

## Lemos, June

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**From:** Alice Chouteau <alicat@mcn.org>  
**Sent:** Monday, June 13, 2016 3:57 PM  
**To:** Lemos, June  
**Subject:** Permanent Housing for Mentally Ill Homeless, to the City Council

To the Fort Bragg City Council

We are shocked but not surprised that the City would consider taking grant monies for a facility in town, to house the 'mentally ill homeless.' City government has maintained a policy of taking millions in grant funding for helping the homeless, without bothering to hire a grant monitor to ensure that the grant requirements are being fulfilled. Hopes of Fort Bragg becoming a vibrant tourist destination for a healthier economy are tarnished by homeless services that seem to help only a few, while endless handouts and lenient law enforcement attract more and more transients. FBPD admitted that 75% of complaint calls are now for violations by transients, many of whom are mentally ill. We support Sheriff Allman's efforts to establish a secure facility to house the mentally ill where it belongs, in Ukiah, the county seat.

Any facility for the permanent housing of mentally ill homeless belongs in Ukiah, not our small town, where there is already a problem of too many transients, and we are experiencing a noticeable decline in Quality of Life here, with an increase in crimes, including murders, rape, and home invasions and burglaries by transients. Public health and safety, as well small businesses and property values are being undermined. Tourists will be discouraged from visiting a place overrun by transients, most of whom seem to have no interest in anything but handouts.

Obviously there is a great need for more low income housing for the working folks struggling to get by.

Grants and programs to benefit local people, young and old and in between, should be top priority, NOT maintaining "permanent housing" for clients who are homeless and mentally ill.

We urge the City Council to put the needs of the tax paying public first, and forego such a facility.

Alice and Douglas Chouteau  
Fort Bragg, CA

Sent from my iPad