From: Mary Gourley

To: Una Glass (una.glass.seb@sonic.net); Sarah Glade Gurney; Neysa Hinton; Diana Rich; Patrick Slayter - City of

Sebastopol (ps.sebcc@gmail.com)

Cc: <u>Lawrence McLaughlin</u>; <u>Kevin Kilgore</u>; <u>Dante Del Prete</u>; <u>Kari Svanstrom</u>

Subject: FW: Question about the homeless in Sebastopol and (SAVS)

Date: Friday, December 03, 2021 11:32:00 AM

Good morning

Please see email below.

Thank you Mary Gourley Assistant City Manager/City Clerk, MMC

----Original Message----

From:

Sent: Friday, December 03, 2021 10:25 AM

To: Mary Gourley <mgourley@cityofsebastopol.org>

Subject: Question about the homeless in Sebastopol and (SAVS)

My name is Stephen Greek.

I'm writing to ask a question and make a comment about the unhoused people on Morris St.

I work for a business that is funded by North Bay Regional Center. I'm a case worker for young men who have Autism. These gentlemen need my help becoming independent and self-reliant. When driving by the homeless encampment the last few weeks, I observed at least two gentleman, two different times, stricken by what looked like seizures. I know there's a problem getting appropriate Psychiatric Services in the area, monitoring the challenge these individuals are experiencing might help if they are willing to join a group and the city is able to provide a meeting place.

I would suggest the homeless in the encampment become a community, looking forward to housing as a piece of artwork in progress, a missing note in a piece of music. Maybe, try to think about future housing as a group. This new structure could provide guidance to some of the other members, and might alleviate some of the trash, sanitation issues, vaccine updates and newcomer's requests for inclusion. When people work together, they appreciate what they have. I'm an artist so I will always look at a problem creatively, just like this wonderful community I've lived in for over twenty years.

Sebastopol could be one of the many cities in the U.S. that looks at this problem creatively and takes a few small and creative steps forward. 'Housing First' works when the city, county, state work together.

Mayor Glass and Councilmember Rich are going in the right direction, but as we all know these unhoused folks could be on Morris St. and other parts of the county for a very long time, even with the parking rules enforced.

I would be honored to volunteer my time and experience toward helping these folks become more independent, hopefully one of their first goals is self-reliance.