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LifeMoves Mountain View Now Providing a Path to Stability for Individuals and Families Experiencing Homelessness

The Project Homekey interim housing community in Mountain View officially opens its doors and begins serving clients with supportive services this month

Mountain View, Calif. — More individuals, couples and families are getting off the streets and on the path to stable housing through an innovative program that is now available in Mountain View.

The City of Mountain View is partnering with LifeMoves, Silicon Valley's largest provider of interim housing and supportive services for those experiencing homelessness, to operate a modern, modular, supportive interim housing community. In less than six months from the start of construction, the City and LifeMoves are now celebrating the opening of LifeMoves Mountain View. This fast-paced accomplishment is all thanks to the City's pioneering public/private partnership with others who support ending homelessness through a safe, dignified and multi-faceted approach. In addition to LifeMoves, these partners include the California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), the County of Santa Clara, private philanthropies, and private sector donors including Google.org and LinkedIn.

"This is an incredible day for our city with LifeMoves Mountain View officially opening its doors to help our homeless residents attain stability," said Mayor Ellen Kamei. "Especially during the pandemic, we are proactively working to respond to the needs of all members of our community. More than ever, we need to be flexible, be creative and be collaborative. Thank you to all of our partners for believing in us and LifeMoves. We now have the Project Homekey interim housing community ready to serve our most vulnerable populations."

"We are so grateful to Governor Newsom for support through Homekey funding, to Mayor Ellen Kamei and the entire City Council and people of Mountain View, to the County of Santa Clara and to Google and LinkedIn for their immense support to build this needed facility. State, city, county and corporate leaders, along with philanthropic LifeMoves donors, brought this innovative project to life in an amazingly rapid and cooperative way," stated LifeMoves CEO Aubrey Merriman. "Together, we have demonstrated that where there is the will, there is a way to work together quickly to provide safe, clean interim housing for our unhoused friends, families and neighbors. Visionary leadership is now being harnessed to solve some of our community's most pressing issues and LifeMoves is so proud to be a part of the solution."

“The LifeMoves Mountain View interim housing community is one of the bright spots during a very challenging period for our community,” said Kimbra McCarthy, City Manager. “I am proud of how our staff in the City Manager’s Office and Community Development Department moved ahead quickly in establishing public/private partnerships that made this new program come to life in a very short period. In less than a year, we now have a safe and secure site that will serve individuals experiencing homelessness and provide the care and services to help them return to permanent housing.”

Located at 2566 Leghorn St., LifeMoves Mountain View will help people experiencing homelessness transition to permanent housing through case management and housing location services. The site features innovative private modular units for 100 households with beds for approximately 124 people.

The program is uniquely focused on the needs of clients and their well-being. The site includes ample space for case management meetings, dining, recreation, laundry, and even dog kennels. At LifeMoves Mountain View, every individual or family has a private room, heating and air conditioning, with a front door that locks. LifeMoves connects clients to primary and behavioral health care, safety net and supportive services, and other benefits along with providing job placement resources, classes on subjects such as parenting and financial literacy, and a wide array of other services. Clients are anticipated to stay for 90-120 days while they get stabilized and begin on the path to more permanent housing.

This project is opening just months after being granted Homekey funds in October 2020 as part of the State’s COVID-19 pandemic response. The City and LifeMoves committed to open the site as soon as reasonably possible to get individuals and families back on the road to stability. This resulted in implementing a phased approach to occupancy. Clients are admitted by referral only through the County. Priority will be given to individuals referred from the local area by qualified Emergency Assistance Network providers including the Community Services Agency and Mountain View Police Department. At full occupancy, the site is anticipated to provide immediate shelter to over 350 per year for people experiencing homelessness in Mountain View and the local area. The site is anticipated to have all rooms full in the coming weeks.

LifeMoves Mountain View is significantly funded through the [State’s Project Homekey](#) grant program. In August 2020, the City submitted a joint application with LifeMoves in response to the availability of funding. On Sept. 21, 2020, HCD announced the commitment of \$14.35 million to the project, composed of \$11.95 million for capital costs and \$2.4 million for a portion of the first two years of operating costs. The City also committed \$2.4 million to support project operations. The County of Santa Clara intends to match the City’s commitment and provide \$2.4 million for the interim housing community, pending approval of the Board of Supervisors. Additional funds were raised through corporate and private philanthropy, including Google.org and LinkedIn.

For more information, visit MountainView.gov/Homekey and LifeMoves.org/Homekey.

Statements

California Governor Gavin Newsom: "LifeMoves Mountain View is a great example of what can happen when state government, local government, corporations, non-profits and philanthropy work together to create innovative solutions to complex issues facing society. It is appropriate that this project is being done in Silicon Valley, a center of global innovation, where we have so much talent and so many great thinkers. I'm so proud to be a Californian when I see projects like this where we've used creative solutions to help solve problems like housing and homelessness in an innovative and entrepreneurial way. The Homekey program helps our fellow citizens in need and we should all be proud of what we are able to accomplish when we work together."

Senator Josh Becker, D-Peninsula: “For unhoused families and individuals, a safe, strong roof over their heads in a supportive environment provides much-needed shelter as well as a pathway for returning to stable housing. Congratulations to the City of Mountain View! Your partnership with LifeMoves on this innovative project to swiftly create the MV Homekey facility and interim housing program on Leghorn Street will do much for community members in need.”

Assemblymember Marc Berman, District 24: “The LifeMoves Mountain View Interim Housing Project is an outstanding achievement made possible by LifeMoves, the City of Mountain View, and Santa Clara County’s partnership and vision. Funded by the state’s Project Homekey initiative, this innovative program will provide hundreds of our most vulnerable residents with the housing and services they need to get back on their feet. I look forward to following the success of the program and offer my sincere thanks to each of the partners who worked tirelessly to bring this program to life.”

Supervisor Joe Simitian, District 5, County of Santa Clara: “It’s just great how so many folks have pitched in to make this work. As a result, more than 100 members of the community will have a safe place to lay their heads. We can do so much when we work in partnership with one another.”

Homekey Team, California Department of Housing and Community Development: “The Homekey Mountain View project is an excellent example that shows how Homekey is helping vulnerable Californians who have been affected by COVID-19. The project demonstrates a rapid response to protect and provide permanent housing for 88 individuals and 12 families for total of 124 persons at risk of homelessness.”

About the City of Mountain View

Located between the Santa Cruz Mountains and San Francisco Bay, Mountain View is a diverse community with an estimated population of 82,739. Mountain View covers just over 12 square miles, featuring over 1,000 acres of park and wildlife areas including the 750-acre wildlife and recreation area called Shoreline at Mountain View. In the heart of Silicon Valley, Mountain View is home to a vibrant downtown and headquarters to many nationally and internationally known corporations including Google, LinkedIn, Intuit and NASA Ames Research Center. For more information, visit MountainView.gov.

About LifeMoves

LifeMoves is the largest provider of interim housing and services for homelessness in Silicon Valley. With 26 shelter and service sites from Daly City to San José (our two newest sites are Mountain View and Half Moon Bay), LifeMoves gives our neighbors experiencing homelessness a temporary place to call home while providing intensive, customized case management through both site-based programs and community outreach. The case management teaches the skills that clients need in order to get back to and stay in stable housing and is often referred to as the LifeMoves “secret sauce.” 86% of families and 67% of individuals who engage in LifeMoves programs return to stable housing. Please join us in helping our neighbors: www.lifemoves.org.

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