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CHAT Breaks Ground on Everhart Village Emergency Shelter Project

Chico Housing Action Team (CHAT), a nonprofit agency working to move people from homelessness into housing, will break ground for the [Everhart Village emergency shelter project](#) in Chico, CA at 10 am, July 13th, at 540 Cohasset Road. The groundbreaking ceremony will feature CHAT staff, representatives from the Butte County Department of Behavioral Health, and members of the engineering and construction companies for the project.

Everhart Village will provide approximately 20 individual sleeping cabins in a community setting for Butte County Behavioral Health clients as they transition from homelessness to long-term, stable housing. The village will be a non-congregate shelter that will provide residents with convenient access to many healthcare providers and other supportive services. Butte County Behavioral Health will provide outreach and intensive case management services to the residents of the village via the Resiliency

Empowerment Support Team (REST) program, funded through the State of California Mental Health Services Act's Innovation component.

“CHAT is excited to be moving forward with the development of Everhart Village”, said Amber Benedict, Social Service Director for Chico Housing Action team. “This is truly a collaborative effort and we are grateful for the support of the community.”

Don Taylor, Housing and Homeless Administrator for Butte County Dept. of Employment and Social Services, remarked: “We welcome the groundbreaking at Everhart Village as a fabulous opportunity to strengthen an existing Public/Private relationship in the continuing effort to serve the unhoused community members with mental health challenges in their pursuit of recovery from homelessness, mental illness and/or addiction. We are looking forward to the positive benefits of these efforts”.

Scott Kennelly, Director of Butte County Dept. of Behavioral Health, said about the project: “Butte County Behavioral Health and CHAT have been working on this project together since 2019. This groundbreaking is an exciting next step in our ongoing journey to serve individuals with serious mental illness who are unhoused and would benefit from our treatment services. We look forward to making a positive impact in our community in partnership with CHAT.”

CHAT began working on this project in late 2019 with Butte County Behavioral Health and the Butte County Department of Employment and Social Services. This project is unique in California for the high degree of cooperation between a county and a nonprofit agency to address mental health issues among homeless people. Construction is targeted to be completed by fall of 2022 with the first residents moving in shortly afterwards.

About CHAT

CHAT started in 2013 with a commitment to address homelessness in Chico. We now rent or lease over 70 residences in Chico and housing over 270 residents, including 89 children. Our belief is that, with an adequate range of housing and shelter options, no one in our community should have to live in unsheltered homelessness. To learn more about CHAT, [visit our website](#).

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