

Homeless program reports progress

Staff reported fewer emergency interactions, while advocates questioned police involvement

By Eva Ruth Moravec
STAFF WRITER

A program coordinating city and nonprofit services for Austinites who cycle most often through emergency response systems is showing early signs of progress, staff told Austin City Council on Tuesday. But legal advocates raised concerns about how police are involved and how participants' information is handled.

The No Wrong Door program brings together 17 governmental and nonprofit entities to coordi-

nate intensive case management for Austin's most vulnerable residents: people who are chronically homeless and also have behavioral or mental health issues. Existing city resources support the program, and Integral Care, the local mental health authority, is providing \$1.7 million worth of clinicians. Staffers have also applied for four state grants.

The program began about 10 months ago but ramped up significantly in the last 100 days. Initially, it is focused on 99 of the most complex cases: people who frequently use emergency serv-

es and have a high number of arrests, mental health calls, substance use-related calls and criminal trespass notices. From May 20 to Aug. 18, the 99 individuals had 300 fewer interactions with Austin police officers than they had before the program, according to Maris Herold, Austin Police Department's chief of strategic initiatives. Across the group, interactions with emergency responders have declined from about once every 11 days to about once every 16 days.

"We are providing basic stabilization, whether that's basic identification, maybe that's shelter beds, maybe that's reconnection back to social services, may-

Homeless continues on A4



Jay Janner/Austin American-Statesman

Austin police speak with a man who appeared to be going through a mental health crisis on Sept. 25 near Republic Square Park.

LINING UP FOR TRUMP



PHOTOS BY KATINA ZENTZ/SAN ANTONIO EXPRESS-NEWS

TOP: Supporters wait in line prior to President Donald Trump's visit on Wednesday at the Freeman Coliseum on San Antonio's East Side, where Trump headlined a rally in support of Republican candidate Ken Paxton in a high-stakes U.S. Senate race.

LEFT: Vicki James laughs while waiting in line prior to Trump's arrival. See more from Trump's visit to the Alamo City at statesman.com

Parents split over Camp Mystic

Supporters seek bankruptcy role

By Peggy O'Hare
STAFF WRITER

The deep division between parents who sent their children to Camp Mystic has surfaced in an emergency motion filed in the Hill Country retreat's bankruptcy case.

Thirteen parents who support the embattled Christian camp for girls and its proposal to sell to a buyer who would continue its mission recently filed an emergency motion asking a bankruptcy court in Houston to reorganize the creditors committee to allow them to join the panel or to appoint them to an alternate committee.

The parents, who refer to themselves as the Camp Family Creditors, argue the current creditors committee does not adequately represent their interests or those of other families.

The current creditors committee is comprised of 13 other parents whose children died at Camp Mystic during last summer's flash flood. Most of those parents are suing the century-old camp for their daughters' deaths. They were appointed to the committee because they are expected to have the

Camp continues on A4

Oct. 7 attacks mourned 3 years later

By Melanie Lidman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

REIM, Israel — On a field where music festival revelers were gunned down by Hamas-led militants three years ago, Israelis on Wednesday embraced and wept for those lost in an attack that plunged the Middle East into war.

Israelis mourned at the site of the Nova Music Festival, as well as at bomb shelters, intersections and in communities targeted on Oct. 7, 2023.

Tens of thousands gathered in Tel Aviv for the main ceremony organized by bereaved families, separate from the official



Oded Balilty/Associated Press

People walk past an installation Wednesday in Tel Aviv, Israel, marking the third anniversary of the Oct. 7, 2023, attack on Israel.

government ceremonies.

On that day — the deadliest in the country's history — militants killed 1,200 people and took 251 hostage.

Israel's retaliatory offensive killed tens of thousands of Palestinians, destroyed much of

Gaza and drove most of its 2 million residents from their homes.

This is the first anniversary since all the hostages, living and dead, were returned.

Signs calling for their return are mostly gone, but reminders

Attacks continues on A6

Senate candidates boost spending on Spanish ads

By William Tong
STAFF WRITER

MORE COVERAGE

FCC considers allowing more political robocalls. **A2**

U.S. Senate campaigns in Texas have ramped up their Spanish-language advertisement spending, reflecting the pivotal role Hispanic and Latino voters could play in November's midterm election.

Between the May 26 Republican runoff election and Sept. 30, the candidates and their allied groups spent a combined \$4 million on ads in Spanish, according to a Hearst Newspapers analysis of data from AdImpact, a political advertisement tracking firm. Of that sum, Democratic candidate James Talarico's campaign spent about \$2.6 million, while Republican Ken Paxton and his allied groups spent about \$1.4 million.

Though that represents about 2.4% of all ad spending in the race between the runoff and Sept. 30, most has been concentrated in that last month.

In September, the Talarico campaign spent four times as much money on Spanish spots as it had between the runoff and August. Paxton groups spent about 80 times as much in September as it did from the runoff to August, though its earlier spending was minuscule compared to Talarico's.

The Talarico campaign outspent Paxton groups for most of the race so far. Between the

Ads continues on A3

