Support Project Homekey



To: Lindsay Lara <Lindsay.Lara@cityofsanrafael.org>

Dear Mayor Phillips and Councilmembers:

My name is Sister Joan Hanna, O.P. and I live at Locust Ave. I am an active member of the Dominican Sisters, which is a founding member of the Marin Organizing Committee, and I am a registered voter.

I strongly support the purchase of 3301 Kerner Boulevard in San Rafael and the allocation of Housing Trust Funds for a matching grant for this purpose.

We all know that the lack of safe, affordable housing in Marin was a public health crisis before COVID-19, but now it is a true emergency. As we know only too well from the massive recent expenditures made by the City and the County, too many families and individuals are struggling to pay their rent and are only staying housed due to this intervention. We need to take every opportunity to provide safe and affordable housing in our communities as winter approaches and our nation faces a new spike in corona virus cases. This purchase would provide a safe home to 44 individuals seeking to exit homelessness and rebuild their lives. The people we are talking about are already living among us—they are our neighbors, the students in our schools, colleagues and employees and our family members who have fallen on hard times. We just need to get them safely housed so we can start helping them with their other challenges.

I ask that you to work closely with the County and Opening Doors to facilitate this purchase and allocate San Rafael Housing Trust Funds to

help. As a resident of San Rafael, I am immensely proud of the work our City is doing to help provide affordable housing and rental assistance so that all our residents can thrive during this difficult time.

Gratefully,

Sister Joan Hanna, O.P.

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