



F&M BANK SUPPORTS PERMANENT HOUSING DEVELOPMENT FOR HOMELESS YOUNG ADULTS

DATELINE: *Lodi, Calif., November 20, 2013...* Kent A. Steinwert, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer of Farmers & Merchants Bank of Central California is pleased to announce the Bank's support of the City of Modesto's first permanent supportive housing development for homeless young adults and those aged out of foster care.

"Often when young adults age out of the California foster care network, they are left with very few resources to support themselves. This program ensures safe and decent housing for these young adults so they can thrive," stated Kent Steinwert.

Meadow Glen Apartments is the City of Modesto's first permanent supportive housing development for homeless young adults and former foster youth. The complex consists of 32 apartments with a community center for the residents. Bank employees rallied around the cause gathering, organizing, and donating furniture and small household items to welcome residents—many of whom will be moving in with nothing. Additionally, F&M provided monetary donations to support the cost of utilities for the first few critical months.

In California there are more than 55,218 children and youth in foster care. According to kidsdata.org, youths who "age out" of foster care once they reach adulthood often face many challenges such as inadequate housing, low educational attainment, physical and mental problems and involvement with the legal system. This realization spurred the Housing Authority of the County of Stanislaus and many other organizations with similar concerns to work together to develop Meadow Glen Apartments. The apartments opened this October.

Farmers & Merchants Bank of Central California, also known as F&M Bank, was founded in 1916. F&M Bank is a locally owned and operated community bank which proudly serves California's Great Central Valley through 23 convenient locations from Sacramento to Merced. F&M Bank offers a full complement of loan, deposit, and treasury management services to both businesses and consumers, and has received BauerFinancial's coveted "Five-Star, Superior Bank" award, for safety and security for over 20 consecutive years.

For more information about F&M Bank visit www.fmbonline.com. Information about The Housing Authority of the County of Stanislaus can be found at www.stancoha.org

###

Photo Below (L to R): F&M Bank, Vice President Mike Garcia with The Housing Authority's Family Self Sufficiency Coordinator Jeff Speiller and Executive Director, Bill Fagan.

