## **SUBMISSION PORTAL OVERVIEW**

**Is the Application a "Test" Submission?** No, this is my official Submission.

### **Part 1: ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION**

## **Application Window**

This application is being submitted in the following application window:

Window #3, 5/1/2023 - 6/30/2023

## **Eligible Applicant**

Select the eligible applicant's jurisdiction type.

City

What is the name of the city or county?

City of Visalia

### **Implementing Organization**

**Implementing Organization** 

City of Visalia

**Specific Unit or Office Within the Implementing Organization** 

Finance Department - Housing Division

**Implementing Organization's Address** 

707 W. Acequia Ave.

CityZip CodeCountyVisalia93291Tulare County

Implementing Organization's Tax ID

**Number** 94-6000449

### **Project Director**

Name

Renee Nagel

**Title** 

**Finance Director** 

Phone

(559) 713-4375

Email

renee.nagel@visalia.city

### **Grant Administrator**

Name

Margie Perez

**Title** 

**Housing Specialist** 

Phone Email

## **Contact Person for Application**

Name

Margie Perez

Title

**Housing Specialist** 

**Phone** 

(559) 713-4460

**Email** 

margie.perez@visalia.city

## **Authorized Representative**

Name

Leslie Caviglia

Title

City Manager



# Reaching these limits is not required. Competitive responses may fall well short of these limits.

#### Part 2: PROPOSAL OVERVIEW

### **People Served**

Number of people currently residing in prioritized encampment site 80

Of people currently residing in prioritized encampment site, how many will be served by this proposal?

80

Given the potential for inflow of people into the prioritized encampment site, how many people are projected to be served across the entire grant period? 500

Of people projected to be served across the entire grant period, number of people projected to transition into interim shelters 260

Of people projected to be served across the entire grant period, number of people projected to transition into permanent housing 200

Is the prioritized encampment site part of a larger encampment area?

### **Encampment Information**

1. Briefly describe the characteristics of the people residing within the prioritized encampment site. The description must include demographics and may include household compositions, disabilities, and projected service and housing needs. (1500 character limit)

The City of Visalia is prioritizing 3 encampment areas: 1) State Hwy 198 on Ben Maddox, and Burke St. to Santa Fe St. on-ramps, 2) State Route 63 from Riverway Sports Park to Lincoln Oval Park; and 3) along the St. John's River. Each encampment has individuals sleeping in a mixture of tarps, sleeping bags, blankets, shopping carts, tents, and cardboard structures. There were no children present at any of the

encampments. Ages ranged from 25 to 73 years old: 8% were 25 to 29 years old, 53% were 30 to 49 years old, 18% were 50 to 59 years old, and 9% were 60 years old and older, and 13% refused to respond. 5% are married, 16% are divorced, and 79% are single. 5% of the population are veterans. 43% of inhabitants have confirmed they have a mental or physical disability, including the inability to walk, diabetes, and cancer. Race and ethnicity are 49% White, 3% Black, 1% Asian, 8% Native American, 39% Hispanic, and 20% refused to respond. 36% graduated high school or obtained a GED. 58% have been homeless a year or more, and 26% have been homeless 5 years or more. A majority are homeless due to drugs and/or alcohol, poor decisions, divorce, and/or loss of family. Most inhabitants received food stamps and Medi-Cal. 75% of inhabitants confirmed they would be interested in services, housing opportunities, and relocating to a Navigation Center. Data has been compiled from client surveys conducted in February 2023 with the assistance of Tulare County Multidisciplinary Team (MDT).

2. Briefly describe physical characteristics of the prioritized encampment site in which the people you are proposing to serve are residing. The description must include the specific location, physical size of the area, the types of structures people are residing in at the site, whether vehicles are present, and any other relevant or notable physical characteristics of the site. (1000 character limit)

The City of Visalia is targeting 3 encampments along or adjacent to State rights of ways. The first, covering 4,031 ft, is located on State Highway 198 at the Ben Maddox on-ramp, west and east bound areas, and between Burke St. and Santa Fe St. on 198, west and east bound areas. Because 198 is sunken and shoulders are heavily sloped, frontage roads must be crossed to access the rights of way. The second covers 1.91 miles on State Route 63, from the Riverway Sports Park including N. Dinuba Blvd. to Lincoln Oval Park. This area is heavily traveled by commuters and families visiting the popular Riverway Sports Park. The third encampment is located along St. John's River covering 3 miles of riverbank. The St. John's River Park provides a natural setting and trails a short drive from the city center. These encampments include individuals who sleep in tarps, sleeping bags, blankets, shopping carts, and cardboard shelters. Few individuals are living in in their vehicles at these encampments.

3. Why is this particular encampment site being prioritized? (1000 character limit)

These sites are a priority due to their location and safety concerns. The 1st encampment on State Hwy 198 Ben Maddox, Burke St. and Santa Fe St. is near high-speed traffic. The Ben Maddox site is dangerously situated up against the railroad tracks and produces debris in the train pathway.

The 2nd encampment on CA Route 63 including the Riverway Sports Park, N. Dinuba Blvd. and the Oval Park is a safety concern for park patrons and families with children that utilize these areas. These areas have covered arbors, picnic tables, picnic benches, and play areas. The current encampments have grown to a size which prevents normal use of these parks and citizens no longer feel safe in these spaces. The parks require cleanup of drug needles, feces, and urine.

The 3rd encampment on the St. Johns River is prioritized due to safety concerns. During the raining season when much of the St. John's River Island, where this site is located, is engulfed in water, and experiences dangerous mudslides.

**Attachment: Map**City of Visalia ERF-2-R - Maps.pdf

**4.** Is the prioritized site on a state right-of-way? Yes - partially

Attachment: Caltrans Letter of Support
Caltrans - City of Visalia ERF Letter of Support.pdf

### **Proposal's Outcomes**

# 5. What are the outcomes this proposal seeks to accomplish by the grant close (6/30/2026)? If funded, what are the primary activities you are planning to implement to achieve the proposal's outcomes? (1000 character limit)

This proposal seeks to construct a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center for people experiencing homelessness. The Visalia Navigation Center (VNC) will provide immediate shelter and permanent housing services for people residing in the targeted encampments. The VNC will be constructed on donated land located at 3525 N. Court St., Visalia CA 93291. This approximately 20,000 sq. ft. public facility will accommodate 100-beds, offices for staff and supportive services, two dormitory-type spaces, one for men and one for women, 10 private rooms for families with children, commercial kitchen and dining room, large common area, and laundry room. Exterior amenities will include a playground area, courtyard, and animal kennels. To ensure VNC clients gain stability and successfully transition to permanent housing, each client will be assigned a Trauma Informed Care (TIC) trained case manager, and all VNC staff and volunteers will be trained to provide TIC and harm reduction.

## 6. How will the applicant measure progress towards the proposal's outcomes? (1000 character limit)

Progress will be measured by the number of homeless placed in permanent housing, and the numbers of homeless remaining in the targeted encampments. The VNC will use the Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Tool (VI-SPDAT). The local Continuum of Care (CoC) will use the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS) to refer individuals from the Coordinated Entry System (CES) to the appropriate program, with priority given to residents of the targeted encampments.

The VNC will complete monthly progress reports including narratives and statistics of unduplicated individuals assisted, demographics, race, ethnicity, all services provided, and the number of VI-SPDAT assessments, new HMIS clients, job trainings/placements, and permanent housing placements.

#### Outcomes:

- o Facilitate a minimum of 200 interim and 100 permanent housing exits in the first year.
- o Secure and sustain exits to permanent housing for 50 people per year with a recidivism rate of less than 10% per year.

# 7. Are there any local ordinances, resources, or other factors that may hinder achieving the proposal's outcomes? If so, how will the applicant navigate these challenges? (1000 character limit)

Upon award of this proposal, there are no local ordinances or other factors that may hinder achieving the proposal's outcomes. Rising construction costs during the planning and design phases of the Navigation Center have created an unplanned funding gap that now threatens the project. A total of \$9,355,387 has been secured for this project from the City of Visalia (COV) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG), COV Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA), COV Low- and Moderate-Income Housing Asset Funds (LMIHAF), Tulare County (TC) ARPA, TC General Funds, Visalia Senior Housing, TC Hope, and Rotary. With the VNC being the first step towards permanent housing for the occupants of the targeted encampments, cancellation of the project would cripple the City of Visalia's efforts to house these individuals.

## 8. Is this proposal a standalone project or part of a larger initiative? Larger initiative

#### 8. a) How would this larger initiative be categorized?

Part of a larger project for encampments in general

#### Please describe. (1000 character limit)

The VNC will provide immediate shelter as a part of a much larger initiative and will serve as an entry point into permanent housing for people residing in prioritized encampments. The VNC trauma informed staff,

partners, and assigned case workers will assist residents with rapid placement into permanent housing by facilitating any paperwork, rent and move-in assistance necessary. There are 74 newly developed PSH units in Tulare County and approximately 425 new PSH units expected to be completed in the next 24-months in the bi-county region as shown in Table 2. The project has secured PSH vouchers from the local CoC and Housing Authority as shown in the attached letters of support. The project has also secured PSH unit commitments from partner development organizations, such as Self-Help Enterprises, UPHoldings, and RH Community Builders.

### **Part 3: IMPLEMENTATION**

## **Core Service Delivery and Housing Strategies**

9. Describe the proposed outreach and engagement strategy, case management, and / or service coordination for people while they are continuing to reside within the encampment site. Quantify units of service to be delivered including the ratio of staff to people served, frequency of engagement, and length of service periods. (2000 character limit)

The city collaborates with Community Services and Employment Training (CSET), CoC Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance (KTHA) and the Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency's (TCHHSA) Homeless Multidisciplinary Team (MDT), Kaweah Health Street Medicine Team (SMT), and Kings View PATH Programs.

Housing navigators will create VI-SPDAT entries for referral to agencies that can best serve each client based on eligibility and risk factors. Each client will be served by a trauma-informed case manager, who will offer services and partner resources that meet their specific needs.

KTHA, MDT, PATH housing navigators, and mental health clinical workers (total of 8 persons) provide street outreach in the prioritized encampments weekly. Housing navigators will assist clients to access safe and stable housing services using a person-centered Housing First approach. Services include mental health assessments/enrollments, housing counseling, free birth certificates, CA ID vouchers, social security advocacy, substance abuse enrollments, veteran services, and drug and alcohol substance counseling. Three TulareWORKs staff will be available 4 hours a week to assist individuals to apply for Medi-Cal, General Assistance, and other mainstream benefits.

The SMT team of 1 doctor and 2 nurses provide on-site medical services to prioritized encampments two days weekly. The team provides preventive screenings (i.e., diabetes, NTN, HIV, glaucoma, and valley fever), blood pressure checks, glucose checks, wound care, insect bite treatments, health education, referral to social services and community health centers.

CSET provides a range of job training and employment programs to meet a client where they are. For example, the Environmental Cleanup Opportunities (ECO) Project provides 40 individuals with employment, interview training, resume building, and financial literacy annually. The ECO project is a litter abatement program that employs people experiencing homelessness.

# 10. Describe the role of Coordinated Entry in the context of this proposal and how Coordinated Entry policies or processes will support and / or hinder the implementation of this proposal. (1000 character limit)

Placement into housing starts will utilize the Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Tool (VI-SPDAT), Prevention/Re-Housing (PR) VI-SPDAT, and the Transition Age Youth (TAY) VI-SPDAT to measure vulnerability and housing needs based on the highest priority. Utilizing the VI-SPDAT for prioritization has been vital to target the limited and intensive permanent supportive housing resources to the people with the longest histories of homelessness and the most extensive needs due to these individuals having the highest barriers to obtaining permanent housing. These tools are utilized by the local CoC via HMIS and allows agencies to refer individuals from the CES to the most appropriate program. All homeless partnering agencies utilize HMIS, allowing for inter-agency collaboration. These tools are critically important for homeless service providers to share information about each homeless individual being served.

11. Please describe the interim shelter and permanent housing opportunities proposed to support this proposal and provide evidence of the applicant's demonstrated ability and commitment to deliver permanent housing for people residing in the prioritized encampment. (2000 character limit)

The City has dedicated \$2,055,205 in CDBG, \$1,950,182 in PLHA, and \$200,000 in LMIHAF for a total of \$4,205,387 in City funds for the development of the VNC, a first of its kind in Tulare County to provide immediate shelter and a central one-stop center for placement into permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness. The city also dedicated \$820,070 in PLHA and \$600,000 in LMIHAF for operations for the first three years of the VNC to ensure the facility's operational capability. As an entitlement jurisdiction, the City is dedicated to continuing to provide ongoing operational funding with the use of CDBG and PLHA funds to ensure the facility's long-term sustainability.

The City has also provided funds to create housing for people residing in encampments. The City's current funded housing projects include \$486,000 in PLHA funds for a Seasonal Emergency Shelter that operates from Dec. 1st to Mar. 31st of each year; \$400,000 in CDBG and \$265,000 in Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funds for development and \$498,000 in PLHA funds for operational funds for Eden House a 22-bed transitional housing project that opened in 2020; \$1.5 million in HOME funds for the Sequoia Village Project a motel conversion with 50 PSH units that opened in 2022; \$1.8 million in HOME-ARP and \$900,000 in LMIHAF funds for the Majestic Project, a motel conversion with 42 PSH units to open winter 2023, and \$2.4 million in HOME funds and \$330,000 LMIHAF funds for the Lofts Project an 80-unit mixed use affordable housing complex with 40-units of PSH to open spring 2024. As of 2020, the City has supported the creation of 22-transitional housing units and 132 PSH units to provide permanent shelter to individuals exiting homelessness.

## 12. Describe how this proposal is tailored to meet the needs and preferences of people residing within the prioritized encampment. (1500 character limit)

The project will provide a one-stop center for key supportive services and direct placement in permanent housing. The VNC will provide an evidence-based Housing First approach to provide a decent, safe place to live, that does not limit length of stay, before stabilizing, improving health, reducing harmful behaviors, or increasing income. The project will provide trauma informed care and services to this chronically homeless population. The VNC will serve as a platform from which they can pursue personal goals and improve their quality of life. The VNC will provide flexible, individualized support, client choice, and ongoing case management to ensure client's stability into permanent housing. The VNC will focus on strengthening and building on the skills and abilities of each client, based on self-determined goals, which may include employment, education, social integration, improvements to health or other goals that will help stabilize the client's situation and lead to self-sufficiency.

The VNC will partner with the CoC to utilize PSH vouchers for individuals with chronic illness, disabilities, mental health issues, or substance use disorders who have experienced long-term or repeated homelessness. The VNC will partner with CoC to utilize Rapid Re-Housing (RRH) vouchers to provide short-term rental assistance and services. RRH will help obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency by providing housing identification, rent and move-in assistance, and case management.

## Table 1: Projected Living Situations Immediately Following the Encampment

Briefly Describe Each Projected Living Situation Immediately Following the Encampment	Is This Permanent Housing?	Quantify The Capacity (e.g., number of beds/units, frequency of bed/unit availability)	Prioritized or Set- Aside for ERF-2-R?	Is this living situation funded by ERF-2-R and / or Leveraged Funds?	% of Served Persons Projected to Fall Within This Living Situation
The projected living situation	No	100-beds	Prioritized	Both	100

immediately following the encampment is to house those at the prioritized encampments at the Low-Barrier Navigation Center.

# **Table 2: Projected Housing and Service Pathways to Permanent Housing**

Describe Projected Housing and Service Pathway to Permanent Housing	Quantify the Capacity of the Housing and Service Pathway	Is this Housing and Service Pathway Funded by ERF-2-R and / or Leveraged Funds?
The VNC is a service pathway to permanent housing. VNC staff will provide clients with TIC and direct permanent housing placement in a Visalia PSH unit or within Tulare County at the client's preferred choice.	100 – Emergency beds	Both
The VNC will place clients directly into permanent housing in Visalia funded projects: Sequoia Village, the Majestic, and the Lofts projects.	132 - PSH units	Leveraged
The VNC will also work with Visalia community partners to place clients into permanent housing in Visalia PSH units at City-Serve and the Clubhouse projects.	130- PSH units	Leveraged
The VNC will also place clients at PSH units available throughout the County per the client's choice, including Finca Serna Porterville, Santa Fe Commons Tulare, Madison Gardens County, and Neighborhood Village Goshen.	157-PSH units	Leveraged
Per the client's choice NorthStar Courts PSH units are also available in the City of Hanford in Kings County. Kings County is also covered by regional CoC PSH vouchers.	72-PSH units	Leveraged
Per the client's choice NorthStar Courts PSH units are also available in the City of Hanford in Kings County. Kings County is also covered by regional CoC PSH vouchers.	22-bed total, 15 are designated for Visalia	Leveraged
Landlord Mitigation Funds will be utilized to encourage landlords to secure additional PSH and RRH units for direct placement into permanent housing.	TBD	Leveraged

### **Table 3: Strategies to Mitigate Displacement**

Strategy	Is this Strategy Funded by ERF-2-R and / or Leveraged Funds?
The City of Visalia HOPE Team will monitor the prioritized encampments especially those located on Hwy 190 on ramps to ensure that people are not displaced from the prioritized encampment site into another unsheltered location.	Leveraged Funds

# **Table 4: Strategies to Mitigate Returns to Unsheltered Homelessness**

Strategy	Is this Strategy Funded by ERF-2-R and / or Leveraged Funds?
VNC TIC-trained case managers will assist in client's stability in permanent housing. Clients with a PSH voucher will have an ongoing case manager for the life of their voucher to ensure long-term housing stability.	Leveraged Funds
The VNC will work with partner organizations to execute a warm handoff to third-party staff at housing placement.	Leveraged Funds
Landlord Mitigation Funds will be used to cover any damages to a property, rental arrears, or any additional expenses needed to sustain housing and prevent return to homelessness.	Leveraged Funds
Anthem and Health Net Housing Tenancy and CalAIM Enhanced Case Management (ECM) will be provided to ensure housing stability. ECM will include core coordination, landlord liaison, dispute resolution, eviction prevention, and lease compliance.	Leveraged Funds

13. Describe how this proposal considers and plans for the dynamic nature of encampments including potential inflow of people into the geographically served areas. (1000 character limit) Every effort will be made by the City of Visalia to prevent potential inflow of people into the geographically served areas through monitoring conducted by the Visalia HOPE Team. The Visalia HOPE Team and Code Enforcement will work together to minimize encampments from forming in the targeted areas and off state highways. Code Enforcement may provide up to 90-day storage for persons personal belonging to avoid an influx of belongings in targeted areas.

Individuals at the prioritized encampments will have priority in the VNC to prevent inflow of people into the geographically served areas. The VNC staff and housing navigators will provide transportation assistance to gather those residing in the targeted encampments.

## 14. Describe how this proposal will support individuals with continued access to and / or the storage of their personal property. (1000 character limit)

This proposal will support individuals with up to 90 days of storage of their personal property through City of Visalia CDBG funded Code Enforcement program. Individual's belongings will remain safe in a City-provided C-train container. Individuals may access their belongings any time prior to their 90-day expiration date.

The VNC will provide on-site safe storage of personal property for clients that remain at the Center. The Center will include storage space for visitors and lockers for client's personal belongings. Pet kennels will be provided to assure that a guest's best friend has a safe place and food to eat, whether registered as a service animal or not. Bicycle racks will also be available. Upon placement into permanent housing, each client's belongings will transfer with them.

## 15. Describe how this proposal will support individuals with service animals and/or pets. (1000 character limit)

The VNC will be a pet friendly facility. The VNC will provide pet kennels, pet food and water, leashes, and waste bags to assure pets can stay with their owner.

Owners may have their pets inside and outside in the courtyard during the day on a leash. The VNC will offer a dedicated kennels space for pets if the owner needs to go to an appointment, work, or other commitments. The VNC staff will partner with the City of Visalia Animal Services for vaccinations, licensure, and spay and neuter services upon the client's request. Upon permanent housing placement, Housing Flex Funds will be used to acquire pet deposits, license, vaccinations, and/or pet kennels to comply with pet lease terms. The VNC will also provide pet re-homing services at the client's choice.

## **Budget and Resource Plan**

**16. State the total amount of ERF-2-R funds requested.** \$3,628,371.00

17. State the estimated dollar value of secured, non-ERF-2-R resources that will help meet this proposal's outcomes. \$9,355,387.00

## 18. Identify and describe these non-ERF-2-R resources. (1000 character limit)

VNC Development Costs: \$9,355,387 in non-ERF-2-R resources have been secured include:

COV CDBG: \$2,055,205
COV PLHA: \$1,950,182
COV LMIHAF: \$200,000
TC ARPA: \$1,000,000
TC General Fund: \$1,500,00

• Visalia Senior Housing: \$2,000,000

• TC Hope: \$500,000

Visalia Rotary Club: \$150,000

VNC Operation Costs: \$3,477,963 in non-ERE-2-R resources have

been secured include:

COV PLHA: \$820,070COV LMIHAF: \$600,000

KTHA - \$32,665WIOA: \$287,700

TCHHSA Welfare to Work: \$134,000

TCHHSA ESE: \$162.100

CSBG: \$300.000

Senior Nutrition Grant: \$410,233

Child and Adult Care Food Program: \$226,800

• EFSP: \$150,000

SAMHSA: \$110,653
Title V: \$54,556
MHSA: \$32,200
Anthem: \$46,986

Family Health Care: \$10,000

• In-Kind: \$100,000

19. Describe how the proposal is a prudent and effective use of requested funding relative to the number of people it seeks to serve and the types of services and housing to be provided in the proposal. Include an explanation of how the requested ERF-2-R amount was determined. (1000 character limit)

Construction of PSH housing in the Visalia area is costing \$310,000 per unit (The Majestic), and conversion of the Sequoia Village from Room Key to PSH units cost \$160,000 per unit. The VNC construction/development will cost approximately \$126,000 per bed and leverages the requested funds with existing funding to house the target population at a cost of \$35,000 per person, with each additional person passing through these units in the future reducing that per person cost.

The VNC has already bid the construction of this 100-bed facility. The only bid received was from was for \$14,148,085. Through several negotiations, the total construction costs have been reduced from \$14,148,085 to \$12,683,758. The project has secured \$9,355,387 in non-ERF-2-R funding for the construction and development of the VNC. Thus, the construction gap is \$3,628,371, including 10% for contingency costs and/or inflation.

Attachment: Standardized Budget ERF-2-R Budget Template Visalia.xlsx

### **Key Entities and Staff**

20. First, describe the implementing organization and specific unit or office within the implementing organization that would administer ERF-2-R. Then, describe their role and primary responsibilities for this proposal. Finally, if these entities have managed a complex homelessness project or grant, describe how those experiences informed this proposal. (1500 character limit) The City will collaborate with CSET Community Initiatives Department to administer and operate the VNC, and Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) Real Estate Development Department to oversee the construction of the VNC. CSET and SHE's vast knowledge and experience of implementing complex grants have informed this proposal. CSET's expertise is in administration of supportive service grants for homeless persons, and SHE's expertise is in low-income housing development and construction. Therefore, their distinct expertise in complex homeless programs form a strong partnership.

CSET has a budget of \$37 million in federal, state, and local grants and extensive experience working with complex homeless grants. CSET administers the Permanent Supportive Housing programs via CoC grants, Housing Support Program (HSP), Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP), and Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). SHE is a Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) whose purpose is to develop affordable housing. SHE is experienced in complex federal, state, and local grant funds, including LIHTC, USDA, Tax Credits, Tax Exempt Bonds, and Affordable Housing Programs. SHE has a \$60 million loan portfolio that includes self-help Housing, multi-family housing development, homebuyer assistance, and housing rehabilitation.

Table 5: Key Staff

Title	Currently Filled Position?	FTE of Staffing for This Proposal	Funded by ERF-2-R and / or Leveraged Funds?	Brief Description of Duties
Housing Specialist	Yes	0.15	Leveraged	City: Oversight of ERF-2-R administration and reporting.
Division Director	Yes	0.15	Leveraged	CSET: Oversight of the VNC administration and operating.
Real Estate Development Director	Yes	0.15	Leveraged	SHE: Oversight of construction of the VNC
Department Director	Yes	0.10	Leveraged	CSET: Oversight of CSET housing staff and VNC operation management.
Housing Navigators	Yes	0.40	Leveraged	CoC and PATH street outreach housing navigators 4 at 0.10 FTE each.
AOD Substance Specialist	Yes	0.20	Leveraged	TCHHSA: Drug and Alcohol Specialist 2 at 0.10 FTE each.
Program Coordinators	Yes	2.00	Leveraged	CSET: Intake and recordkeeping 2 at 1.0 FTE each.
Senior Resource Specialists	Yes	5.00	Leveraged	CSET: Case Managers 5 at 1.0 FTE each.
TulareWORKS Staff	Yes	0.30	Leveraged	TCHHSA: Enroll client's into Medical, and general assistance. 3 at 0.10 FTE each.
Medical Doctor/RN	Yes	0.75	Leveraged	Kaweah Health: Street health screening. 3 at 0.25 FTE each.
Program Director	Yes	1.00	Leveraged	Navigation Center Director. Will oversee the VNC.
Program Manager	No	0.10	Leveraged	Assistant Director and acts as administrative facilitator.
Navigation Center Coordinator	No	1.00	Leveraged	Planning and coordinating staff schedules, works with operations supervisor.
Accountant	No	0.25	Leveraged	Fiscal recording keeping,

invoicing and analysis.

Navigation Center Advocates (Supervisor)	No	4.20	Leveraged	Everyday supervisor who manages the shelter workers and makes sure all people are safe within the shelter daily.
Center worker	No	6.20	Leveraged	Daily tasks of the shelter.
Food Services Manager	No	1.40	Leveraged	Menu management and oversight of meal prep and serving.
Homeless Services Food Prep Assistant	No	3.90	Leveraged	Assists in meal prep and serving.
Homeless Navigator	No	4.40	Leveraged	Case managers - paid by partners housed in the agency.
Custodian	No	2.40	Leveraged	Center maintenance.
Security	No	4.00	Leveraged	Security
Center Worker - Work Experience	No	6.40	Leveraged	Daily tasks of the Center - paid as work experience.
Interns and volunteers	No	10.00	Leveraged	Provide support in any way needed, i.e., phones, filing, food service.

# 21. First, describe key partners that will collectively pursue the proposal's outcomes. Then, describe their role and primary responsibilities for this proposal. Finally, if these entities have managed a complex homelessness project or grant, describe how those experiences informed this proposal. (1500 character limit)

Key partners that will collectively pursue the proposal's outcomes include CSET and Self-Help Enterprises (SHE). CSET will be the lead administrator for the VNC. SHE will oversee the construction and development of the VNC facility. Through their knowledge and experience both organizations are vital partners in pursuit of the proposal's outcomes.

CSET has extensive experience working with complex federal, state, and local grants and programs that helped to form this proposal. CSET has administered the following housing grants but not limited to Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program funded by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, Permanent Supportive Housing funding by CoC Program funds, Rapid Rehousing with Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and Housing Support Program (HSP) and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP).

SHE is a nationally recognized community development organization that has extensive experience with complex funding sources, such as but not limited to federal grants, state grants, local grants, tax credits, and tax-exempt bonds. SHE experience includes self-help housing, multi-family housing development, homebuyer assistance, housing rehabilitation, emergency services, and grant management assistance. SHE vast knowledge of complex housing funding sources has a huge influence in the proposal's outcomes.

## 22. Describe specific examples of how Local Jurisdiction(s) and the CoC have collaborated on the design and implementation of this proposal. (1000 character limit)

Close collaboration of the City, County, CoC, and many other partners began with "Pathway Home: Responding to Homelessness in Tulare County," the 2019 strategic plan commissioned by the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance, calling for solutions to address homelessness. The collaboration continued for the design and implementation of this proposal, identifying the need for shelter and services for people residing in the targeted encampments, surveying target encampments, and collecting demographic information with the assistance of the County MDT. The County and CoC have provided letters of support for this proposal. The City, County, and CoC will continue to work together to provide wraparound services to the prioritized encampments, construct the VNC, and place individuals into permanent housing. A public meeting was held to address public concerns about the location and safety of the VNC, and public comments have been addressed in this project.

#### **Optional Upload: Evidence of Cross-Jurisdictional Collaboration**

Tulare County - Letter of Support City of Visalia ERF2.pdf

ERF-2-R Letter of Support - City of Fresno.pdf

ERF-2-R Letter of Support - City of Tulare.pdf

23. Identify any entities that have a right to and/or control of the property upon which the encampment site resides and discuss whether each of these entities committed allowing the implementation of this proposal. If they have not committed, please explain how you have or plan to engage with this entity to implement your proposal. Aditionally, describe how you collaborated with Caltrans on your program design, implementation plans, and timeline. (1000 character limit) All targeted encampments are located on publicly owned right-of-way belonging to the State or the City of Visalia. As the proposer, the City has shown their strong commitment to this proposal. The State property is located in the right-of-way controlled by Caltrans and a letter of support from this State Agency has been provided along with this proposal. Both the City and Caltrans are in support and committed allowing the implementation of this proposal.

### **Centering People**

24. How were persons with lived experience meaningfully incorporated into the planning and proposed implementation of this proposal? Please identify whether any perspectives were incorporated from persons that are currently unsheltered and / or formerly or currently residing within the prioritized encampment. (1000 character limit)

Every Individual residing at the prioritized encampments was surveyed and provided feedback on the proposed Encampment Resolution Round 2 application. 63% of these individuals were in favor of the VNC project and were interested in services and housing. The remaining inhabitants were not interested in services.

CSET has extensive experience which has been incorporated into this proposal, including working with persons experiencing homelessness from several funded programs. CSET administers about \$540,000 a year in CoC grants, including Permanent Supportive Housing, and provided RRH services through Emergency Solutions Grants and continues to provide such services on behalf of the TCHHSA. These include the CalWORKS Housing Support Program (HSP) and Housing and Disability Advocacy Program (HDAP). CSET also provides housing through the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP).

## 25. Briefly describe how the proposal exemplifies Housing First approaches as defined in Welfare and Institutions Code section 8255. (1000 character limit)

The VNC will follow "Housing First" principles to ensure that clients are provided with services and immediate access to permanent housing with no housing readiness requirements and without preconditions or service participation requirements. The VNC recognizes that a homeless person must

first be able to access a decent, safe place to live, that does not limit length of stay before stabilizing, improving health, reducing harmful behaviors, or increasing income.

Rapid placement in permanent housing are the VNC's primary goals. Clients will be accommodated regardless of their sobriety or use of substances, completion of treatment or participation in services. Housing referrals will follow CES Written Standards. Clients will not be rejected based on poor credit, lack of rental history, evictions, criminal convictions, or behaviors that indicate a lack of housing readiness. Case managers are trained in client-center counseling, harm-reduction, and nonjudgmental communication.

## 26. Briefly describe how this proposal will center an individual's choice and provide trauma informed services and supports. (1000 character limit)

All VNC staff will be equipped and trained in providing Trauma Inform Care (TIC) and harm reduction. Staff and the Tulare County HHSA will provide on-site responses to trauma. CSET case managers are trained in trauma-informed care and are skilled in motivational interviewing techniques that help reduce anxiety and repetitive trauma to participants. VNC staff are committed to a holistic approach in pursuing the well-being of unhoused individuals and families, especially underserved populations. Services include making connections to health care, rental assistance, payments for application fees, housing deposits, furnishings, appliances, supplies, housing inspections, and utility assistance. Case managers ensure that the participants are the decision makers in their service plans.

VNC will provide grievance policies and strive to modify policies, schedules, practices and staffing according to the input and individual choice from clients in the prioritized encampment sites.

# 27. Describe how this proposal will operationalize harm reduction and provide services that improve a person's health, dignity, and safety while they continue to reside within the prioritized encampment site. (1000 character limit)

The City will collaborate with a variety of partner organizations to reduce harm and provide services that improve a person's health, dignity, and safety while they continue to reside within the encampment site and transfer into PSH.

The Kaweah Health Street Medicine Team (SMT) will provide full medical examinations, preventive screenings (i.e., diabetes, NTN, HIV, glaucoma, and valley fever), blood pressure checks, glucose checks, wound care, insect bite treatments, health education, referral to social services and community health centers. These are crucial services for many encampment inhabitants who have a variety of health problems such as diabetes and cancer.

Mobile shower units will help those residing in the prioritized encampments to begin restoring their dignity, renew their confidence, and empower people living on the streets to engage with their communities and seek the services and care they deserve.

# 28. For encamped locations that are objectively dangerous, describe how the proposal will seek to prevent harm for people experiencing unsheltered homelessness in these locations. (1000 character limit)

The City of Visalia HOPE Team will provide regular patrols and work with housing navigators to identify issues and find solutions to relocate individuals residing in objectively dangerous locations and prevent harm for people experiencing unsheltered homeless in these locations such as the highway 198 to the Navigation Center or another housing opportunity.

29. Identify what controls are or will be in place to ensure that all ERF-2-R funded parties will not penalize homelessness. The term "penalize homelessness" means to impose, by a governmental unit, criminal or civil penalties on persons who are homeless in a manner that is related to those persons' engagement in necessary human activities, including sleeping, resting, and eating. (1000)

#### character limit)

The City of Visalia follows the ninth circuit ruling. The ruling prevents cities from enforcing anti-camping ordinances if they do not have enough homeless shelter beds available for their homeless population. Homeless individuals residing in the prioritizing encampments will receive priority entry into the Low-Barrier Navigation Center to allow a safe place to sleep, rest, and eat.

# 30. Describe how this proposal considers sanitation services for people residing in the prioritized encampment. This may include but is not limited to non-intrusive, curb-side waste removal and access to clean and available bathrooms. (1000 character limit)

In partnership with Tulare County, a mobile shower unit will be provided with a private shower, sink, vanity, and toilet at least once a week. The mobile shower unit will provide fresh water, toiletry items, and a towel to those residing in the prioritized encampments. In addition, through the WASH grant program, portal hand washing stations will also be available to provide sanitation services for people residing in the prioritized encampments. Portable hand washing stations will be fully equipped with clean water and hygiene items to serve up to 100 people.

The VNC will also provide shower stalls, sinks, vanities, and private bathroom stalls. Toiletry items and towels will also be provided at the Navigation Center. Individuals residing in the prioritized encampments will receive priority entry to the VNC.

#### **Accelerated Timeline**

## 31. How is your community currently supporting and / or engaging with people residing within the prioritized encampment? (1000 character limit)

KTHA CoC, TCHHSA MDT, and Kings View PATH housing navigators are currently providing outreach services to the prioritized encampments. Outreach services include case management, mental health assessments, CES, HMIS database entry, housing research, CA DMV ID, transportation, clothing, hygiene kit, and food assistance. Housing navigators also assist with mainstream benefits enrollments, SSI, SSA and medical/dental services. Mental health clinical workers provide daily services to the prioritized encampments Monday – Thursday.

Weekly services are also provided each Monday from 1:00pm - 3:00pm at the Visalia Rescue Mission to provide support and engage with people residing within the prioritized encampments. These services include transportation assistance, food assistance, housing placement assistance, and document ready assistance. During this weekly service additional client input on the project's development from the people residing in the prioritized encampments.

# 32. If this proposal is selected, in advance of receiving funding, what steps will your community take to support the people living in the encampment and swift implementation of this proposal? (1000 character limit)

Weekly outreach is currently provided to people living in the prioritized encampments to provide supportive services and gather client input in the project's development as well as prepare them for the inclusion of the ERF project.

Project design, solicitation for bids, and site plan review has been completed. The project has received HUD environmental clearance. The project has secured 75% of the needed funding for construction.

On 3/23/23, CSET entered a contract with the prime contractor, PJ Perch Construction to begin construction of the VNC. All builder permits have been secured and clearance and grading has already begun. Upon EFR-2-R award announcement, concrete foundation will begin July 2023, exterior framing is expected to be completed in Nov. 2023 and interior framing is expected to be completed in March 2024, with a completion date of May 2024.

Full occupancy is expected by 6/30/24. ERF-2-R funds will be spent first to ensure ERF-2-R expenditures timelines are met.

## **Table 6: Projected Milestones**

Outreach to the people residing in the prioritized encampment site began / will begin in month	This proposal will reach full operating capacity in month	The first planned exit of a person or household from the prioritized encampment will occur in month	The last planned exit of a person or household from the prioritized encampment will occur in month
July 2023	June 2024	June 2024	June 2024

**Attachment: Standardized Timeline** 

ERF-2-R Project Timeline - Visalia June 2023.xlsx

Applicants must use the <u>ERF-2-R Timeline Template</u> available on box.com

### **CERTIFICATION**

Before certifying, applicants are strongly encouraged to review the NOFA.

I certify that all information included in this Application is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge.

#### Name

Margie Perez

#### Title

**Housing Specialist** 

#### **Email**

margie.perez@visalia.city

## **ERF-2-R Project Timeline**

# City of Visalia (COV)



## **Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone	Category	Vertical Position	Additional Detail for Milestone
1/1/2020	Community Needs Assessment Done	Project Management	40	Community Needs Assessment and outreach completed for 5-yr Consolidated Plan goals. Homeless
4/20/2020	5-Yr Consolidated Plan adopted	Project Management	-45	Development of Navigation Center is identified as #1
7/20/2020	5-year PLHA Plan adopted.	Project Management	10	need. Approved \$2 million in CDBG funds.  Development of Navigation Center is identified as #1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>		need. Approved approx. \$2 million in PLHA funds.  HUD and HCD approved 5-yr plan for a Navigation
9/30/2020	HUD and HCD approves 5-Yr plan	Project Management	-20	Center with the use of CDBG & PLHA funds.
3/22/2021	COV releases RFP	Project Management	40	COV released RFP seeking non-profit to develop a Low- Barrier Navigation Center (LBNC).
6/21/2021	Rotary Pledge \$250,000	Project Management	-45	Rotary Visalia pledges \$250,000 to the VNC.
7/21/2021	CSET awarded RFP	Project Management	10	RFP award to CSET in \$5 million in City CDBG, PLHA, and LMIHAF funds to develop the VNC. Design completed
11/14/2021	NEPA Begins	Project Management	-25	Environmental Review NEPA and CEQA process begins.
2/9/2022	Site Plan Review Completed	Project Management	40	Site Plan Review review process completed.
4/18/2022	NEPA Completed	Project Management	-55	HUD approved Authority to Use Grant Funds (AUGF).
7/1/2022	CDBG & LMIHAF \$2.3 mil contracts	Project Management	5	\$2,255,205 in City CDBG & LMIHAF executed.
7/12/2022	VSH \$2.5 mil contract	Project Management	-10	\$2.5 million in Visalia Senior Housing (VSH)/TC Hope contract executed.
10/5/2022	Solicitation for Bids	Project Management	23	Solicitation for bids opened.
11/16/2022	Bids Closes	Project Management	-30	Solicitation for bids closed. PJ Perch Construction was the lowest bid received.
1/13/2023	PLHA \$1.9 mil	Project Management	40	\$1.9 million in COV PLHA contract executed.
2/9/2023	Encampment Outreach & Data	Project Management	-65	Prioritized encampments identified. Outreach and
3/23/2023	Entered PJ Perch Construction	Project Management	60	Entered into contract with PJ Perch Construction.
4/10/2023	Groundbreaking Ceremony	Place	-45	Groundbreaking ceremony took place at the site. There
4/15/2023	Permits obtained	Place	18	was an a lot of community support!  Constructions permits obtained.
5/1/2023	Pre-Construction Begins	Place	-10	Pre-construction begins including clearance and grading. Prep for underground plumbing and utilities.
5/2/2023	TC GF \$2.5 mil	Project Management	-12	\$2.5 million Tulare County contract executed.
7/15/2023	Outreach Begins	People	2	Outreach and increased services to people residing in
7/15/2023	Construction Begins	Place	35	prioritized encampments will begin.  Construction begins contingent upon EFR-2-R award
11/1/2023	Exterior Framing	Place	-20	announcement. Pluming, utilities, and foundation.  Roofing, walls, and windows constructed.
3/1/2024	Interior Framing	Place	10	Interior framing drywall, flooring, insulation, sprinklers,
5/31/2024	Construction Completed	Place	35	and paint completed.  Construction completes.
6/30/2024	50% of ERF Funds Expended / 100%	Project Management	60	Statutory Deadline for 50% of ERF funds to be spent
9/28/2024	Obligated. 100% Exits from  Placement into permanent housing	People	-35	Placements into permanent housing.
12/27/2024	Placement into permanent housing	People	10	Placements into permanent housing.
3/27/2025	Placement into permanent housing	People	-15	Placements into permanent housing.
6/25/2025	Placement into permanent housing	People	30	Placements into permanent housing.
9/23/2025	Ongoing case management	People	-35	Ongoing case management and services to ensure
				Permanent housing stability.  Ongoing case management and services to ensure
12/22/2025	Ongoing case management	People	10	permanent housing stability.  Ongoing case management and services to ensure
3/22/2026	Ongoing case management	People	-15	permanent housing stability.
6/30/2026	100% of ERF Funds Expended	Project Management	-50	Statutory Deadline for 100% of ERF funds to be spent

## PROJECT TIMELINE TIPS

- 1. Fill in the light blue cells to customize this template with your project's specific milestones.
- 2. Insert entire rows to the Project Milestones table to add additional milestones.
- 3. Column B should be a date
- 3. Column C should be the milestone name- however your team refers to it.
- 4. Column D provides a dropdown menu with options to help categorize milestones into broad groups. To add an option, go to sheet 1 and add the option in one of the green calls at the bottom of the list.
- 5. Column E Indicates the Vertical Position of milestone markers in the Project Milestones table at the top of the sheet. Changing this number allows you to change the vertical position of the milestone relative to the horizontal axis. Use positive numbers to position them above the axis and negative numbers to position them below.
- 6. Column F is a space to provide additional context, detail, or description for a specific milestone.

	ELIGIBLE USE CATEGORY	<5 WORD DESCRIPTION	NAME OF ENTITY OR PART OF PROPOSAL					LEVERAGED FISCAL SUPPORT	2 SENTENCE DESCRIPTION
This budget template may be slightly modified to meet local needs. If awarded funding, this budget, once approved, will serve as your communitys official project budget. Any changes to this budget must be authorized through the change request process.  Prinicple: Cal ICH should be able to navigate only your submitted budget and understand the general parameters of the proposal and how it may be		Enables Cal ICH to immediately understand the line item.	Enables Cal ICH to associate the line item with specific entities or parts of a proposal.				Only ERF-2-R Funds	Non ERF-2-R Funds That WILL be Used to Support this Proposal	Enables Cal ICH to better understand the line item, context, and / or other pertinent information related to the proposed line item.
PERSONNEL COSTS				SALARY	FTE M	IONTHS			
City Housing Specialist CSET Division Director SHE Real Estate Director Department Director Housing Navigators AOD Substance Specialists Program Coordinators Senior Resource Specialists Subtotal - Personnel Costs	Systems Support Systems Support Systems Support Systems Support Street Outreach Street Outreach Services Coordination Services Coordination	Grant oversight.  Oversignt of Navigation Center adminstration Center construction Center construction Center construction Center construction Center construction Center		7,000.00 7,500.00 7,900.00 5,500.00 3,500.00 4,080.00 3,700.00 3,300.00	0.15 0.15 0.15 0.10 0.40 0.20 2.00 5.00	12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12	- - - - -	13,500.00 14,220.00 6,840.00 16,800.00 9,792.00 88,800.00 198,000.00	City: Oversight of EFR-2-R administration and reporting. CSET: Oversight of Visalia Navigation Center (VNC) operation. SHE: Oversight of VNC construction CSET: Oversight of CSET housing staff and VNC management. CoC KTHA and PATH: Housing Navigators (4) street outreach at 0.10 FTE each. TCHSSA MDT: Drug and Alcohol Specialist (2) at .10 FTE each. CSET: Intake and record keeping (2) at 1.0 FTE each. CSET: Case managers (5) at 1.0 FTE each. No personnel costs will use EFR-2-R funds.
NON-PERSONNEL COSTS				UNIT	RATE	TIME			
	Interim Sheltering	Construction - Structural Construction - Metal Fabrication Construction - Carpentry Construction - Roofing Construction - Doors, Windows, Floorin Construction - Walls and Framing Construction - Fire Construction - Building (inside) Construction - Plumbing, HVAC, Electr Construction - Site Improvements Construction - Contingency	General Contractor General Contractor General Contractor				2,469,900.00 858,471.00 - - - - - - 300,000.00	1,798,914.00 1,094,390.00 775,077.00 746,830.00 113,590.00 643,682.00 1,579,173.00 2,504,440.00	Project management, structural concrete, construction facilities, joint sealant, thermal insulat Metal Farbication (building, trusses, etc).  Rough and interior finish caprentry.  Metal panel roofing, siding, sheet metal, membrane, accessories.  Doors, frames, hardware, access door panels, carpet, tiling, windows.  Drywall, plaster.  Fire protection, stopping and suppression.  Acoustical ceiling, paint, lockers, appliances, food service equipment, furnishings, etc.  Plumbing, HVAC, Electrical.  Survey, staking, grading & paving, curbs, gutters, sidewalks, landscaping, utilities.  Contingency for unexcepted circumstances and/or inflation.
	interim Sheltering	Construction - Contingency					\$ 3,628,371.00		100% of ERF-2-R funds awarded will be used for construction costs of the VNC.
Subtotal - Non-Personnel Costs									

\$ 3,628,371.00 \$ 9,715,939.00

TOTAL BUDGET

### California Department of Transportation

DISTRICT 6 OFFICE
1352 WEST OLIVE AVENUE | P.O. BOX 12616 | FRESNO, CA 93778-2616
(559) 488-4057 | FAX (559) 488-4195 | TTY 711
www.dot.ca.gov





February 15, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. McKendry:

Caltrans is supportive of and committed to the City of Visalia for their proposed request for Encampment Resolution Funding. The City of Visalia and partnering agencies have been providing services such as case management services, coordinated entry services, mental health assessments/enrollments, housing counseling, temporary housing, CA ID vouchers, and other services to homeless encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 for the past several months. They are committed to the region and have shown their willingness to partner to improve the accessibility of those most in need by providing housing and other resources.

Caltrans will commit the following resources to support this effort:

- Provide recommendation and support for funding.
- Focus outreach efforts in the aforementioned high-return probable areas to benefit persons experiencing homelessness as well as to keep Caltrans rights of way clear of debris and reducing the likelihood of potentially dangerous conditions.
- Take action at encampment sites in the proposal only in collaboration with the ERF grantee and with at least two weeks of notice unless an encampment poses an imminent threat to life, health, safety, or infrastructure and must be immediately addressed.
- Continue to communicate with the City of Visalia and partnering agencies to coordinate relocation services prior to a relocation/cleanup event.

CITY OF VISALIA February 15, 2023 Page 2

Caltrans District 6 is eager to be part of the City of Visalia's partnership to strengthen and expand the resources to connect persons experiencing homelessness with new opportunities in the community.

Sincerely,

JOHN Y. LIU

Deputy District Director

Maintenance and Operations

JL/gb

Donna Ortiz Agency Director

Fiscal Operations • Human Services • Mental Health • Public Health

February 6, 2023 Margie Perez, Housing Specialist City of Visalia 707 W. Acequia Visalia, CA 93291

Re: Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 – Support

Dear Ms. Margie Perez:

The Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency (HHSA) enthusiastically submits this letter of support for the City of Visalia's application for the Encampment Resolution Fund Program Round 2 through the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council.

Tulare County HHSA has decades of experience engaging with and providing services to the unhoused population and a longstanding relationship of working collaboratively with the City of Visalia. HHSA has the vision of healthy children and adults, supportive families, and thriving communities. We're dedicated to protecting and strengthening the well-being of the community through the development of effective policies, practices, and services delivered in a culturally and linguistically competent manner. We believe that the activities of the ERF-R2 grant is in alignment with the mission of our agency and we value our ongoing partnership.

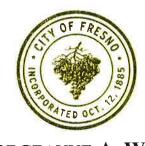
We align with the efforts of the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance who is our local Continuum of Care on Homelessness and numerous community partners that address homelessness by building strong relationships with people through street outreach. These efforts are most successful when a broad array of partners unifies through a shared vision and employs tools such as the Homeless Management Information System and processes such as the Coordinated Entry System. The City of Visalia is making strides toward the development of a homeless navigation center, offers a program to help provide employment, and other supportive efforts. The City of Visalia partners with HHSA and our Mental Health, Human Services, and Public Health branches in conjunction with our Integrated Services Homeless Multidisciplinary Team. We are glad to partner with Visalia.

Thank you for your willingness to apply for this funding to help prevent and end homelessness in the City of Visalia.

Donna Ortiz, Agency Director

incerely

Tulare County Health & Human Services Agency



## GEORGEANNE A. WHITE CITY MANAGER

June 27, 2023

Jeannie McKendry
Grants Development Section Chief
California Interagency Council on Homelessness
801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry:

On behalf of the City of Fresno, I write this letter in support of the City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center for people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services for trauma informed care and harm reduction with a clear path to placement in permanent housing.

The City of Fresno recognizes the significant need in our region for a low-barrier navigation center in each of our cities to meet the needs of our citizens. Homelessness is the number rising issue in our region, and we are all working together and support one another to address this regional need. The Visalia Navigation Center is an important piece of our collaboration.

The City of Fresno fully supports the City of Visalia in its encampment resolution round 2 application and the development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at <a href="mailto:Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov">Georgeanne.White@fresno.gov</a> or via phone at (559) 621-7795.

Sincerely,

Georgeanne A. White

City Manager City of Fresno



June 27, 2023

Jeannie McKendry
Grants Development Section Chief
California Interagency Council on Homelessness
801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Letter of Support - City of Visalia's Application to Encampment Resolution

Funding Program Round 2

Dear Ms. McKendry,

On behalf of the City of Tulare, I write this letter in support of the City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center for people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services that are trauma informed and reduce harm while they await permanent housing.

The City of Tulare recognizes the significant need in Tulare County for each community to operate a low-barrier navigation center. The 2023 Point-In-Time Count revealed a conservative estimate of 718 homeless individuals in Tulare and Visalia combined, highlighting the need to coordinate and scale emergency shelter offerings across communities. Visalia's Navigation Center is an important piece of the County's homelessness response system.

The City of Tulare fully supports the City of Visalia in its encampment resolution round 2 application and the development of a first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at <a href="mailto:tsayre@tulare.ca.gov">tsayre@tulare.ca.gov</a> or via phone at (559) 972-4124.

Sincerely,

Terry A. Sayre

Mayor of the City of Tulare

Terry a. Sayre

JIM COSTA
21st District, California
WEB PAGE: www.costa.house.gov



# CONGRESS OF THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WASHINGTON, DC 20515

FRESNO OFFICE:
2440 TULARE STREET, SUITE 420
FRESNO, CA 93721
PHONE: (559) 495-1620
FAX: (559) 495-1027

WASHINGTON OFFICE:
2081 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
PHONE: (202) 225-3341
FAX: (202) 225-9308

June 29, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

I am pleased to offer this letter of support for the City of Visalia's application for the State of California Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 (ERF-2-R). The City of Visalia would use the funding provided by this program to close the remaining funding gap needed to construct the Visalia Navigation Center. The proposed Visalia Navigation Center exemplifies a collective effort to tackle the urgent and paramount challenge of homelessness by offering a comprehensive range of wrap-around services to individuals and families in need.

Homelessness is an issue that affects not only the Central Valley, but the state of California as a whole, necessitating our unified efforts to seek effective and compassionate solutions. The funding provided by the State of California ERF-2-R would grant the City of Visalia the means to combat this prevalent issue. The proposed Visalia Navigation Center is a large public space with room to accommodate office space for supportive services, two group dormitory-type spaces (one for men and another for women), up to 10 private rooms to accommodate families with children, a dining room, a large common area, and a laundry room. Exterior amenities would include a playground area, green space, and kennel space for pets. The Navigation Center would also provide services such as housing search assistance, job training programs, financial literacy, and life skills workshops.

As the representative of California's 21st Congressional District and lifelong Valley resident, I am proud to offer my support to the City of Visalia's application for the State of California ERF-2-R. The Navigation Center would allow for an inclusive environment where members of the community can find solace, support, and tangible pathways toward sustainable reintegration into society. It is my hope that this proposal receives full and fair consideration. If you would like further input from me regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to contact me at my Fresno District Office at (559) 495-1620.

Sincerely,

JIM COSTA Member of Congress



Main Office 312 NW 3rd Avenue Visalia, CA 93291 (559) 732-4194 Fax: (559) 733-3971 www.cset.org

CSET Earlimart (661) 849-2960

CSET Pixley (559) 575-0098

CSET Porterville (559) 216-0525

North County Youth (559) 216-0438

Porterville Employment Connection (559) 788-1400

Visalia Employment Connection (559) 713-5000

Tulare FRC & Employment Connection Affiliate (559) 684-1987

Senior Services 1 (800) 321-2462

Energy Services 1 (844) 224-1316

California Interagency Council on Homelessness c/o Business, Consumer Services and Housing Agency 500 Capitol Mall, Suite 1850 Sacramento, CA 95814

#### SUBJECT: SUPPORT FOR VISALIA ERF-2-R FUNDING PROPOSAL

Dear Interagency Council on Homelessness Members and Staff,

On behalf of the CSET Board of Directors, leadership team and staff, I express wholehearted support for the City of Visalia proposal for Encampment Resolution funding, Round 2, Second Disbursement (ERF-2-R).

CSET (Community Services & Employment Training, Inc.) is a federally designated Community Action Agency. For nearly three years CSET has worked with the City of Visalia, TC Hope for the Homeless, Self-Help Enterprises, and more than 18 additional community partners in planning and raising money for development and operation of an emergency shelter and navigation center to serve persons who are experiencing homelessness, especially the unsheltered.

The Navigation Center will do much more than take 100 unhoused persons out of encampments and off the streets each night — it will build bridges to permanent housing through services and resources that lead to self-sufficiency. It will implement the recommendations of "Pathway Home: Responding to Homelessness in Tulare County," the 2019 strategic plan commissioned by the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance, the Continuum of Care consortium that includes homeless service providers, advocacy groups, government agencies and homeless individuals. "The community needs to address unsheltered homelessness," the strategic plan states. "The cities, County, nonprofits and other partners can collaborate to help those most in need get the services and support they require to exit homelessness by expanding outreach, targeting services, and developing accessible crisis shelters with tailored, housing-focused programming throughout the area."

CSET, which will operate the Visalia Navigation Center, is in an ideal position to help clients address the root causes of instability and homelessness and pursue permanent housing. It has more than a decade of experience providing housing services to those experiencing homelessness, including Permanent Supportive Housing, Rapid Rehousing, emergency food and shelter, and housing counseling. As Tulare County's official anti-poverty organization CSET also gives them access to more than 80 programs providing a broad

range of services and resources. Additionally, CSET has a network of more than 200 partners to whom clients can be referred for the provision of wraparound services.



Community partners gather for the Visalia Navigation Center groundbreaking

As the operator of Employment Connection one-stop centers under contract with the Workforce Investment Board of Tulare County, CSET is the primary provider of local workforce development services. CSET is also the operator of Visalia's ECO project (Environmental Cleanup Opportunities), which provides employment to the unhoused, as well as similar right of way clean-up programs in and around Visalia.

CSET also provides job training and placement services through its state certified youth conservation corps, the Sequoia Community Corps, which will have a significant role in Navigation Center development. Through California's Nature Based Solutions grant funding the Corps will install much of the landscaping on the Navigation Center grounds.

Once the Navigation Center is operational CSET will be able to leverage many programs and resources to serve homeless encampment residents. Completion of the base of operations is essential. We urge you to regard the City of Visalia proposal for funding favorably.

Thank you for considering our request, and please feel free to contact me (<u>mary.escarsega-fechner@cset.org</u>) or Deputy Director Carla Calhoun (<u>carla.calhoun@cset.org</u>) with any questions or for more information. The telephone number is (559) 732-4194.

Sincerely,

Mary Alice Escarsega-Fechner

**Executive Director** 



305 East Center Avenue Visalia, CA 93291 Tel: (559) 737-4700 Fax: (559) 734-1247

fhcn.org

July 12, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Family HealthCare Network is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Family HealthCare Network is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Marisol de la Vega Cardoso, Chief Administrative Officer via email at <a href="mailto:mdelavega@fhcn.org">mdelavega@fhcn.org</a> or via phone at 559-737-4724.

Sincerely,

President & CEO

Family HealthCare Network



June 22, 2023

Jeannie McKendry **Grants Development Section Chief** California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Habitat for Humanity of Tulare/Kings Counties is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Habitat for Humanity of Tulare/Kings Counties is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at bobh@hfhtkc.org or via phone at 559-734-4040, Extension 103.

Sincerely,

**Executive Director** 

Habitat for Humanity of Tulare/Kings Counties



**Housing Authority** of the County of Tulare

June 23, 2023

Ms. Jeannie McKendry **Grants Development Section Chief** California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

CITY OF VISALIA ENCAMPMENT RESOLUTION FUNDING PROGRAM RE: **ROUND 2 - LETTER OF SUPPORT** 

Dear Ms. McKendry,

The Tulare County Housing Authority is pleased to support the City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center for people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services from committed safety-net partners with a clear path to placement in permanent housing.

Our agency has served Tulare County since 1945 with our mission to provide affordable, wellmaintained rental housing to qualified low-income and very low-income individuals and families. The Tulare County Housing Authority is committed to dedicate at least 10 Housing Choice Vouchers for residents of the Visalia Navigation Center. These vouchers will allow residents to gain subsidized permanent housing while seeking other wraparound services supporting their long-term housing needs and assuring safe, affordable housing.

The Tulare County Housing Authority fully supports the City of Visalia in its encampment resolution round 2 application and the development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me by phone at (559) (559) 627-3700, extension 114 or by email at ken@hatc.net.

Yours truly,

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF TULARE

KEN KUGLER. **Executive Director** 

MW/LetterofSupport/CSET-NavagationCenter.docx

**ADMINISTRATIVE** OFFICE 5140 West Cypress Avenue P.O. Box 791 Visalia, CA 93279

(559) 627-3700 FAX (559) 733-0169 WEB SITE: www.hatc.net TTY: 800-735-2929

DINUBA **OFFICE** 1435 South College Ачепие P.O. Box 925 Dinuba, CA 93618

(559) 591-4286

FAX (559) 591-1823

VISALIA OFFICE 1138 South Crenshaw Court Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 738-8450 FAX (559) 738-0251 **TULARE** OFFICE 210 South Sacramento Street Tulare, CA 93274 (559) 686-1350 FAX (559) 686-8467 PORTERVILLE **OFFICE** 290 North Fourth Street Porterville, CA 93257 (559) 781-6873 FAX (559) 781-9148

LINNELL FARM LABOR CENTER 1436-3 North Mariposa Avenue Visalia, CA 93277 (559) 747-0732 FAX (559) 747-6528

WOODVILLE FARM LABOR CENTER 16153 Road 192 Mail Route 1, Box 180 Porterville, CA 93257 (559) 784-4030 FAX (559) 782-1411



June 26, 2023

Jeannie McKendry
Grants Development Section Chief
California Interagency Council on Homelessness
801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Kaweah Health is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Kaweah Health is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at GHerbst@KaweahHealth.org or via phone at (559) 624-2330.

Sincerely,

Gary K, Herbst

Chief Executive Officer

Aday & Hust

Kaweah Health



June 22, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Kings View is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Kings View is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at anugentdivine@kingsview.org or via phone at 559-256-0100.

Sincerely,

- DocuSigned by:

Amanda Nugent Divine

Amanda Nugent Divine, PhD Chief Executive Officer



June 22, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Precision Psychiatric Services, Inc., is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Precision Psychiatric Services is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at Rupali@precisionpsych.com or via phone at 714 220 8365.

Sincerely,

Rupali Tilve Vice President

Precision Psychiatric Services, Inc.

Rupali@precisionpsych.com

(M) 714 220 8365



June 22, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Proteus, Inc. is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Proteus, Inc. is a 501 c (3) nonprofit organization that has been serving the Central Valley since 1967. Proteus provides education, employment, training and other community services throughout Tulare, Kings, Fresno, and Kern counties. As a partner, we will share resources; including access to our computer resource centers and enrollment in programs in which these individuals may qualify to help meet their needs and ultimately reach self-sufficiency.

Proteus, Inc. is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at <a href="mailto:msilva@proteusinc.org">msilva@proteusinc.org</a> or via phone at (559) 733-5423.

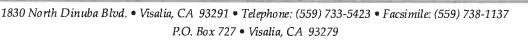
Sincerely,

Michelle Engel-Silva, CEO

21-5, Na

Proteus, Inc.

A Proud Member of





June 20, 2023

Jeannie McKendry
Grants Development Section Chief
California Interagency Council on Homelessness
801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

RH Community Builders is pleased to provide a letter of support for the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center for people experiencing homelessness in encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia.

RH Community Builders has partnered with the City of Visalia and UPHoldings in the development of the Sequoia Village Project a 50-unit motel conversion to Permanent Supportive Housing and the Majestic Gardens Project a 42-unit motel conversion to Permanent Supportive Housing for people experiencing homelessness in the City of Visalia. RH Community Builders in partnership with UPHoldings also has converted Madison Gardens, a 57-unit motel, into Permanent Supportive Housing for people experiencing homelessness in Tulare County. RH Community Builders is pleased to dedicate Permanent Supportive Housing units for the City of Visalia at Sequoia Village, Majestic Gardens, and Madison Gardens, for a total of 149 Permanent Supportive Housing units for people experiencing homelessness.

RH Community Builders is pleased to partner with the City of Visalia in its efforts to end homelessness in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at Brad@regencyfresno.com or at 559-492-1373

Sincerely,

Brad Hardie President

RH Community Builders

Bud Hudie



## BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

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Chief Clerk

Administration Bldg. 2800 West Burrel Visalia. CA 93291

\*

TEL: (559) 636-5000 FAX: (559) 615-3009

# County of Tulare

June 26, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry:

On behalf of the Tulare County Board of Supervisors, I write to express our support for the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the navigation center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

The Tulare County Board of Supervisors is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind navigation center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via phone at 559-636-5000.

Sincerely

Dennis Townsend, Chairman Tulare County Board of Supervisors



June 22, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

United Way of Tulare County is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

United Way of Tulare County is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at rosemary@unitedwaytc.org or via phone at 559-685-1766

Sincerely,

Rosemary Caso Executive Director

United Way of Tulare County

P.O. BOX 7447 VISALIA, CA 93290 615 S. ATWOOD ST. VISALIA, CA 93277

(559) 732-8086

June 22, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Turning Point of Central California, Inc. is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Our organization is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at <a href="mailto:ryanbanks@tpocc.org">ryanbanks@tpocc.org</a> or via phone at 559-732-8086.

Sincerely,

### Ryan Banks

Ryan Banks, M.P.A. Chief Executive Officer Turning Point of Central California, Inc.



Healthnet.com

June 26, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry:

Health Net is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

Health Net is proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at NaYung.Kasick@HealthNet.com or by phone at 310-740-5183.

Sincerely,

Nai Kasick, MPH

Vice President, Medi-Cal Lead

Health Net



February 5, 2023

Margie Perez, Housing Specialist City of Visalia 707 W. Acequia Visalia, CA 93291

Re: Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2- Support

Dear Ms. Margie Perez:

It is my pleasure to submit this letter of support for the city of Visalia and their efforts in the Encampment Resolution Fund Program through the Homeless Coordinating and Financing Council. The Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance ("Alliance") serves as the local Continuum of Care on Homelessness for Kings and Tulare Counties. Since its inception in 1999, the Alliance has worked tirelessly on its mission of coordinating and leveraging policy and resources to empower community partners in addressing homelessness in Kings and Tulare County.

One of the key ways to address homelessness is by building strong relationships with people through street outreach. The Alliance operates the Coordinated Entry System (CES) whereby housing navigators visit encampments in the city of Visalia on a weekly basis to build rapport, conduct assessments, and issue housing referrals. Through street outreach in encampments, housing navigators assist persons experiencing homelessness to access safe and stable housing services using a person-centered Housing First approach. Information is entered into the local Homeless Management Information System database daily to ensure measurable outcomes and track the progress of those experiencing homelessness.

People who are unsheltered are exposed to increased health and safety vulnerabilities, longer histories of homelessness, and higher rates of behavioral health challenges. There is a great need for behavioral health and a mobile healthcare system in the Visalia encampments.

Thank you for your continuing leadership on efforts to prevent and end homelessness in the City of Visalia. Please do not hesitate to reach out with any questions at mperez@kthomelessalliance.org or via phone at (559) 738-8733.

Sincerely,

Miguel Perez **Executive Director** 



6083 N. Figarden Dr #656 - Fresno, CA 93722 (312) 870-4747 - www.upholdings.net

June 27, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

UPholdings is pleased to provide a letter of support for the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center for people experiencing homelessness in encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia.

UPholdings has partnered with the City of Visalia and RH Community Builders in the development of the Sequoia Village Project, a 50-unit motel conversion to Permanent Supportive Housing, and the Majestic Gardens Project, a 42-unit motel conversion to Permanent Supportive Housing for people experiencing homelessness, in the City of Visalia. Upholdings, in partnership with RH Community Builders, is also converting Madson Gardens, a 57-unit motel, into Permanent Supportive Housing for people experiencing homelessness, in Tulare County. UPholdings is pleased to develop Permanent Supportive Housing units for the City of Visalia at Sequoia Village, Majestic Gardens, and Madson Gardens, for a total of 149 Permanent Supportive Housing units for people experiencing homelessness.

UPholdings is pleased to partner with the City of Visalia in its efforts to end homelessness in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at jessica@upholding.net or via phone at (773) 936-5014.

Sincerely,

Jessica Berzac Principal

**UPholdings** 

jessica@upholding.net



### A Nonprofit Housing and Community Development Organization

June 20, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) is pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Navigation Center will serve people experiencing homelessness in encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Self-Help Enterprises is proud to have participated in the development of the Visalia Navigation Center by donating the land where it will be built and plans to partner with the Navigation Center and the Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance to take referrals for permanent housing in our Visalia multifamily housing communities. Since 1965, SHE has created strong communities and supported low-income families in the San Joaquin Valley. As Visalia's certified Community Housing Development Organization (CHDO) for over 25 years, we have developed more than 1,000 affordable housing units across Tulare County. Recent Visalia developments include five single family homes, Highlands Gardens' 36 multifamily units, Encina Apartments' six units, and Strawberry Apartments' five units. In addition, encampment and Navigation Center residents who are ready to transition to permanent housing will have access to SHE's future housing developments scheduled for completion between December 2023 and June 2025. These include 80 multifamily units at Rancho Colegio, which will be next door to the Visalia Navigation Center; 52 Permanent Supportive Housing units at Neighborhood Village; and 80 units (40 of them Permanent Supportive Housing) at The Lofts, which are located near the Visalia Transit Center.

Self-Help Enterprises supports the City of Visalia in its encampment application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me via email at TomC@selfhelpenterprises.org or via phone at (559) 802-1620.

Sincerely

Thomas J. Collishaw President/CEO



# City of Visalia

707 W Acequia Ave., Visalia, CA 93291

Founded 1852

# Finance / Housing

Tel: (559) 713-4460 Fax: (559) 713-4801

June 30, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

The City of Visalia is pleased to resubmit the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of the first 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center in Tulare County. The Visalia Navigation Center will be a one-stop center to provide immediate shelter, essential supportive services, and direct placement into permanent housing for people experiencing homelessness in prioritized encampments.

Enclosed please find letters of support for the City of Visalia's ERF-2-R application. The City of Visalia received 21 letters of support for the development of the Visalia Navigation Center. Letters of support include Senator Melissa Hurtado, Senator Shannon Grove, Congressman Jim Costa, City of Fresno, City of Tulare, Tulare County Board of Supervisors, Kings/Tulare Homeless Alliance, Housing Authority of Tulare County, CSET, Self-Help Enterprises, Kaweah Health, RH Community Builders, UPHoldings, Health Net, Habitat for Humanity, Proteus, Inc., Kings View, Turning Point of Central California, Tulare County Health and Human Services Agency, United Way of Tulare County, and Caltrans.

Thank you for the opportunity to reapply for ERF-2-R funds to develop the first of its kind Navigation Center in Tulare County. Should you have any questions regarding the City of Visalia ERF-2-R application, please contact me via email at <a href="margie.perez@visalia.city">margie.perez@visalia.city</a> or by telephone at (559) 713-4460.

Sincerely,

Margie Perez Housing Specialist

Margie Perez

cc: Leslie Caviglia, City Manager Renee Nagel, Finance Director CAPITOL OFFICE 1021 O ST., SUITE 7310 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 TEL (916) 651-4016 FAX (916) 651-4916

SENATOR MELISSA HURTADO

California State Senate

SIXTEENTH SENATE DISTRICT

COMMITTEES
AGRICULTURE
CHAIR

ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY
HEALTH

HUMAN SERVICES
NATURAL RESOURCES & WATER

DISTRICT OFFICES 611 N. DOUTY ST. HANFORD, CA 93230 TEL (559) 585-7161

1201 E. CALIFORNIA AVE., SUITE A BAKERSFIELD, CA 93307 TEL (661) 395-2620

SENATE.CA.GOV/HURTADO

June 28, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

### Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

I write this letter in strong support of the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for those residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

For these reasons I am proud to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out to my Chief of Staff, Aaron Brieno at <a href="mailto:aaron.brieno@sen.ca.gov">aaron.brieno@sen.ca.gov</a>.

Sincerely,

MELISSA HURTADO Senator, 16<sup>th</sup> District STATE CAPITOL SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 TEL (916) 651-4012 FAX (916) 651-4912

SENATOR.GROVE@SENATE.CA.GOV

# California State Senate

#### SENATOR SHANNON GROVE

TWELFTH SENATE DISTRICT

DISTRICT OFFICE 5701 TRUXTUN AVE., SUITE 150 BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309 TEL (661) 323-0443 FAX (661) 323-0446



June 28, 2023

Jeannie McKendry Grants Development Section Chief California Interagency Council on Homelessness 801 Capitol Mall, Suite 601 Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Program Round 2 - Letter of Support

Dear Ms. McKendry,

I am pleased to support the City of Visalia's Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application for the development of a 100-bed Low-Barrier Navigation Center. The Center will serve people residing in prioritized encampments along State Routes 63, 198, and 216 in the City of Visalia. Through the Navigation Center, individuals and families living in prioritized encampments will gain a broad range of wraparound services and a safe place to transition to permanent housing.

Addressing the homeless crisis in our community requires collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors. The development of a low barrier navigation center with trauma informed care and harm reduction trained staff is imperative to focus resources and provide permanent housing placement for the people residing in prioritized encampments in the City of Visalia.

For these reasons, I am happy to support the City of Visalia in its Encampment Resolution Funding Round 2 application and development of this first-of-its-kind Navigation Center in the City of Visalia. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (661) 323-0443.

Sincerely,

Shannon Grove 12<sup>th</sup> Senate District

### City of Visalia Encampment Resolution Funding Rd. II Maps

### **Targeted Encampments**

- **Step 1** The following encampments will receive priority entry into the Navigation Center.
  - 1) CA State Highway 198 from Santa Fe St. to Ben Maddox on ramps, covering 4,031 ft. Ben Maddox on ramps, and Burke St. through Santa Fe St. are prioritized sections.







2) CA State Route 63 at Riverway Sports Park, N. Dinuba Blvd between West Riggin Avenue and East Houston Avenue, and the Lincoln Oval Park, which covers 1.95 miles.



3) St. John's River covering 3 miles.



#### **Transitional Housing Projects**

- **Step 2** The following projects will provide transitional housing for those needed additional support following their tenure at the Navigation Center prior to entering permanent housing.
  - 1) **Eden House** A 22-bed transitional housing project. Tenants can reside between 6 to 12-months to transition into permanent housing. Located at 1627 South Garden Street, Visalia, CA 93277. This project is located south of CA State Highway 198.



2) **Visalia Rescue Mission** – A 45-bed transitional housing project. Located at 741 N. Santa Fe Street, Visalia, CA 93292. This project is located north of CA State Highway 198.



3) Family Services Domestic Violence Transitional Housing – There are 10 domestic violence transitional housing units for those experiencing domestic violence. Domestic violence housing location(s) is kept confidential for victims' safety.

#### **Permanent Supportive Housing Projects**

- **Step 3** The following projects below will provide Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) units for those residing at the prioritized encampments following their tenure at the Navigation Center.
  - 1) **The Sequoia Village Project** 50-unit motel conversion in to Permanent Supportive Housing. Located at 1400 S. Mooney Blvd., Visalia, CA 93277. The Sequoia Village project is located on South of the CA State Highway 198 and directly on CA Route 63.



2) **The Majestic Project** – 42-unit motel conversion in to Permanent Supportive Housing. The Majestic Project is located at 4545 W. Noble Avenue, Visalia, CA 93277, adjacent to CA State Highway 198.



3) **The Lofts Project** – 80-unit new construction affordable housing complex with 40 permanent supportive housing units. The Lofts Project is located at 300 W. Oak Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291, north of CA State Highway 198.

