

## **COUNTY OF YOLO**

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## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Board Supports Sutter Health's Regional Effort to End Homelessness**

(Woodland, CA) – Under a resolution adopted this week by the Board of Supervisors, Yolo County committed its support to Sutter Health's Getting to Zero campaign, a regional effort to end chronic homelessness by aligning programs and resources around a more effective low-or-no barrier approach to housing individuals experiencing homelessness. Working with public and private partners in Placer, Sacramento and Yolo counties, Sutter Health will match up to \$5 million in contributions and raise \$20 million over three years to support this effort.

"Getting to Zero encourages local governments to align around best practices and support each other in seeking innovative approaches that will actually get people off the street and into shelter," said Oscar Villegas, Yolo County supervisor and co-chair of the California State Association of Counties-League of California Cities Joint Task Force.

Getting to Zero embraces a low-or-no barrier model of care that provides the chronically homeless with Housing First, and then quickly offers the support services they need to achieve and maintain stability. The effort's ultimate goal is to reach Functional Zero – when the number of homeless people is equal to, or less than, the amount of permanent housing available to place them – in all three counties.

"The Yolo County Board of Supervisors appreciates Sutter Health's leadership in bringing together the private and public sector to align our responses to homelessness into one coordinated and strategic effort," said Yolo County Board of Supervisors Chair Duane Chamberlain.

Sutter Health has long been committed to investing in programs that improve the health of the communities it serves. In addition to Getting to Zero, the organization funds community-based services, mobile clinics, transportation services, prevention and wellness programs and more. In 2015, Sutter Health's network of physician organizations, hospitals and other health care providers made a total community benefit investment of \$957 million. Since September 2016, Sutter Health has funded four matching grants to support low-or-no barrier responses to homelessness in Davis (\$233,000), Roseville (\$250,000), Sacramento (\$433,000) and Placer County (\$1 million).

"As a business leader and health care provider, we at Sutter Health understand that homelessness touches every individual in this community," said James Conforti, president of Sutter Health Valley Area. "Through the Getting to Zero campaign, we hope to bring together partners who can commit the resources to fund programs that will make a meaningful impact in ending homelessness."