



September 20, 2021

The Honorable Bernie Norvell
City of Fort Bragg
416 Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Dear Mayor Norvell:

We are writing to you in support of Fort Bragg's request for funding from the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee to establish a Crisis Respite Facility and Services Center that will serve residents of the Mendocino County Coast.

As you have pointed out, there is currently only one Crisis Respite program in Mendocino County, which is located in the greater Ukiah area. Another is under construction that will also be located in Ukiah. Not only is accessing either inland Crisis Respites both difficult and impractical for coastal residents, it creates major obstacles to establishing the essential ongoing relationship between clients and the post-crisis team that is vital for recovery.

We agree that the Crisis Respite that Fort Bragg is proposing will offer a safe, comforting environment for individuals who are experiencing a temporary mental health crisis that may be severe but not life threatening. We think it is significant that the respite would be available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to provide immediate services and support to an individual in crisis without the need for admission to a psychiatric hospital.

The success of Madrone House, the inland Crisis Respite has demonstrated how well this approach works, and we concur that offering a Crisis Respite Facility and Services Center located in or near the City of Fort Bragg would have enormous benefits for coastal residents. Furthermore, funding the establishment of this kind of facility seems like just what the voters had in mind when they passed Measure B.

Please let us know if there is anything else we can do to show our support for the project.

Warmest regards,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, sweeping 'C' shape followed by a short horizontal line.

Senator Mike McGuire

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jim Wood" in a cursive, flowing script.

Assemblymember Jim Wood