



April 27, 2016

Nancy Manchester  
City of Santa Rosa  
City Hall Annex  
90 Santa Rosa Ave  
Santa Rosa CA 95404

Subject: City of Santa Rosa Consolidated Plan 2016-2020

Thank you for requesting input on how federal housing and community development funds may be distributed and for addressing the critical issue of housing in Santa Rosa.

We have been attending the councils study sessions that have been filled with incredibly interesting information. In reviewing that information we see a role for Habitat for Humanity in the continuum of housing. Habitat for Humanity Sonoma County has been building low-income affordable ownership housing since its incorporation in 1984. Since that time we have served almost 40 families. Habitat homes provide affordability in perpetuity.

As you review Santa Rosa's Consolidated Plan, please keep in mind the value of homeownership. We, at Habitat feel the plan should include the possibility of funding ownership, not just rentals. We stand ready to be a partner with the City. The Habitat model of helping low income families attain ownership housing is part of the continuum of affordable housing.

We not only build affordable homeownership units, we also assist in obtaining financing, financial education, select the homeowners and nurture the families into the future. This relationship assures success of our partner families. With our volunteer labor force and community support with in-kind donations our model is extremely efficient. Providing homeownership opportunities for low to moderate income families opens up much needed rentals for our community. In addition, ownership creates a tax base and continues to reap many rewards in the community.

We look forward to partnering with the City of Santa Rosa and being one of the solutions to our housing crisis.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tamara".

Tamara Stanley  
Chief Executive Officer

cc: Santa Rosa City Council  
David Guhin