
From: Kelly Hadley
Sent: Sunday, September 22, 2024 9:05 PM
To: Planning Commission Public Comments
Subject: 030-191-008 echo

Hello id like to say i approve of this project . I live right around the corner from echo . I think this is a terrific thing for our community and for so many experiencing homelessness here. 2 years ago i came to echo for help , i was unable to find affordable housing and the deposits . I was 53 and not an addict nor had i ever been incarcerated. They housed me, i brought my credit score up from well under par to even get into a rental ...to good . I was able to pay off my debts and find a more stable job and today i am an inventory manager making well over minimum wage . I have a nice apartment and they secured the deposits for me . They helped me in every way. This is a much - needed organization and ANYONE that wants help and is willing to work with them will succeed at finding a stable home . Thank you kelly hadley

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COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

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THE
Balay Ko
FOUNDATION

September 16, 2024

Wendy Lewis, President and CEO
El Camino Homeless Organization
6370 Atascadero Avenue
Atascadero, CA 93422




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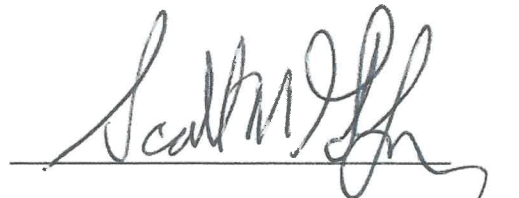
RE: Funding Support for ECHO Family Shelter Expansion

Dear Ms. Lewis,

This letter certifies that The Balay Ko Foundation is committing \$2,800,000 for the two story expansion building located near the street at ECHO's main facility in Atascadero, CA. This is a financing commitment for the design, permitting, and construction costs of the Project. The funding will be available as periodic grants to the ECHO for the Project upon request against monthly costs through grant request letters with back up spending information for that period.

Sincerely,


Amie Godfrey, President


Scott M. Godfrey AIA, Development Director





COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
John Peschong *District One Supervisor*

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PC, P.D., KG, X-F.



September 16, 2024

To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to express my strong support for ECHO's (El Camino Homeless Organization) Family Wing project in Atascadero. This critical initiative addresses a growing need in our community by providing a dedicated space for homeless families to access safe shelter, supportive services, and a pathway to stability.

ECHO has been an integral part of North San Luis Obispo County for years, evolving from a volunteer-run organization providing meals to a comprehensive homeless services provider. Today, ECHO serves as a cornerstone of support for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, offering not just emergency shelter, but long-term solutions that foster self-sufficiency and housing stability. The Family Wing is the next step in ECHO's evolution, specifically designed to address the unique challenges that families experiencing homelessness face.

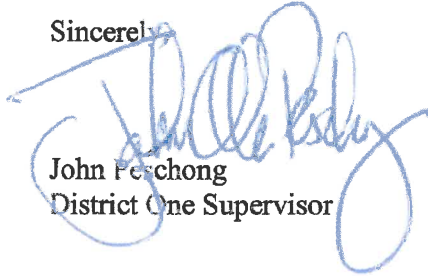
As a North County Supervisor, I have witnessed the number of families experiencing homelessness in our region growing. Contributing factors such as a lack of affordable housing, rising inflation, and economic instability have left many families struggling to make ends meet. Currently, there are few local resources tailored to the specific needs of families, who require not only safe shelter but also privacy, job training, and a stable environment for children. The Family Wing will provide all of this, adding 20 new beds and creating a family-friendly, supportive space that fosters stability and growth.

ECHO has a proven track record of success, helping 60% of individuals and families who secure housing and remain housed long-term. In 2024 alone, the organization assisted 252 individuals and families in securing stable housing. The Family Wing will expand ECHO's ability to serve more families, offering them the resources they need to rebuild their lives and contribute to our community.

This project aligns with the City of Atascadero's commitment to providing essential services and improving the quality of life for all residents. By supporting ECHO's Family Wing, the city will be helping to create a safer, more compassionate, and inclusive community for everyone.

I respectfully urge you to support this important project and recognize the positive impact it will have on the families of Atascadero and beyond. ECHO has always been a community-centered organization, and with the City's support, the Family Wing can become a reality that helps countless families find hope, stability, and a brighter future.

Sincerely,



John Ferchong
District One Supervisor

September 25, 2024

City Council
City of Atascadero
6500 Palma Avenue
Atascadero, CA 93422



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To Whom It May Concern:

I am a past Board Member of ECHO (El Camino Homeless Organization) and a neighbor of the Atascadero facility. I became involved with the organization soon after we moved here in 2015 after walking by the Atascadero campus numerous times while out enjoying the neighborhood on daily walks. And my passion for the organization's purpose grew the more involved I got.

I am writing to express my strong support for ECHO's (El Camino Homeless Organization) newest endeavor: the Family Wing project in Atascadero. This critical initiative addresses a growing need in our community by providing a dedicated space for homeless *families* to access safe shelter, supportive services, and a pathway to stability. Imagine a family who needs these services; they will now have rooms dedicated to their family for their stay and access to a case manager to assist them in finding their way back to a home of their own as well as other needs they may have to get back on their feet.

ECHO has been an integral part of North San Luis Obispo County for years, evolving from a volunteer-run organization providing meals to a comprehensive homeless services provider. Today, ECHO serves as a cornerstone of support for individuals and families experiencing homelessness, offering not just emergency shelter, but long-term solutions that foster self-sufficiency and housing stability. The Family Wing is the next step in ECHO's evolution, specifically designed to address the unique challenges that families experiencing homelessness face.

As you may know, the number of families experiencing homelessness in our region is growing. Contributing factors such as a lack of affordable housing, rising inflation, and economic instability have left many families struggling to make ends meet. Currently, there are few local resources tailored to the specific needs of families, who require not only safe shelter but also privacy, job training, and a stable environment for their children. The Family Wing will provide all of this, adding 20 new beds and creating a family-friendly, supportive space that fosters stability and growth.

ECHO has a proven track record of success, helping 60% of individuals and families who secure housing and remain housed long-term. In 2024 alone, the organization assisted 252 individuals and families in securing stable housing. The Family Wing will expand ECHO's ability to serve more families, offering them the resources they need to rebuild their lives and contribute to our community.

This project aligns with the City of Atascadero's commitment to providing essential services and improving the quality of life for all residents. By supporting ECHO's Family Wing, the city will be helping to create a safer, more compassionate, and inclusive community for everyone.

As a neighbor of the facility and supporter of the organization, I respectfully urge you to support this important project and recognize the positive impact it will have on the families of Atascadero and beyond. ECHO has always been a community-centered organization, and with the City's support, the Family Wing can become a reality that helps countless families find hope, stability, and a brighter future.

Sincerely,

Kandy Noel
Prior Board Chair of ECHO

cc: Wendy Lewis