



# City of Rohnert Park PRESS RELEASE

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## **For Immediate Release**

### **Rohnert Park Pursues Health and Human Services Hub**

**Rohnert Park, CA (Jan. 31, 2023)** – The City of Rohnert Park has been exploring opportunities to create a Health and Human Services Hub in Rohnert Park since May 2022. At its **meeting on January 10**, the City Council agreed to pursue funding for the facility.

“Rohnert Park lacks adequate health and human services options. We’ve largely been fly-over territory when it comes to locating services here that are readily available elsewhere. We’re looking to the Hub to help close the gap,” said Mayor Samantha Rodriguez.

Counties, nonprofit organizations and health care providers provide most health and human services for communities. Rohnert Park has been historically overlooked as a vital location for these services. To expand accessibility, the city developed an “If we build it, they will come” approach where the City provides a facility and the service providers offer services. Staff have been reviewing potential facilities for these providers to offer services in Rohnert Park.

The city has identified part of 6800 Hunter Drive to be the preferred location. This site houses the Senior Center and has eight offices, a kitchen and a training room.

The City also contacted numerous local organizations to see if they would offer services at the Hub. All of them expressed interest in providing services out of a city-owned facility. These include:

- Catholic Charities
- Child Parent Institute
- Petaluma People Services Center
- Rohnert Park Health Center
- Social Advocates for Youth
- Sonoma County Health Services Department
- The Petaluma People Services Center

Potential services for the community would cover both youth and adults. Counseling and therapy, parenting classes and training for providers are options. Applications for health insurance could also be available.

Rohnert Park is working to identify potential funding sources for one-time and on-going costs to operate the Hub, such as building improvements and utilities and maintenance.

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