## Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART)

The San Diego Sheriff's Department's Homeless Assistance Resource Team (HART) provides assistance with homeless related issues in the unincorporated areas of San Diego County. The team consists of eight deputies and one sergeant. Each HART Deputy is assigned to a certain geographic area which helps facilitate partnerships with patrol deputies, community members and individuals experiencing homelessness. The team works collaboratively with several San Diego County entities including the County of San Diego's Department of Health and Human Services Agency (HHSA), Department of Public Works (DPW), Veteran Affairs, La Maestra Family Health Centers, ResCare, Crisis House, Home Start, People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), Salvation Army and McAlister Institute Substance Abuse Treatment and Education.

The focus of the team is "resources first." Deputies with the HART Team make contact with the homeless to identify their needs and connect them to community services. HART offers a range of resources such as food, housing, job programs, substance abuse counseling and mental health services to help the homeless rebuild and reclaim their lives.

When not making contacts, deputies work with county groups to clean up encampments to reduce the risk of brush fires, floods and spread of contagious diseases.

If you would like to contact a HART Deputy, please email: <a href="mailto:Team.Hart@sdsheriff.org">Team.Hart@sdsheriff.org</a>.