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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: March 12, 2018****Nueva Vista Community Resources faces a potential 50 percent cut in CDBG funding**

SANTA CRUZ, Calif. — On Tuesday March 13, The Santa Cruz City Council will vote on a recommendation from city staff to reduce Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding to Nueva Vista Community Resources by 50 percent. This would result in significant losses to the programs that have successfully served the Beach Flats and Lower Ocean Street neighborhoods for many years.

Nueva Vista Community Resources, a program of Community Bridges, was created in 2012 by merging Familia Center and Beach Flats Community Center, which had previously been operated by the City of Santa Cruz. Nueva Vista Community Resources serves over 1,500 individuals in the Lower Ocean and Beach Flats neighborhoods every year. It provides services that keep families healthy and strong in these low income, predominantly Latino neighborhoods. Nueva Vista's bilingual, bicultural programs range from food distribution to health insurance access, and from employment rights assistance to parent education, afterschool tutorials, and summer youth programs.

For many years, Nueva Vista has been a recipient of a \$100,000 U.S. Department of Housing (HUD) Community Development Block Grant, which is given through the City of Santa Cruz. However, due to recent recommended cuts—irrespective of current available funding—Nueva Vista is now facing a significant reduction of \$50,000.

If this proposal passes, and no other support is provided by the City of Santa Cruz, Nueva Vista will have to reduce its services. Over the last 25 years, Nueva Vista has educated and supported generations of Latinos and Lower Ocean community members and has advocated for the fair distribution of resources for the community. These programs are at the cornerstone of community organizing in these neighborhoods. The cuts would result in a reduction in services such as the youth afterschool program, an initiative of the Youth Violence Prevention Taskforce, and other programs that create safe places for youth who learn to engage positively in the civic and economic life of our community.

About Nueva Vista Community Resources

The Beach Flats Community Center & Familia Center are now known as Nueva Vista Community Resources. Here, our compassionate staff build a warm, friendly, safe place for the Santa Cruz community to access resources that offer stability and hope for the future. Nueva Vista Community Resources is part of the Community Bridges family of programs.