



October 16, 2020

County of Mendocino  
501 Low Gap Road  
Ukiah, California 95482

Attention: Ms. Carmel Angelo, Chief Executive Officer

Subject: Letter of Support  
Project Homekey Facility  
Best Western Orchard Inn

Dear Ms. Angelo:

I am writing on behalf of North Coast Opportunities to express our support for the proposed Project Homekey Facility located at 555 South Orchard Avenue in Ukiah. North Coast Opportunities, Inc. (NCO) is a Community Action Agency that primarily serves the populations in Lake and Mendocino Counties with the mission to strengthen our communities through responsive advocacy, engagement, and services. NCO actively seeks new ways to bring resources into the community in the form of grants and partnerships.

We understand the project will convert the existing Best Western Orchard Inn from a 56-unit hotel to a 56-unit transitional housing facility, with plans to convert at least half of those units to permanent housing units within 10 years. The facility will provide housing to homeless individuals and those at risk of becoming homeless and set aside rooms for various at-risk populations including seniors, veterans, families, and those requiring respite medical care. This facility will provide an integral piece of the County's social safety net and fill a niche which no current County or partner facility provides.

Establishing this facility in Mendocino County will help our most vulnerable residents secure both transitional and permanent housing at a critical time for our community, amidst an ongoing housing crisis and global pandemic which have disproportionately impacted low-income individuals. This facility will provide a safe and healthy place to live for those most at need, helping them get back on their feet and avoid falling into chronic homelessness.

We look forward to seeing the significant benefits this facility will provide in our community. Please contact me at [pbruder@ncoinc.org](mailto:pbruder@ncoinc.org) if you have any questions regarding this letter.

Sincerely,

Patty Bruder  
Executive Director