this morning in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution #240239 which urges the Dept. of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to implement access to shelter space or hotel/motel vouchers to any family with children on the same day as they request housing. Further, it asks for a simple and transparent process by which families are moved from emergency shelter to subsidized housing or private shelter rooms within a reasonable amount of time.

Sincerely,

Marilyn Herand



**From:** [A. Colichidas](#)  
**To:** [Ronen, Hillary \(BOS\)](#); [RonenStaff \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#); [SF Gray Panthers Board](#)  
**Subject:** SUPPORT: FILE NO. 240239 RESOLUTION Urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter]  
**Date:** Monday, April 22, 2024 8:30:07 AM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Regarding FILE NO. 240239, to be considered by the SF Board of Supervisors Rules Committee on April 22, 2024 for referral to the entire SF Board of Supervisors.

Dear Supervisor Hillary Ronen, fellow members of the SF BOS Rules Committee (Supervisors, Walton, Safai); and the entire San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

My name is Ann Colichidas, I am on the Board of the SF Gray Panthers; member of the California Alliance For Retired Americans; and I live in SF's District 9.

I urge you, my member of the SF BOS Supervisor Ronen, the SF BOS Rules committee members Ronen, Walton and Safai; and the entire SF Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of File # 240239: A RESOLUTION Urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter.

I join my fellow Gray Panther Board Member Art Persyko and Faith in Action Bay Area to ask you the following questions:

- 1) There are over 400 homeless families on the waiting list for shelter. Why has the City not expanded the cost-effective hotel voucher program to meet the need?
- 2) Many other families have been languishing in congregate shelters for months on end. Why has the City not expedited the movement of families out of shelters and into available permanent housing?
- 3) Why is the Department of Homelessness unwilling to be transparent with homeless families about where they are on the waiting list, or how long it will take until they access dignified housing?
- 4) There is a subsidy program for homeless families called "Family Flex" with 165 spaces funded by SF taxpayers, but only about 50 are being used. Why is the City not getting these resources out to families more quickly?
- 5). Doctors are saying that the health impacts of homelessness on children are serious and long-lasting. Teachers and social workers are saying that it's having a serious kids' ability to learn. Why is the City government not taking this problem more seriously?



6). The annual budget of the Department of Homelessness this year is \$713 million. How is it possible that we still have over 2000 homeless children in our City?

7). How is this reality consistent with our San Francisco values? When it comes to asylum seeking families fleeing from violence and trauma, why are we not welcoming them in a manner that's consistent with our status as a Sanctuary City?

Thank you for reading my letter of support and for voting your conscience to validate San Francisco values to enact this resolution in FILE NO. 240239 Urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter.

Thank you!

Ann Colichidas  
3222 18th Street B  
SF 94110

**From:** [mason.waller](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Vote to support...  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:59:29 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Supervisors,

I urge you to vote to support Supervisor Ahsha Safai and Faith in Action's demands for "no más niños viviendo en la calle/no more kids sleeping in the streets."

We urgently need housing and transparency about how resources at city access points are determined, allocated, and managed.

We deserve your full support for this in order to commit to SF truly being a sanctuary city.

Thanks,  
Mason Waller



Virus-free. [www.avast.com](http://www.avast.com)

**From:** [Elliot Helman](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Safai's resolution prioritizing families with children for shelter housing (#240239)  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:47:51 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Greetings,

I urge you to support Supervisor Safai's resolution. While homelessness is a heartbreaking (and increasing) reality in the US, it is especially tragic that families with children are sleeping in our streets. The potential for psychological and physical harm that can befall young children on the streets is well documented. Our City must find creative ways, among the many that are being suggested, such as prioritizing families with children for emergency housing, providing hotel vouchers and providing access to in-language, accessible, real-time updates on where families are in the process of attaining assistance.

We like to think that San Francisco is a world-class, international city. Families sleeping on the streets is not the San Francisco we want to show the world and should be a shame to us all.

Thank you.

Elliot Helman  
94158

**From:** [Phyllis Shulman, Ph. D., MFT](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution# 249239  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:35:25 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

As a psychotherapist who lives and works in our beloved sanctuary city, I strongly urge you to immediately ensure housing for all our children. It is unconscionable that despite adequate legislation and the allocation of funds, we continue to force children to sleep on our sidewalks which we know is traumatic for them and their families.

Yours truly,  
Phyllis Shulman, Ph.D., MFT

**From:** [Elsa Cabezas](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Hearing Comment- No More Children Sleeping in the Streets  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:34:34 PM

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April 21, 2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cries across the country are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the U.S to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had a designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in vehicles, on MUNI, and under gas stations roofs.

We write in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution, and ask that San Francisco immediately do the following:

- 1) Prioritize families for shelter
- 2) Establish additional shelter for families, including immigrant families
- 3) Create a multilingual public dashboard where anyone can view the Department of Homelessness' shelter waitlist and where immigrants can monitor their own progress toward receiving shelter.

These are common sense solutions that more fully meet San Francisco's proclamation as a Sanctuary City and make our city a better place for families and children. As part of Calvary Presbyterian's community--a church that has been a sanctuary congregation supporting immigrants through accompaniment, education, and advocacy - we have seen firsthand the need for more supportive, family-friendly policies that enable families to live safely and securely. We cannot continue to make up for the City's broken systems and shortcomings.

We share below testimonies from immigrants about why these policies are necessary:

"People told us that San Francisco was a Sanctuary City where they protected immigrants, and that was one of the main reasons we wanted to come here," said Karla Margarita Solito, who arrived from El Salvador last summer with her four children after gangs threatened multiple times to kill her husband. "But the reality has been different."

Jenifer Carcamo, another asylum seeker from Honduras, explained, "I thought we were going to have stable, safe housing, but at the City Access Points, they just tell us that they are full, the shelters are full, there is no space. Even with my one-month-old baby, there is no response."

We call on San Francisco to live the values we believe it to have--supporting families, welcoming all particularly those fleeing violence or unable to live safely elsewhere--by addressing the needs we raise above and in solidarity with Faith in Action Bay Area.

We will also like to see the response regarding this whole situation and how is the city going to resolve this:

- Why is the Department of Homelessness unwilling to be transparent with homeless families about where they are on the waiting list, or how long it will take until they access dignified housing?
- There is a subsidy program for homeless families called “Family Flex” with 165 spaces funded by SF taxpayers, but only about 50 are being used. Why is the City not getting these resources out to families more quickly?
- Doctors are saying that the health impacts of homelessness on children are serious and long-lasting. Teachers and social workers are saying that it’s having a serious kids’ ability to learn. Why is the City government not taking this problem more seriously?
- The annual budget of the Department of Homelessness this year is \$713 million. How is it possible that we still have over 2000 homeless children in our City?

Sincerely,  
Elsa Cabezas  
SF CA, 94124



Mission Economic Development Agency ([MEDA](#))

2301 Mission Street, Suite 301  
San Francisco, CA 94110  
(415) 282-3334

**Follow us:** [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [LinkedIn](#), [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#).

**Please Note:** MEDA observes Wellness Fridays by providing staff with a modified schedule ending at 12:30pm.

**Tenga en cuenta:** MEDA practica Viernes de bienestar al proporcionar a su equipo de trabajo un horario modificado que finaliza a las 12:30 p.m.

**From:** [Elsa Cabezas](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [ayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org](mailto:ayorlondonbreed@sfgov.org)  
**Subject:** Hearing Comment- No More Children Sleeping in the Streets  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:31:08 PM

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April 21, 2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cries across the country are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the U.S to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had a designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in vehicles, on MUNI, and under gas stations roofs.

We write in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution, and ask that San Francisco immediately do the following:

- 1) Prioritize families for shelter
- 2) Establish additional shelter for families, including immigrant families
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These are common sense solutions that more fully meet San Francisco's proclamation as a Sanctuary City and make our city a better place for families and children. As part of Calvary Presbyterian's community--a church that has been a sanctuary congregation supporting immigrants through accompaniment, education, and advocacy - we have seen firsthand the need for more supportive, family-friendly policies that enable families to live safely and securely. We cannot continue to make up for the City's broken systems and shortcomings.

We share below testimonies from immigrants about why these policies are necessary:

"People told us that San Francisco was a Sanctuary City where they protected immigrants, and that was one of the main reasons we wanted to come here," said Karla Margarita Solito, who arrived from El Salvador last summer with her four children after gangs threatened multiple times to kill her husband. "But the reality has been different."

Jenifer Carcamo, another asylum seeker from Honduras, explained, "I thought we were going to have stable, safe housing, but at the City Access Points, they just tell us that they are full, the shelters are full, there is no space. Even with my one-month-old baby, there is no response."

We call on San Francisco to live the values we believe it to have--supporting families, welcoming all particularly those fleeing violence or unable to live safely elsewhere--by addressing the needs we raise above and in solidarity with Faith in Action Bay Area.



We will also like to see the response regarding this whole situation and how is the city going to resolve this:

- Why is the Department of Homelessness unwilling to be transparent with homeless families about where they are on the waiting list, or how long it will take until they access dignified housing?
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- The annual budget of the Department of Homelessness this year is \$713 million. How is it possible that we still have over 2000 homeless children in our City?

Sincerely,  
Elsa Cabezas  
SF CA, 94124



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(415) 282-3334

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**From:** [Jane Hurlburt](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Families Sleepig in SF Streets  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:26:54 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

SF Board of Supervisors,

How can we as San Franciscans continue to ignore the homeless tragedy in our beloved city?

Why not expand the hotel voucher program to meet the growing need for shelter?

How can we make available more permanent and affordable housing?

With over 2,000 homeless children in our city who will turn into adults - there could be a situation where drugs and crime are their only future.

Please show and act with compassion when you meet tomorrow on the Faith in Action

Bay Area's community ministries' resolution of the ever growing homeless issue.

Please make our city a shining example of caring for our homeless brethren, especially the children.

Thank you for your consideration of our request for an answer, an action, a solution.

Yours truly,

Jane Hurlburt

Sanctuary Team

Calvary Presbyterian Church - San Francisco

**From:** [Lynn Murphy](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re No More Children Sleeping in the Streets  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:07:42 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Today you will be asked to consider the fate of real people who have come to San Francisco for a better life. Parents who have risked everything to provide a better life for their children. ***Please support the resolution*** written by Supervisor Ahsha Safai and co-sponsored by Supervisors Dean Preston, Hillary Ronen, Shamann Walton, Connie Chan, and Aaron Peskin.

As a mother, entrepreneur, and longtime voting citizen of San Francisco, I ask you to lead with love and kindness and vote to take responsibility and ensure the health, safety, and dignity of humanity. San Francisco is one of the most beautiful and wealthiest cities in the world and it is unconscionable to condemn children and their families out on the streets.

I have learned that there are over 400 families on the waiting list for shelter -- and many hundreds more have been languishing in congregate emergency shelters since last summer.

- Why is the Department of Homelessness unwilling to be transparent with homeless families about where they are on the waiting list, or how long it will take until they access dignified housing?
- There is a subsidy program for homeless families called "Family Flex" with 165 spaces funded by SF taxpayers, but only about 50 are being used. Why is the City not getting these resources out to families more quickly?
- Doctors are saying that the health impacts of homelessness on children are serious and long-lasting. Teachers and social workers are saying that it's having a serious kids' ability to learn. Why is the City government not taking this problem more seriously?
- The annual budget of the Department of Homelessness this year is \$713 million. How is it possible that we still have over 2000 homeless children in our City?
- How is this reality consistent with our San Francisco values? When it comes to asylum seeking families fleeing from violence and trauma, why are we not welcoming them in a manner that's consistent with our status as a Sanctuary City?

Thank you for your service,  
Lynn Lee Murphy

**From:** [Art Persyko](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Stefani, Catherine \(BOS\)](#); [Walton, Shamann \(BOS\)](#); [Safai, Ahsha \(BOS\)](#); [Ronen, Hillary \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#); [SF Gray Panthers Board](#)  
**Subject:** Letter of support to SF BOS: FILE NO. 240239 RESOLUTION Urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter]  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:04:36 PM

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April 21, 2024

Regarding FILE NO. 240239, to be considered by the SF Board of Supervisors Rules Committee on April 22, 2024 for referral to the entire SF Board of Supervisors.

Dear Supervisor Catherine Sefani; members of the SF BOS Rules Committee (Supervisors Ronen, Walton, Safai); and the entire San Francisco Board of Supervisors:

My name is Art Persyko, I am on the Board of the SF Gray Panthers; a co-convener of the California Alliance For Retired Americans; and I live in SF's District 2.

I urge you, my member of the SF BOS Supervisor Stefani; the SF BOS Rules committee members Ronen, Walton and Safai; and the entire SF Board of Supervisors to vote in favor of File # 240239: A RESOLUTION Urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter.

I join Faith in Action Bay Area to ask you the following questions:

- 1) There are over 400 homeless families on the waiting list for shelter. Why has the City not expanded the cost-effective hotel voucher program to meet the need?
- 2) Many other families have been languishing in congregate shelters for months on end. Why has the City not expedited the movement of families out of shelters and into available permanent housing?
- 3) Why is the Department of Homelessness unwilling to be transparent with homeless families about where they are on the waiting list, or how long it will take until they access dignified housing?
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- 7). How is this reality consistent with our San Francisco values? When it comes to asylum seeking families fleeing from violence and trauma, why are we not welcoming them in a manner that's consistent with our status as a Sanctuary City?

Thank you for reading my letter of support and for voting your conscience to validate San Francisco values to enact

this resolution in FILE NO. 240239 Urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter.

Thank you!

-Sincerely, Art Persyko, 2190 Washington Street, Apt 608, San Francisco, California, 94109; and board member of the SF Gray Panthers as well as the co-convener of the San Francisco Community Action Team of the California Alliance for Retired Americans.

**From:** [Suzanne Martin](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Homelessness  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 4:16:15 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please move homeless people off the streets and into shelters and permanent housing. Use annual budget of \$713 million to treat homeless. Please clean filthy streets. There is no excuse for streets being so dirty and full of trash.

Suzanne Martin  
San Francisco CA 94109

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** [Georgina K.](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Cc:** [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution urging Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to Develop a Comprehensive Plan that Prioritizes Families with Children to Receive Shelter  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 3:56:33 PM  
**Attachments:** [Letter for SF Board of Supervisors.pdf](#)

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April 21st, 2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cities across America are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the United States to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in cars, on MUNI, and under gas station roofs.

**We write in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution, and ask that San Francisco immediately do the following:**

- 1. Prioritize families for shelter**
- 2. Establish additional shelter for families, including immigrant families**
- 3. Create a multilingual public dashboard where anyone can view the Department of Homelessness' shelter waitlist and where immigrants can monitor their own progress toward receiving shelter.**

These are common sense solutions that more fully meet San Francisco's proclamation as a Sanctuary City and make our city a better place for families, children, and San Francisco residents. As part of Calvary Presbyterian's community — a church that has been a sanctuary congregation supporting immigrants through accompaniment, education, and advocacy — we have seen firsthand the need for more supportive, family-friendly policies that enable families to live safely and securely. We cannot continue to make up for the City's broken systems and shortcomings.

We share below testimonies from immigrants about why these policies are necessary:

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"I thought we were going to have stable, safe housing, but at the City Access Points, they just tell us that they are full, the shelters are full, there is no space. Even with my one month old baby, there is no response." — Jenifer Carcamo, asylum seeker from Honduras.

We call on San Francisco to live the values we believe it to have — supporting families, welcoming all particularly those fleeing violence or unable to live safely elsewhere — by addressing the needs we raise above and in solidarity with Faith in Action Bay Area.

Sincerely,

**Georgina Khodayari**

Georgina Khodayari  
1282 Green St. San Francisco, CA 94109



April 21st, 2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cities across America are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the United States to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in cars, on MUNI, and under gas station roofs.

**We write in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution, and ask that San Francisco immediately do the following:**

- 1. Prioritize families for shelter**
- 2. Establish additional shelter for families, including immigrant families**
- 3. Create a multilingual public dashboard where anyone can view the Department of Homelessness' shelter waitlist and where immigrants can monitor their own progress toward receiving shelter.**

These are common sense solutions that more fully meet San Francisco's proclamation as a Sanctuary City and make our city a better place for families, children, and San Francisco residents. As part of Calvary Presbyterian's community — a church that has been a sanctuary congregation supporting immigrants through accompaniment, education, and advocacy — we have seen firsthand the need for more supportive, family-friendly policies that enable families to live safely and securely. We cannot continue to make up for the City's broken systems and shortcomings.

We share below testimonies from immigrants about why these policies are necessary:

"People told us that San Francisco was a Sanctuary City where they protected immigrants, and that was one of the main reasons we wanted to come here," said Karla Margarita Solito, who arrived from El Salvador last summer with her four children after gangs threatened multiple times to kill her husband. "But the reality has been different."

"I thought we were going to have stable, safe housing, but at the City Access Points, they just tell us that they are full, the shelters are full, there is no space. Even with my one month old baby, there is no response." — Jenifer Carcamo, asylum seeker from Honduras.

We call on San Francisco to live the values we believe it to have — supporting families, welcoming all particularly those fleeing violence or unable to live safely elsewhere — by addressing the needs we raise above and in solidarity with Faith in Action Bay Area.

Sincerely,



Georgina Khodayari  
1282 Green St. San Francisco, CA 94109

April 19th, 2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cities across the country are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the U.S. to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in vehicles, on MUNI, and under gas station roofs.

**We write in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution, and ask that San Francisco immediately do the following:**

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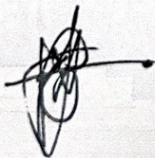
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Jenifer Carcamo, another asylum seeker from Honduras, explained, "I thought we were going to have stable, safe housing, but at the City Access Points, they just tell us that they are full, the shelters are full, there is no space. Even with my one-month-old baby, there is no response."

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Sincerely,



Jackelyne Carrillo

LTF Case Manager

150 Executive Park Blvd. SF CA 94134

**From:** [Patricia Ahlbrandt](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Homeless/Immigrant children  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 3:26:14 PM

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please take the actions necessary to humanely house immigrant and homeless children. The current situation is inhumane.

Patricia Ahlbrandt

Sent from my iPad

**From:** [Lora Lempert](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Unhoused children  
**Date:** Sunday, April 21, 2024 9:36:47 AM

---

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Dear supervisors,

It is shameful that is city with the resources of San Francisco and the reputation for liberal ideas would allow families with children to sleep on the street! Please Support first choice housing for families with children.

Lora Bex Lempert, Ph.D.  
Professor Emerita  
University of Michigan - Dearborn

**“Our lives begin to end the day we become silent about the things that matter.”  
— Martin Luther King, Jr.**

**From:** [Jackelyne Carrillo](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution urging the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to prioritize families with children  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 5:19:17 PM  
**Attachments:** [April 19th, 2024.pdf](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hello,

I'm an SF Resident in support of Safai's resolution to urge the Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing to prioritize Immigrant families for same day shelters. Refer to attached document for letter.

--



**Jackelyne (Jackie) Carrillo**

She/Her/Hers

Case Manager, Latino Task Force (LTF)

**Excelsior & Bayview Hubs**

Bay Area Community Resources

---

**M** 415-942-2495 **E** [jcarrillo@bacr.org](mailto:jcarrillo@bacr.org) **W** [www.bacr.org](http://www.bacr.org)



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**IMPORTANT:** The contents of this email and any attachments are confidential. They are intended for the named recipient(s) only. If you have received this email by mistake, please notify the sender immediately and do not disclose the contents to anyone or make copies thereof.

**From:** [Carolina Martinez](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Supporting homeless immigrants families  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 5:11:27 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden..pdf](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

**From:** [Nathalia Bedoya](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#); [Breed, Mayor London \(MYR\)](#)  
**Subject:** Supporting homeless immigrant families  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 5:11:05 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden..pdf](#)

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04/19/2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cities across the country are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the U.S. to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in vehicles, on MUNI, and under gas station roofs.

We write in support of Supervisor Safai's resolution, and ask that San Francisco immediately do the following:

- 1) Prioritize families for shelter
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- 3) Create a multilingual public dashboard where anyone can view the Department of Homelessness' shelter waitlist and where immigrants can monitor their own progress toward receiving shelter.

These are common sense solutions that more fully meet San Francisco's proclamation as a Sanctuary City and make our city a better place for families and children. As part of Calvary Presbyterian's community—a church that has been a sanctuary congregation supporting immigrants through accompaniment, education, and advocacy—we have seen firsthand the need for more supportive, family-friendly policies that enable families to live safely and securely. We cannot continue to make up for the City's broken systems and shortcomings.

We share below testimonies from immigrants about why these policies are necessary:

"People told us that San Francisco was a Sanctuary City where they protected immigrants, and that was one of the main reasons we wanted to come here," said Karla Margarita Solito, who arrived from El Salvador last summer with her four children after gangs threatened multiple times to kill her husband. "But the reality has been different."

Jenifer Carcamo, another asylum seeker from Honduras, explained, "I thought we were going to have stable, safe housing, but at the City Access Points, they just tell us that they are full, the shelters are full, there is no space. Even with my one-month-old baby, there is no response."

We call on San Francisco to live the values we believe it to have—supporting families, welcoming all particularly those fleeing violence or unable to live safely elsewhere—by addressing the needs we raise above and in solidarity with Faith in Action Bay Area.

Sincerely,

Nathalia Beteta S.

4931 Mission St  
Casa de apoyo.

**From:** [MARIO FLORES](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Resolution supporting homeless immigrant families  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 5:10:38 PM  
**Attachments:** [Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safaí, and Director McSpadden..pdf](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.



Date: April 19<sup>th</sup> 2024

To: Board of Supervisors, Mayor Breed

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

Cities across the country are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the U.S. to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in vehicles, on MUNI, and under gas station roofs.

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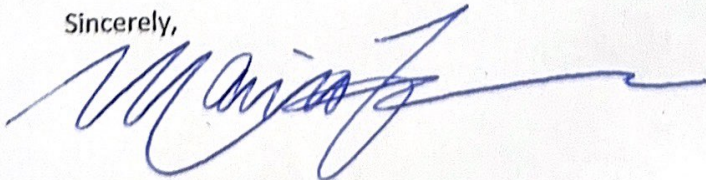
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Sincerely,



**From:** [Bolick, Erin](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** Re: No More Children Sleeping on The Streets  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 3:42:41 PM

---

This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Please support housing for our families!

Best,  
Erin

On Fri, Apr 19, 2024 at 3:30 PM Bolick, Erin <[bolicke@sfusd.edu](mailto:bolicke@sfusd.edu)> wrote:

I am a public school social worker. I have many families coming to me daily looking for work, shelter, food, and other basic necessities. We have a lot of students in unstable housing situations. No child should be sleeping on the street. It is inhuman!

--

[Best Regards,](#)  
[Erin Mausisa-Bolick](#)  
[she/her](#)  
[School Social Worker](#)  
[Thurgood Marshall Academic High School](#)

**SFUSD Family Resource Link Line:** 415-340-1716, Monday thru Friday, 9am - 1pm  
**For Families experiencing homelessness contact one of the city's Access Points:**

- Central City Access Point- 415-644-0504
- Bayview Access Point- 415-430-6320
- Mission Access Point - 415-972-1281

**San Francisco Comprehensive Child Crisis:** (415) 970-3800

**The 24/7 Safe & Sound TALK Line:** 415-441-KIDS (415-441-5437)

**Crisis Hotline / SF Suicide Prevention Hotline:** (415) 781-0500

CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION:

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[Best Regards,](#)  
[Erin Mausisa-Bolick](#)  
[she/her](#)

School Social Worker  
Thurgood Marshall Academic High School

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CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION:

**From:** [Bolick, Erin](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** No More Children Sleeping on The Streets  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 3:30:57 PM

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I am a public school social worker. I have many families coming to me daily looking for work, shelter, food, and other basic necessities. We have a lot of students in unstable housing situations. No child should be sleeping on the street. It is inhuman!

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CONFIDENTIAL STUDENT INFORMATION:

**From:** [Geri Almanza](#)  
**To:** [Board of Supervisors \(BOS\)](#)  
**Subject:** 4/22/24 Safai Housing Legislation  
**Date:** Friday, April 19, 2024 3:07:04 PM  
**Attachments:** [uesfscans@gmail.com\\_20240419\\_154526.pdf](#)

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This message is from outside the City email system. Do not open links or attachments from untrusted sources.

Hi

I would like to submit this letter for the official record on behalf of UESF President Cassandra Curiel.



# UESF

United Educators of San Francisco  
AFT/CFT, AFL-CIO • NEA/CTA

2310 Mason Street ■ San Francisco, CA 94133 ■ 415 956-8373 ■ Fax 415 956-8374 ■ [www.uesf.org](http://www.uesf.org)

Mayor London Breed  
City Hall, Room 200  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Supervisor Ahsha Safai  
City Hall, Room 244  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Director McSpadden  
Director, Department of Homelessness and Supportive Housing  
City Hall, Room 358  
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place  
San Francisco, CA 94102

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safai, and Director McSpadden,

On behalf of the United Educators of San Francisco, I am writing to express our full support for Supervisor Safai's resolution advocating for immediate prioritization of families for shelter, the establishment of additional shelter for families, including immigrant families, and the creation of a multilingual public dashboard for the Department of Homelessness shelter waitlist where immigrants can monitor their own progress toward receiving shelter.

As educators deeply embedded in the fabric of San Francisco's communities, we witness firsthand the profound impact of homelessness on our students and their families. Every day, we see children coming to school hungry, exhausted, and anxious because they lack stable housing. Every child in San Francisco should have a safe and stable place to call home, where they can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

Prioritizing families for shelter is not only the compassionate thing to do, but it is also essential for breaking the cycle of intergenerational poverty and homelessness. By providing families with immediate access to shelter, we can prevent further trauma and instability, allowing parents to focus on securing employment and accessing resources to rebuild their lives.

Furthermore, we recognize the unique challenges faced by immigrant families in accessing housing and support services. Many immigrant families fear seeking assistance due to concerns about their immigration status, leaving them particularly vulnerable to homelessness. It is crucial



that our city takes proactive steps to ensure that all families, regardless of immigration status, have equitable access to shelter and support services.

Additionally, the establishment of a multilingual public dashboard for the shelter waitlist is a vital step towards transparency and accountability in addressing homelessness in our city. This dashboard will empower residents to track the progress of shelter placements and advocate for improvements in our homelessness response system. By providing information in multiple languages, we can ensure that all members of our diverse community can actively engage in efforts to address homelessness.

In conclusion, we urge you to swiftly pass and implement the resolution to prioritize families for shelter, establish additional shelter for families, including immigrant families, and create a multilingual public dashboard for the shelter waitlist. Our children and families cannot wait any longer for the support and resources they urgently need. As we fight for the schools our students deserve, we expect the city of San Francisco to make sure our students have the resources necessary to fully participate in their schooling which includes dignified housing.

Thank you for your attention to this critical issue, and we look forward to working together to create a more just and compassionate San Francisco.

Sincerely,



Cassondra Curiel

President, United Educators of San Francisco

04/19/2024

Dear Mayor Breed, Supervisor Safaí, and Director McSpadden,

Cities across the country are experiencing a surge in both immigration and homelessness as families fleeing violence and persecution come to the U.S. to seek asylum. In San Francisco, a city that has had designated Sanctuary City status since 1989, the local government has been absent in its response, leaving small children to sleep in vehicles, on MUNI, and under gas station roofs.

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