

The 16-bed emergency shelter for adult males experiencing homelessness who have a serious mental illness.

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San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Services (BHS) was awarded grant funding for a 16-bed emergency shelter to house chronically homeless male adults with a serious mental illness who may also have a co-occurring substance use disorder (SUD).

The facility will serve all residents of the county and will be located and operated on county-owned land in French Camp.

It is unlikely that homeless and chronically homeless individuals with a serious mental illness SMI/SUD can or will implement a treatment plan and while non-specialized emergency shelters provide immediate refuge, their short-term nature and restrictions do not lend themselves to a therapeutic environment for SMI recovery or treatment. This facility will provide a safe, stable, home-like environment with supportive services to engage clients to stabilize and focus on their treatment plans for successful and appropriate discharge.

Low-barrier, long-term stays will provide a stabilizing environment for homeless adult males who make up the largest percentage of individuals experiencing homeless. For those who choose to engage in BHS case management, services may include: provisions and oversight of personal and supportive services; the coordination of primary health care, dental care, and application for public benefits; health coverage, and acquiring documentation; provision of individualized risk focused assessments and on-going evaluations; treatment interventions (mental health and substance use); Wellness Recovery Action Plan (WRAP); medication support; and crisis intervention services. All services for residents will be voluntary and discharge planning will begin shortly after entry as clients work with their care team to develop and refine treatment and discharge goals that are feasible and attainable. Clients may stay for up to six months.

The \$2,477,266 project will be funded through a grant from the Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program and Unprogrammed Capital Outlay funds from San Joaquin County. Services will be underwritten by the Mental Health Services Act.