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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Modesto Announces Award of Homekey Round 3 Funding

**MODESTO, CA-** The City of Modesto in partnership with RH Community Builders and UPHoldings are thrilled to announce the award of \$16,059,562 from the State Homekey Round 3 for the conversion of 710 N. 9th Street into vital permanent supportive housing. This project is a significant step in the City's ongoing commitment to addressing homelessness and providing housing solutions for our vulnerable homeless population. One of the core initiatives of the City's Community Development Division is to encourage, fund, and support the development of Affordable Housing within the City of Modesto.

"Affordable housing is a fundamental component of any strategy to combat homelessness. Homekey Project 3 helps us to provide stable housing which can significantly improve the lives of individuals and families in need.", said Jessica Hill, Director of Community and Economic Development. "This project would not be possible without our service providers County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Aspiranet and Center for Human Services."

Homekey, a state program designed to prevent homelessness by rapidly re-housing individuals through coordinated services, will provide critical funding for the rehabilitation of the Traveler's Motel. The project will result in a 55-unit permanent supportive housing facility, with 38 units dedicated to serving youth experiencing homelessness and 16 units for the general homeless population. These units will offer on-site services, including case management, peer support, mental health services, and connections to community healthcare providers.

Katie Wilbur, Executive Director of RH Community Builders conveyed her support by saying, "RH Community Builders believes in crafting compassion and constructing hope to assist with ending homelessness in the Central Valley through our partnership with the City of Modesto and UPHoldings, we are one step closer today."

To facilitate this significant project, the City of Modesto has secured funding from various sources, including Homekey 3 funding. This transformative project represents a collaborative effort between the City of Modesto and RH Community Builders, and UPHoldings with a shared commitment to addressing homelessness and providing permanent supportive housing for those in need. It underscores the City's dedication to creating a more inclusive and compassionate community.

Jessica Hoff Berzac, President and Principal at UPholdings stated, “The unprecedented outcomes made available to the Central Valley through Homekey 3 are the result of the tireless work by those who believe in the right of housing for everyone.” She further added, “We are excited to work in Modesto with such committed partners to create a safe, healthy foundation of housing coupled with the supportive services needed for residents to achieve their goals.”

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