



COUNTY OF YOLO

Office of the County Administrator

Patrick S. Blacklock
County Administrator

Beth Gabor
Manager of Public Affairs

625 Court Street, Room 204 • Woodland, CA 95695
(530) 666-8042 • FAX (530) 666-8193
www.yolocounty.org

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Contact: Beth Gabor, Manager of Public Affairs
(530) 666-8042 [w] • (530) 219-8464 [c]

Bridge to Housing Move Day a Success!

(Woodland, CA) – Yesterday, just hours before the rain came, approximately 100 volunteers and staff moved 63 homeless individuals, along with their 40 pets, from the North Levee encampment in West Sacramento into temporary housing.

The move, along with provision of services, was a collaborative effort between Yolo County, Yolo County Housing, the City of West Sacramento and numerous private and non-profit partners. Over the next 60 to 120 days, with \$100,000 in financial support from Yolo County and the City of West Sacramento, along with private donations, these individuals will be housed and will receive assistance for benefits in which they may be eligible to prevent homelessness in the future.

The Bridge to Housing pilot project is a time- and population-limited project designed to test the Housing First model in Yolo County – an approach to ending homelessness that centers on providing people experiencing homelessness with housing as quickly as possible, and then providing services as needed. While Yolo County Housing manages the housing component, Yolo County, along with other non-profit organizations, are now assisting with job training, chemical dependency, health insurance, mental health services, disability benefits, counseling and other services.

“This one-of-a-kind pilot project is a massive undertaking,” said Yolo County Supervisor Oscar Villegas who represents the West Sacramento area. “I am so proud of our community and the support to help transition homeless folks from living along the river to temporary housing for the winter. Thanks to all who helped make this first step a success.”

Prior to the move, the residents of the North Levee homeless encampment requested an opportunity to give back to the community with a clean-up day. On November 8, the residents, again with numerous community volunteers, collected approximately 15 tons of trash.

Other partner agencies in the Bridge to Housing project include: Legal Services of Northern California, United Christian Centers, CommuniCare Health Centers, Mercy Faith Coalition, Yolo Community Care Continuum, California State Parks, Yolo Food Bank, Home Depot, Waste Management, Turning Point Community Programs, Northern California Construction & Training, Yolo County Day Reporting Center (Sacramento County Office of Education) and Ethan Conrad Properties.

To donate to the Bridge to Housing Pilot Project through the New Hope Community Development Corporation 501(c)3, visit: www.newhopecdc.org or mail checks made payable to: New Hope CDC, 147 W. Main Street, Woodland, CA 95695. Tax I.D. number #68-0440554.

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For pictures, go to Bridge to Housing webpage under Residents menu on www.yolocounty.org.