In July of 2009, we formed a Long Beach stakeholders group of 30-40 people to create a solution to ending homelessness. We called it Long Beach Connections. Common Ground came in to help us implement a Vulnerability Index. It radically changed this community.
We surveyed 345 people living on the streets of downtown. (38% were vulnerable; 76 were veterans; 113 had health issues) 100 community volunteers (faith groups, law enforcement, homeless agencies, political offices, schools, etc.)

In 18 months, 80 people were placed in apartments (23% of the population)

How did this change the community?
100K Homes Webinar
On The Ground: A Local Perspective On Why This Works

The Community became engaged in solving homelessness...
Brought emotion back into homelessness...
(Stories were powerful)
People Talked about solving homelessness. (Media, blogs, Poems, Emails)
Agencies started changing because of this initiative... (County, local VA office, homeless agencies, faith groups)
Brought back **HOPE** in solving homelessness... (“We can do it...”)

*Lamps should be in a home, not in an uninhabitable dwelling.*
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“David” spent 10 years sitting on a chair on the 710 Freeway...