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SACRAMENTO AREA

HOMELESSNESS PROGRESS REPORT

New permanent supportive housing for homeless families opens in North Natomas

By Gregg Fishman

[Vista Nueva](#), a hotel conversion project, has opened its doors to support families experiencing homelessness. Vista Nueva is an adaptive reuse of the former Staybridge Extended Stay Hotel in North Natomas. This hotel conversion helps to address both the immediate crisis of homelessness and the ongoing need for permanent supportive housing solutions in the area, officials said.

The new housing community includes 63 studios, 39 one-bedroom apartments and 14 two-bedroom apartments that will support families and children. In total, its 116 rooms will serve more than 200 individuals. The project is funded through [\\$29 million in state Project Homekey funding](#).



“This project is an important and effective strategy to bring our unhoused families into supportive housing with wrap-around services needed to thrive,” said Vice Mayor Angelique Ashby, who represents Natomas and has pushed for the project.

Vista Nueva is run by non-profit housing developer Jamboree in conjunction with the [Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency](#). “Sacramento’s Homekey projects are renewing hope and creating a pathway to a better future that stable, safe housing can provide,” said SHRA Executive Director La Shelle Dozier. “Vista Nueva moves us another step forward in fulfilling our commitment to pursue every possible opportunity to provide stable housing and hope for residents living on our streets.”

Sacramento Steps Forward has played an integral part in connecting and preparing families for this housing opportunity. Through the Coordinated Entry process, a new family assessment was developed with feedback from several community partners, including a new Partners with Lived Expertise Cohort, to ensure the most vulnerable families in our community are matched with available housing. “The Vista Nueva project is one of many upcoming housing opportunities for our unhoused neighbors.

We look forward to our continued partnership as new housing opportunities become available in our community,” said Lisa Bates, SSF CEO.

“Sacramento County is thrilled to be partnering on the Vista Nueva project with 15 dedicated apartments for homeless families living with a serious mental illness,” said Chevon Kothari, deputy county executive for social services. “The County will provide high intensity full-service partnership behavioral health treatment services and supports for these homeless families with full wrap around behavioral health services.”

Vista Nueva is the second hotel conversion by the City of Sacramento using Homekey funds.

Last year, the city opened the [La Mancha permanent supportive housing complex](#) in the structure formerly occupied by the Woodspring Suites in south Sacramento.

Another Homekey project, [Central Sacramento Studios](#) at 1100 H St. in downtown Sacramento is currently under renovation to create 92 units for homeless individuals and families. The project received \$24 million in Homekey funds and is expected to open next spring.



About this report

The City of Sacramento, Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency, Sacramento Steps Forward and the County of Sacramento are publishing this monthly report to keep the community informed about our collaborative work to address homelessness in Sacramento.



The Sacramento City Council on Oct. 25 approved more than \$35 million in funding for 820 new affordable housing units in six new developments throughout the city.

Four of the projects include units specifically set aside for people experiencing homelessness, and one will provide transitional housing beds for homeless individuals through a contract with the Salvation Army.

“This is a strategic and deliberate recommendation in our ongoing effort to reduce unsheltered homelessness,” said Mayor Darrell Steinberg. “Building more permanent housing is crucial to keeping and getting people housed.”

The City already operates more than 1,100 emergency shelter beds and places for respite. The new affordable housing units can provide the next step for many people in those short-term housing solutions. For more information, please [click here](#).

Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency

Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency is creating more housing opportunities for unsheltered transitional aged youth (TAY) aged 18-24 who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. The Emergency Bridge Housing at the Grove opened in June 2020 with 24 double occupancy sleeping cabins to serve up to 24 individuals (or more if they are in a familial relationship). The expansion increases the total number of double occupancy cabins to 50 with the ability to house 50 TAY (or more if they are in a familial relationship). SHRA oversees the operations of the shelter. First Step Communities manages the daily operations engaging with the youth and coordinating robust wrap-around services to assist with moving into permanent stable housing within six to 12 months. The cabins are equipped with beds, personal storage space, heating and air conditioning. Bathrooms, showers and daily meals are also provided. Since opening in June 2020, 269 guests were admitted and 137 have been housed. The shelter is a partnership effort with the City of Sacramento, California Business Consumer Services and Housing Agency, and St. Paul Church of God in Christ which owns the property where the cabin community is located.



Sacramento Steps Forward

The Sacramento Continuum of Care (CoC) has been selected to participate in the US Department of Housing and Urban Development’s (HUD) Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP). Announced on October 24, 2022, this \$6,509,295 award to the Sacramento region will provide us with the funding, technical assistance, and flexibility to develop and implement a coordinated community approach to preventing and ending youth homelessness. A critical component to the YHDP is youth engagement and leadership throughout the planning and implementation of YHDP projects. HUD will also provide technical assistance teams to help develop a Coordinated Community Plan, due in April 2023. Based on the plan, the CoC can then fund a wide range of housing programs including rapid rehousing, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and host homes with YHDP funding through a competitive award process.



County of Sacramento

Nita Webb prints out an application for a housing voucher through Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA). She has a client that qualifies for housing but has no way to fill out the application needed to get the process started. Providing these simple services for her clients is just part of the job Nita does as a Peer Counselor to help out people experiencing homelessness in Sacramento County. Nita understands that every small bit of help can lead to big changes in someone’s life. She has been there – desperately in need of a helping hand to better her situation. [Read more](#)

