



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**December 14, 2011**

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**RABOBANK GIFT MAKES A NEW START POSSIBLE IN SLO**

*\$25,000 Grant Draws \$1.7 Million Match from State for Creation of Nipomo Street Studios*

San Luis Obispo, CA – A \$25,000 grant from Rabobank will be used as matching funds for a \$1.7 million Mental Health Services Act housing grant from the State of California, to build Nipomo Street Studios - a housing project that will give a new start for local adults disabled by mental illness.

The studios and community room on Nipomo Street in San Luis Obispo will be used as permanent housing for low-income adults with persistent mental illness and an on-site wellness program. The Transitions-Mental Health Association project is targeted to serve individuals who meet San Luis Obispo County's criteria as extremely low income, and for some, are currently homeless.

“With Rabobank’s generous contribution, we are expanding housing and mental health services for San Luis Obispo county residents in need,” said Jill Bolster-White, Executive Director. “We sincerely appreciate their support of the Nipomo Street Studios: a development that embodies our shared commitment of assisting and restoring people in our community impacted by mental illness.”

Funding for Nipomo Street Studios is also provided by Affordable Housing Funds from the City of San Luis Obispo, TMHA, and the Mental Health Services Act through SLO County Behavioral Health Services.

**ABOUT TMHA**

Transitions-Mental Health Association is a nonprofit organization dedicated to eliminating stigma and promoting recovery and wellness for people with mental illness through work, housing, community and family support services. TMHA operates 27 programs at over 35 locations that reach over 2,000 people and 1,500 families in San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara counties. The emphasis of TMHA's many services is to teach vital independent living skills, and build a framework for community re-entry through personal empowerment and hands on experience. For over 30 years, TMHA has been dedicated to providing housing, employment, case management and life-skills support to teens and adults with mental illness; and support, resources and education for their loved ones. For more information, visit [www.T-MHA.org](http://www.T-MHA.org).

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Photo Caption: JT Haas, TMHA Board President; Jill Bolster-White, TMHA Executive Director; and Steven Harding, Regional President of Rabobank in front Nipomo Street Studios.