



# COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ

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## NEWS RELEASE



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### BOARD GREENLIGHTS BRIDGE HOUSING FACILITY

The Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors has approved a design agreement with LifeArk to construct a 30-unit center with bridge housing and services to help address homelessness in the community.

Funded through a \$10.2 million grant from the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) for the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Program, the new facility is expected to open in 2025. It will provide comprehensive on-site services and stable temporary housing to help transition individuals into permanent housing.

Led by the County's Health Services Agency with support from the Human Services Department's Housing for Health Division, the new center will be a crucial step in expanding services to those experiencing homelessness. The project also continues community momentum in lowering the impacts of homelessness on individuals and the community, while helping fulfill objectives in the County's new [Three-Year Framework to Address Homelessness](#).

The referral-only center will be located at 2202 Soquel Avenue adjacent to the existing Behavioral Health Center operated by Telecare. Stakeholder engagement and input from groups including individuals with lived experience of mental illness underscored the urgent need for housing solutions with integrated behavioral health services.

Prefabricated modular housing construction is being used to speed construction while lowering costs and reducing impacts to the community during construction. [LifeArk](#) deploys an environmentally friendly construction process using a proprietary composite polymers that include 30 percent post-consumer recycled materials. The construction process is being managed by the Department of Community Development & Infrastructure.

For more information, visit [www.santacruzhealth.org/bridgehousing](http://www.santacruzhealth.org/bridgehousing).