HopeWorks is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit organization. Since its founding in 1985 by a group of concerned leaders, HopeWorks has grown to become the largest provider of services for people experiencing or are at risk of homelessness in Albuquerque. **HopeWorks' mission is to assist people who are experiencing homelessness or near-homelessness by providing resources, opportunities, and HOPE.** Their aim is to end homelessness, one person, and one family at a time. Over the last two years, the HopeWorks day shelter has seen an increase of nearly 25% in the overall number of clients served. This integrated HopeWorks campus project is in direct response to increased demand for services unmatched by government and private funding.

**HOPEWORKS SITE**

HopeWorks has served Albuquerque’s homeless population at its Downtown location between Third and Fourth Streets, just north of Mountain Road for over 25 years. The site is a lifeline for individuals who need food, behavioral and mental health, case management, employment counseling, and other vital services. Currently, HopeWorks operates its day shelter, administrative offices, and dining hall from three different buildings on the site, all of which need replacement. HopeWorks is planning to create an integrated and contained campus, including a new residential building, on this site that will cluster the many services HopeWorks provides at one location in new facilities. This new campus will provide just one-stop for individuals and families experiencing homelessness to easily access supportive housing and many lifesaving support services.

**PROJECT SUMMARY**

The HopeWorks campus project will be developed in three phases. The first phase will include a 42-unit supportive housing building for chronically homeless individuals. Residential units will comprise the second and third floors of the building, while on the first-floor residents will be able to access behavioral health and case management services. Phase 1 also includes a landscaped parking lot with street trees along Fourth Street and an outdoor courtyard for residents.

The second phase includes construction of a new administrative and services building located along Third Street. The third phase will replace the existing day shelter and dining hall, and combine them into one building. At each phase of the project, landscaping and additional safety and security elements will be added to the campus design.
This integrated campus is the first of its kind in New Mexico and will serve as a model for other cities in the State.

**SITE IMPROVEMENTS**

Currently, because of limited space indoors and outdoors, individuals and families seeking services from the HopeWorks Downtown location do not have anywhere to stay for short-term respite. The campus landscape design improvements include shaded areas consisting of trees, shade structures, and outdoor furniture. Safety and security at the site will be reinforced with fencing and gated entryways from the street. The goal is to provide a welcoming, comfortable space that will encourage individuals to stay on the campus during the day to rest and obtain services, instead of milling around the adjacent neighborhoods.
**COMMUNITY BENEFITS**

- **Increased Safety and Security:** HopeWorks’ mission is to create a secure and safe environment for the homeless. Living on the street, in shelters, and in places not fit for human habitation, these individuals suffer from an increased risk of violence and crime. The new integrated campus will ensure that clients have a safe place to call home.

- **Positive Economic Impact:** According to HUD, it costs on average approximately $40,000 per year for a person experiencing homelessness to remain on the streets. In fact, according to a UNM study conducted in 2014, Albuquerque spends more than $20 million every year to provide homeless services to individuals and families. Obtaining housing for those experiencing homelessness has a profound impact on the well-being of the City’s financial health.

- **Aesthetic and Streetscape Improvements:** There is a city-wide movement to build and grow Albuquerque’s Downtown and transform it into a vibrant area. HopeWorks is doing its part in this movement by helping to house and provide day respite to the homeless who currently live on the streets in the Downtown area. The new buildings and improved landscape planned for the new campus will improve the neighborhoods and contribute positively to the overall appearance of the built environment.

**For more information, please contact:**
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