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HOPEWORKS EMBARKS ON FIRST SINGLE SITE PROJECT IN NM HISTORY
Project will provide permanent supportive housing to the most chronically homeless in Albuquerque

Albuquerque, NM: In the early part of 2019, HopeWorks, a nonprofit in Albuquerque serving the needs of those experiencing homelessness, will begin construction of a 42-unit permanent supportive housing structure. This project will be the first of its kind in New Mexico history, providing permanent housing to 42 of the most chronically homeless in Albuquerque, alongside services designed to keep them stable and housed.

[QUOTE FROM GREG MORRIS, something like “Permanent supportive housing is a proven solution to ending homelessness.... Step in the right direction, etc.”]

The HopeWorks’ 42-unit apartment building will be located at 1221 Third Street NW, right next to the existing day shelter. It will be three stories high, with the ground floor being utilized for mental/behavioral health services and offices, as well as gathering areas for the clients. The second and third floors will be one-bedroom units, designed to be both handicapped accessible and have Universal Design Features. This building will also include a management office, a maintenance room, a central front lobby, a social services provider’s office and additional service space, as well as public gathering spaces and laundry areas on the second and third floors. The site includes parking for the building, landscaping, and a public “courtyard” located toward the interior of the site.

Residents must have some sort of disability, and earn at or below 50% area median household income. HopeWorks adheres to all fair housing laws and will perform complete background checks on residents. Registered sex and violent offenders will not be eligible. The site will have a 24/7 security and safety presence and video surveillance. A staff person trained in crisis intervention and de-escalation will be on location and available 24/7. Building access will be restricted only to residents and staff. Guests will be limited and determined by lease requirements.

The project is a truly collaborative effort and includes the National Housing Trust Fund, the Mortgage Finance Authority, the City of Albuquerque, and Bernalillo County. For more information about this innovative project, please visit: hopeworksnm.org/single-site

About HopeWorks: HopeWorks (HW) was founded in 1985 by Reverend Susan Sager and several of her Episcopalian peers in response to increases in the number of individuals

experiencing homelessness in Albuquerque. At that time, HW served an average of 50 individuals a day with shelter and a hot morning meal. Confronted by the magnitude of need and critical gaps in services available to the homeless, HW worked to develop a comprehensive set of programs designed to assist clients on every step of their journey toward self-sufficiency. In 1995, the agency added the following programs: outreach, jobs, motel vouchers and mental health services. Over the next decade, HW developed a robust Behavioral Health department and a housing program to directly assist clients to exit homelessness.

In 2010, HW grew to become the largest multi-service provider to individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness in New Mexico. This period of strategic expansion saw the addition of the Hope Café employment training program, its absorption of Dismas House New Mexico and Project Share to keep these vital programs in operation, and the addition of the Better Way (day labor for panhandlers) and Almost Home (permanent supportive housing) programs.

In 2017, HW implemented a new 3-year strategic plan with three main goals currently underway: rebrand to St. Martin's HopeWorks (and now, HopeWorks), launch the Hope Found rapid re-housing program for homeless families with children, and undertake a capital campaign to support a campus expansion *and build a single-site permanent supportive housing development for chronically homeless individuals.*