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Sobrato Philanthropies Announces \$525,000 in Responsive Grants to Silicon Valley Nonprofits focused on Homelessness through the Sobrato Family Foundation

Cupertino, California
www.Sobrato.org

The Sobrato Family Foundation has been known for nearly twenty years as a place-based grantmaker that funds millions of dollars each year in general operating support, donates land and buildings to community nonprofits, and provides rent-free office and conference space to Bay Area organizations through their three Nonprofit Centers. **Now, the Sobratos are engaging in responsive grantmaking—recently approving \$525,000 of support to projects that specifically address homelessness in Silicon Valley.**

“The economic disparity in this very wealthy region is deep, and has been underscored by recent headlines about the dire situation of our Valley’s homeless population,” said Rick Williams, Sobrato Family Foundation’s CEO. “Having children, families, and veterans living on our streets and riverbeds is simply unacceptable. As a region of wealth and ingenuity we have the means to end homelessness.”

These first responsive grants from the Sobrato Family Foundation are aimed at addressing the immediate needs of homeless individuals, but also look to build upon the efforts of the Housing 1000 and Housing First Initiatives.

Williams continued, “The Sobrato family hopes these foundation grants serve as a signal to other high-wealth individuals, foundations, and corporations to commit to joining the effort to end homelessness in our community. At the very least, we must ensure that 2014 is the *last year* children will have to sleep outside in Silicon Valley. Let’s set the example for the country.”

This slate of responsive grants includes support for four Human Services and Public Benefit organizations—

- **\$50,000 grant for Gilroy’s Compassion Center**, providing services for homeless in south Santa Clara County;
- **\$300,000 gift to EHC Lifebuilders** to help their efforts to bring shelters into alignment with Housing First;
- **\$75,000 in funding toward Pay for Success**—a public-private partnership with Santa Clara County developing a performance-based contracting program to better serve vulnerable populations; and
- **\$100,000 award to Project We Hope**, aiding their critical emergency homeless shelter in East Palo Alto.

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About the Sobrato Family Foundation

The Sobrato Family is committed to building a strong and vibrant Silicon Valley community through business and philanthropic leadership. To support these efforts, the Sobrato Family Foundation is a place-based grantmaker that invests exclusively in nonprofits serving those most in need in Santa Clara, San Mateo and Southern Alameda counties. The Foundation’s portfolio utilizes both cash and real estate to achieve maximum impact, providing multi-year cash grants for general operating support and in-kind office and meeting space at its three nonprofit centers located in Redwood Shores, San Jose and Milpitas. SFF also supports special initiatives such as its Early Academic Language program in schools serving preschool-grade 3 (SEAL), and a new 21st Century Education Fund.

Between 1996 and 2012, Sobratos had made 1,251 grants to more than 400 local agencies totaling more than \$77.5M. This giving took the form of \$53.3M in cash grants, \$32.4M in in-kind space grants, and nearly \$4.5M in special initiatives. Combining the value of these grants with more than \$85.5M in individual family gifts and \$62.6M in land and buildings donated directly to hundreds of local nonprofits, the Sobrato Philanthropies’ cumulative Silicon Valley community investments totaled more than \$238M.

For more information, visit <http://www.sobrato.com/sobrato-philanthropies/overview/> or contact Rick Williams, CEO: 408/446-0700

Sobrato Philanthropies *Healthy People & Places Program* Responsive Grants
 [Human Services & Public / Societal Benefit Mission Categories]
\$525,000 total to 4 organizations

Compassion Center	To help Compassion Center meet the needs of the homeless population in south county— provide basic services and shelter to those who would otherwise go unsheltered.	Gilroy, CA	\$50,000	2013 - 2014
EHC LifeBuilders	To support EHC LifeBuilders’ efforts to bring their emergency shelter program in alignment with the Housing First model, and strengthen their ability to serve this vulnerable population.	San Jose, CA	\$300,000 (2 years)	2013 - 2014
Pay for Success	To support Phase III pilot development of performance-based contracting (social impact bonds) aimed at improving services and outcomes for mentally ill and homeless populations in Santa Clara County.	Santa Clara, CA	\$75,000	2013
Project We Hope	Bridge loan for the continued operation of East Palo Alto’s emergency homeless shelter.	East Palo Alto, CA	\$100,000	2013

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