



November 4, 2020

Mayor Keith James
City of West Palm Beach
401 Clematis Street
West Pam Beach, FL 33401

Dear Mayor James,

On behalf of The Lord's Place Board of Directors and staff, we reach out to you today with gratitude and sadness. The Lord's Place has proudly served the City of West Palm Beach for the last four years as your homeless services and street outreach provider. However, it is with deep disappointment that our valued partnership is coming to a close due to budgetary constraints.

As a leader in homeless services, we are saddened to no longer have the funding to do this vital work within city limits and where our main campus resides. As you know, street engagement is part of The Lord's Place mission, and we feel passionate about meeting the needs of those living on the streets.

We encourage the City to continue providing resources to our most vulnerable neighbors. We also hope that this budgetary reduction is not indicative of future funding cuts, especially as we are preparing for an unprecedented increase in homelessness due to the pandemic.

Our success over the last few years is because of our dedicated, compassionate and skilled staff, all who have lived experience as formerly homeless. Their unparalleled work has effectively transformed the lives of so many people who are homeless. Here are a few highlights:

- To date, our outreach team has served 1,667 people (or 1,278 households).
- We have successfully housed 110 people in the last year alone, effectively ending their cycle of homelessness.
- Because of private funding, we have paid first month, last month, and security deposit rental payments to place 22 people in their own independent housing since June.

P.O. Box 3265, West Palm Beach, FL 33402 | Phone (561) 494-0125 | Fax (561) 494-2922 | www.TheLordsPlace.org

To inquire about putting The Lord's Place into your will, please contact the Advancement Office at 561.578.4928

The Lord's Place is a 501(c)(3) organization and all donation are tax-deductible according to IRS Rules and Regulations. Tax ID # 59-2240502



- We stand by our clients throughout their journey, wrapping them in the services they need for ongoing success.
- The Lord's Place has added \$245,000 from private contributions to enhance our partnership with the city by incorporating street engagement into all of our fundraising efforts throughout the year.

It is important that you know how much we have loved serving the City of West Palm Beach and our clients. It is our hope that we will continue to partner with the City in other areas of homeless services, including housing. In addition, we are committed to the critical work of ending homelessness, with the full support of our staff, Board of Directors, donors and community at large.

We know this was not an easy decision to make, however we will continue to keep the lines of communication open should The Lord's Place services be needed in the future.

All the best,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Thornburgh', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Cornelia Thornburgh
Chair, Board of Directors