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Teal Street Center Receives Major Financial Award, Securing 58% of Total Funding

The Rasmuson Foundation will contribute \$1.25 million to support construction of Teal Street Center, Southeast Alaska's new social services hub in Juneau. Rasmuson awarded a \$750,000 grant and \$500,000 low-interest loan to United Human Services of SE Alaska (UHS), the nonprofit organization coordinating fundraising and construction of Teal Street Center, and that will operate it when it opens.

"We are thrilled by the faith in this project shown by the Rasmuson Foundation and its endorsement of Teal Street Center's mission to meet critical human needs in our city and region," said Joan O'Keefe, UHS Executive Director. "This is a significant milestone for a project many have dreamed of for nearly 20 years, and it will allow us to move forward to break ground this fall," she said.

Teal Street Center (TSC) is an innovative, multi-tenant, nonprofit facility offering a permanent, convenient and welcoming hub of resources to those experiencing physical or mental health disabilities, at-risk youth, elders, veterans, cancer patients, and low-income individuals and families. It will serve an estimated 2,250 people each year of all ages, cultural and socioeconomic backgrounds and will eliminate the difficulties of transportation, time, and cost for clients trying to meet with scattered providers. It will also strengthen the quality of service delivery and be an uplifting place for clients and employees.

Located on the corner of Teal and Alpine streets in the Mendenhall Valley, the \$6.5 million, 12,000+ square foot TSC will be next door to the new Glory Hall shelter and soup kitchen, and across the street from St. Vincent de Paul's low-income senior and transitional housing units. This proximity will allow simple access to multiple appointments in a centralized location; enhance collaboration between professionals and clients for cohesive services, referrals and client transitions; reduce communication barriers and lag times; increase agency efficiency and sustainability by sharing and maximizing resources; and create greater public awareness and use of the wide range of resources available.

"Convenient, accessible social service delivery next door to the new Glory Hall will help us address vital community needs," said Glory Hall Executive Director Mariya Lovischuk. "Teal Street Center is the key to successfully bringing together programs and services on one central campus for improved outcomes." The Glory Hall's new homeless shelter and soup kitchen is set to open their doors to patrons on July 21, 2021.

Rasmuson Foundation joins the City and Borough of Juneau, Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority, and Juneau Community Foundation as lead funders of Teal Street Center. With the Rasmuson Foundation award, 58% of the total project cost has been secured.

The TSC Campaign Committee is offering informational presentations to community organizations and associations, and is coordinating outreach to prospective individual donors that will begin later this summer. Presentations can be scheduled by emailing info@tealstreetcenter.org. More information at www.tealstreetcenter.org.

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