



[Click here for our COVID-19 update of our services](#)

## Bringing Back The Portland Loo

The Portland Loo, a stand-alone public restroom with 24/7 access and exterior handwashing station, was installed in two downtown San Diego locations in 2014 after years of advocacy from our founding members and supporters. **Last month, the development firm responsible for reinstalling a taken down Portland Loo at Park Blvd. and Market St. proposed an amendment to their contract to remove the restroom reinstallation requirement, citing that the City of San Diego will be creating a public park that will have public restrooms nearby.**



The park, however, has not started construction yet and is not expected to be completed until 2023 at the earliest.

With the support of our Dignity Defenders who submitted written comments and shared public comments at the City of San Diego's Economic Development and Intergovernmental Relations (EDIR) Committee meeting, the Economic Development Department pulled the proposal from the agenda for further discussion.

We hope that this will provide an opportunity for the developer to create a more human-centered proposal that will advance the basic dignity of unsheltered San Diegans, but please keep an eye out on our newsletters, [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), and [Twitter](#) for updates on the Portland Loo.

## Summer Survival Supply Distribution



Our Summer Survival Supply Distribution is right around the corner! To ensure the safety of our unhoused communities, our staff will be creating Dignity Packs, or backpacks filled with hygiene items, socks, sunscreen, and other essential supplies, which will then be distributed through our staff and agency partners during their homeless outreach efforts from June 14-18.

**Our goal for this summer is to distribute at least 500 Dignity Packs**, and we are currently in need of:

- 150 backpacks/drawstring bags
- 190 travel-sized shampoo
- 200 soap
- 190 toothbrush
- 190 toothpaste
- 490 deodorants
- 500 lip balms
- 500 rain ponchos
- 500 sunscreen
- 500 flashlights w/batteries

**Please consider donating with the buttons below to help us advance basic dignity for our unhoused neighbors.**



### DID YOU KNOW?

\$20 can sponsor 1 Dignity Pack filled with hygiene items, essential supplies, and resource packets.

[View our list of requested supplies and donate items](#)

[Donate \\$20 to sponsor a Dignity Pack](#)

[Donate items through our Amazon Wishlist](#)

  
**HOMELESSNESS  
FACT**

Data collected in the annual reports from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) shows that homelessness amongst Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders (AAPI) **increased by 9%** over the past five years and have continued to slowly increase.

# Advancing Dignity Through Advocacy



**LEGISLATIVE SUMMIT**  
**MAY 2 - 10AM-12.30PM**

JOIN US TO LEARN ABOUT CALIFORNIA STATE BILLS  
IMPACTING CRIMINAL JUSTICE AND HOW TO TAKE ACTION.

REGISTER AT [BIT.LY/TEAMJUSTICESUMMIT](https://bit.ly/teamjusticesummit)



## WHAT WE ARE GOING TO COVER:

POLICE DECERTIFICATION ♦ REPEAL ENHANCEMENT ♦ ACCESS TO POLICE RECORDS ♦ BAN POLICE'S MILITARY WEAPONS ♦ BAN POLICE'S USE OF TEAR GAS & RUBBER BULLET ♦ ABOLISH DEATH PENALTY ♦ RECUSE DA WHO ACCEPT LAW ENFORCEMENT MONEY ♦ LIMIT GANG ENHANCEMENT ♦ ZERO BAIL ♦ INVESTIGATION OF POLICE'S USE OF FORCE ♦ GRANTS TO COMMUNITY GROUPS TO SUPPORT NON-POLICE RESPONSES ♦ SUNSET CRIMINAL RECORDS ♦ END MANDATORY MINIMUM FOR DRUG OFFENSES ♦ REENTRY HOUSING PROGRAMS FOR DEINCARCERATED ♦ END MANDATORY POLICE CALLS FROM SCHOOL ♦ BAN JAILHOUSE INFORMANTS ♦ RACIAL JUSTICE ACT RETROACTIVITY ♦ BAN TRANSFERING DEINCARCERATED TO ICE ♦ END INVOLUNTARY SERVITUDE ♦ INMATE VISITS & COMMUNICATION

As a member of #TeamJustice, a coalition of local organizations who advocate for policy changes on the criminal justice system, **we co-hosted our first Legislative Summit**, which featured guest speakers who explained how 28 state bills can influence how the criminal justice system affects our communities, including those who are experiencing homelessness.

We encourage you to hold your representatives accountable in creating just and equitable communities by learning about these bills and clicking the bills on our fact sheet PDF below to send an e-mail to your representative.

Watch the recording of the  
Legislative Summit

View our bills fact sheet and/or  
e-mail your representative

## Executive Director's Corner



In April, I spoke at a press conference on the settlement between MTS and the family of Angel Zapata Hernandez and on NBC 7's "Politically Speaking" segment on Derek Chauvin's verdict to highlight the need for reforms in policing and our criminal justice system.

Both events aimed to serve as closure for the deaths of two men, Angel Zapata Hernandez and George Floyd, who were killed in the exact same manner by law enforcement just a few months apart. Yet, the unjust loss of their lives continue to renew conversations and calls for major police reforms and accountability as they represented the inherent racism and classism within our system.



Our communities need alternatives that do not entrench them into the criminal justice system, support in accessing resources that meet their needs, and equitable structures that will protect the dignity and sanctity of human life. These changes are not insurmountable, but it will take intentional collaboration and consistent effort to reach a space where our communities feel safe, protected, seen, and heard.

In Solidarity,  
Mitchelle Woodson, Esq.

Watch the recording of the MTS  
press conference

Watch NBC 7's "Politically  
Speaking" interview

## OTHER WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT



**DONATE**  
to our programs



**FORWARD**  
this e-mail to a friend



**SHOP**  
on Amazon Smile

Select "Think Dignity" to  
automatically donate 0.5% of your  
purchase to us



**BE A SUSTAINING  
MEMBER**  
to support the success and  
longevity of our efforts

**Every effort counts.**

Your generosity can make a great impact in another person's life and transform our communities as shown in our new video below.



**Special thanks to our Sponsors:**



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Think Dignity is a grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit organization working towards community-based solutions through hands-on advocacy and local advocacy.

Contact Us: (619) 537-8736 | [info@thinkdignity.org](mailto:info@thinkdignity.org)

