



LIFEMOVES MOUNTAIN VIEW



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Above right, LifeMoves CEO Aubrey Merriman. LifeMoves Mountain View is a safe interim housing community that offers a private unit for each household.

which all partners delivered, according to Ken Rakestraw, assistant vice president at Sares Regis, a California real estate development group that focuses on multi-family and industrial projects.

"Everyone had to lean in on their skills, their personalities," he said. Mountain View "even totally wiped any permit fees. ... Everyone was all-in, donating as much as they could toward a project in the community."

Rakestraw said one of the key decisions they made was to pick four different modular vendors to produce the homes. Working with a greater number of vendors also reduced the likelihood that a production error would derail the timeline of the project.

"We couldn't afford the risk of selecting one vendor and somehow having that one vendor trip and fall on their face," Rakestraw said. "If one of the four vendors had tripped and fallen on their face, it would've been inconvenient, but it would not have been catastrophic."

"At the end of the day, the hectic pace of work is made worthwhile by the joy of bringing new homes to people in need."

"Every time I walk on the site, I meet a new person who is one of the clients living there," Brown said. "They love this new home that they have, and to hear the pride in their voice is pretty exciting."

In San Jose, officials tapped into \$17 million in state funding and \$7 million in



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Evans Lane is run by Adobe Services and People Assisting the Homeless. Residents can use the picnic benches to dine or meet outdoors.

federal CARES Act funding to build the three projects: a 78-bed site at Bernal and Monterey roads, a 120-bed site near Highway 101, and a 184-bed site at Evans Lane east of Willow Glen.

Janice Jensen, president and CEO of Habitat for Humanity East Bay Silicon Valley, said the project differed from the

nonprofits' usual model of helping build ownership homes. But the principle of helping families thrive remained the same.

"Philosophically, for Habitat, this was another way we could bring our core competency (and) mission aligned," Jensen said.

— Sonya Herrera

## LIFEMOVES

**Supporters:** City of Mountain View and Sares Regis of Northern California

**Location:** 2566 Leghorn St., Mountain View

**Occupancy:** 88 homes for individuals and couples and 12 family units, accommodates up to 124 people

**Amenities:** Dining spaces and outdoor meeting areas, as well as a separate playground and community meeting space for families

**Funding:** \$17 million to build, with funds coming from the state of California's Project HomeKey, Santa Clara County and the city of Mountain View