



## City of Rohnert Park PRESS RELEASE

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### **For Immediate Release**

## **Rohnert Park Celebrates a Year of Labath Landing and Ongoing Housing Programs**

**Rohnert Park, CA (Oct. 27, 2023)** – The City of Rohnert Park is proud to celebrate the one year anniversary of Labath Landing. Labath Landing opened in October 2022 and is Rohnert Park’s 60-unit interim housing community. The project construction was funded by a \$14.6 million grant from California’s Project Homekey. The majority of the ongoing cost to operate the program comes from State and County sources, including Sonoma County Measure O funds.

“Homelessness is one of the most complex and unfortunate issues facing our community and nation today,” said Mayor Samantha Rodriguez. “Rohnert Park is invested in addressing both the root cause of homelessness and its effects by helping those experiencing homelessness find housing and support. Housing programs like Labath Landing are making strides toward improving the lives of homeless people in our community. We are glad to see how many people it has helped in the last year.”

In its first year of operation, Labath Landing has helped 15 people transition into permanent housing. One example is Harlee, who had a good union job installing fencing and other infrastructure for many years. He helped build the SMART train tracks in Sonoma County. In 2017, he became ill and was unable to work, causing him to lose his job. Without income, he lost his apartment and his vehicle. Harlee found himself living in a tent on the streets of Rohnert Park. His health issues worsened due to the stress of homelessness.

In October 2022, he was selected as one of the first residents to move into Labath Landing. With staff support, Harlee moved into his own apartment through a city-funded permanent housing program in May 2023.

Between January 2021 and August 2023, 616 people experiencing homelessness in Rohnert Park have engaged with our outreach teams. Of these, 164 have moved to interim housing and 155 people have transitioned into permanent homes. Rohnert Park officials also serve on the Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board, which makes funding decisions for state and federal homeless service dollars.

Learn more about the City’s efforts to address homelessness and how you can get involved here: [www.rpcity.org/homelessness](http://www.rpcity.org/homelessness).

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