

1. Organization Name: Downtown Streets Team (DST)
2. Organization: Non-Profit/Community
3. Additional Information: Oscar Lee – oscar@sftravel.com
4. Topics Addressed: Homelessness, Street Cleanliness
5. Description of Program:

- We provide homeless and low-income men and women with the resources they need to rebuild their lives. First, they volunteer on one of our teams and begin working collaboratively on beautification projects. Team Members are held accountable and trusted to complete tasks, show up on time, and work well with others. Those who show dedication and leadership skills have the ability to rise up to become Team Leads, then Managers, and supervise others with little or no supervision from staff.
- In return, Team Members receive a non-cash stipend to help cover their basic needs, while taking advantage of our case management and employment services to find housing and a job. Our ultimate goal is to transition Team Members into employment because having a job restores hope and opens the door to other opportunities. Our model is structured to be a one-year transitional program into permanent housing and employment.
- All of our Team Members are volunteers who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. The majority of our new Team Members hear about our services through peer-to-peer outreach from our existing Team Members or graduates. We also provide professional outreach with our staff in all of our communities.

6. Results/Impact:

We are working towards change that results in long term stability, which is why we only count Team Members who are “permanently” employed and housed. We only count job placements after 90 days and housing when a Team Member’s name is on a lease.

We do not consider temporary employment and shelter as permanent solutions, so you will not see these placements in our impact numbers.

➤ Employment

- 925 Team Members employed for 90 days or more
- We are averaging 9 employment placements per month
- 69% of graduates keep their job for 90 days or more (five times the national best practice average of 14%)
- Graduates have earned over \$905k in taxable income last fiscal year.
- The average hourly wage is \$13.90

➤ Housing

- 888 People housed, 644 being Team Members
- We are averaging 7 people housed per month

➤ Our Team - 2019 Surveys

- 99% of Team Members feel welcome, respected, and heard by all DST staff at the weekly success meetings.
- 98% of Team Members believe they can reach their goals through DST.
- 99% of Team Members feel good giving back to their community and helping others.
- 95% of Team Members believe the exercise they receive during their volunteer shifts helps their physical and/or mental health.

➤ Community

- 50% reduction in crime in Palo Alto between 2005-2013
- 75% reduction in panhandling in Palo Alto between 2005-2013

➤ Beautifying the environment & changing lives

- Not only are we empowering individuals to get back to work, we're cleaning up our neighborhoods, creeks and downtown streets along the way. As one of our Team Members said, what we're doing is a "win-win-win" scenario; the Team Member wins, the environment wins, and the community wins – it doesn't get much better than that.

- Nearly 4,000 tons of debris removed from urban waterways that lead into the San Francisco Bay.
 - This accounted for 74% of all debris removed from Urban Waterways in San Jose between 2016-2017. Not bad for a homeless services company!
- 1.9 million cigarette butts collected from our city streets to be recycled

- Our work in homeless encampments
 - Five times every week, our San Jose Team Members head out to San Jose's encampments and clean up the mounds of garbage and abandoned household items that litter the creek beds and nature trails. On average, over 200 33-gallon bags of trash are removed per day. Additionally, through peer-to-peer outreach, our Team Members have successfully recruited over 40 encampment residents to join our Team.
 - In just two years, our San Jose Streets Team collected 4,000 cubic yards of trash from a single project area; 10x our original goal and the equivalent of 26 semi-truck trailers.

- Cigarette butts or bust
 - Our San Rafael Team partnered with Saint Vincent de Paul and San Rafael Clean to collect 100,000 cigarette butts from the streets of San Rafael. The cigarettes will be terracycled into plastic pellets, which then will be made into park benches, shipping pallets and railroad ties. This effort was so successful, the San Rafael Team began their own project and has removed over 1,500,000 cigarette butts to date! Now Sunnyvale is following San Rafael's lead in kicking butt!

7. Website: <https://streetsteam.org>