

PRESS RELEASE



CONTACT INFORMATION:

Cynthia Le Monds
clemonds@rittercenter.org
(415) 847-4377

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ritter Center to Celebrate Grand Opening of New Health & Wellness Center

\$10.44 million State of California BHCIP investment and generous philanthropic support made new San Rafael center possible

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. (October 14, 2026)— Ritter Center will celebrate the grand opening of its new Health & Wellness Center at 800 A Street in downtown San Rafael on Thursday, October 15, 2026, from 4:30–6:30 p.m., marking a major milestone in the organization's more than 45-year history of serving Marin County residents experiencing poverty and homelessness.

Confirmed speakers include California State Assemblymember Damon Connolly, Marin County Board of Supervisors President Eric Lucan, Marin County Supervisor Mary Sackett, and San Rafael Mayor Kate Colin.

The new center was made possible by a significant combination of public and private investment, anchored by a \$10.44 million grant from the State of California through the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP). Administered by the California Department of Health Care Services, the BHCIP investment provided critical capital funding for the renovation of the new 800 A Street facility.

The state investment has been nearly completed by millions of dollars in generous contributions from individuals and public and private foundations through Ritter Center's *Ritter Builds Hope* capital campaign. Having raised more than \$20 million, Ritter Center is less than \$2 million away from becoming completely mortgage debt-free, ensuring that more funds can go where they are needed most.

"This center is the result of an extraordinary partnership between the State of California, philanthropy and our community," said Mark Shotwell, CEO of Ritter Center. "Together, our supporters have created a permanent home for compassionate, integrated care that will serve Marin County for generations."

As a Federally Qualified Health Center, Ritter Center provides primary medical care, behavioral health and substance use treatment alongside case management, housing support, food assistance and other essential services. The new facility brings these services together under one roof and will enable Ritter Center to serve approximately 25% more people and elevate the level of care.

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The Grand Opening Celebration is expected to welcome approximately 250 supporters, community partners, volunteers, and elected officials and will feature guided facility tours, live music, refreshments, and a formal building dedication and ribbon-cutting ceremony. The celebration will also mark the debut of Ritter Center's new logo and visual identity.

EVENT DETAILS:

Ritter Center Health & Wellness Center Grand Opening Celebration
Thursday, October 15, 2026 | 4:30–6:30 p.m.
800 A Street, San Rafael, CA 94901

About Ritter Center

For more than 45 years, Ritter Center has worked to prevent and resolve homelessness and improve the health and well-being of people living in poverty in Marin County. As a Federally Qualified Health Center, Ritter Center provides integrated healthcare and essential support services designed to improve health, housing stability and quality of life.

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