



Subject: Big Announcement: We're Moving!

The Spahr Center is moving!

We are relocating to a bigger building that will better accommodate the needs of our diverse programs and services.

Our new address will be **1575 Francisco Blvd E, San Rafael, CA 94901** effective January 1.

Some advantages of the new space worth noting:

- Located in the Canal District, our new location will allow us to better serve one of our priority populations of LGBTQ+ Latinx youth and families.
- Designated program areas for: food pantry, community support gatherings and events, case management, and mental health services.
- More space for programs, storage, and staff, including room to continue growing.
- All client and community programs will be located on the first floor of our new building, which is ADA accessible.
- A garage dedicated for our harm reduction vehicle and operations.
- A bright and welcoming reception area.

This is all exciting and comes with a lot of transition and change. We are outlining the timeline below and how the move will affect certain programs.

Timeline

December 25-January 1

The Center will be closed this week in observance of the Christmas and New Year's holidays, and will allow us to prepare everything for the move. All programs and services are canceled this week.

January 2-January 5

Our movers will be busy moving our belongings to the new building. Our physical space will be closed this week, but our staff will be working remotely and online as we prepare the new space to reopen.

January 8

The Center reopens at the new San Rafael location with limited programs and services available (details below).

January 15

The Center reopens and all programs and services return as normal.

Programs & Services Changes Between December 25-January 14

Case Management

- Case management & Ryan White services will not be available between December 25-January 1, and will be available online only between January 2 and January 5.
- These services will return in-person starting January 8.
- Please contact your Case Manager for referrals and information as needed.
 - Maria Camacho (she/ella), Director of Client Services & Senior Case Manager, at MCamacho@TheSpahrCenter.org or 415-886-8553.
 - Emily Sims (she/her), Case Manager, at ESims@TheSpahrCenter.org or 415-886-8555

Emergency Financial Assistance

- Any emergency financial assistance requests will not be accepted between December 25-January 7. Any requests for the end of December and beginning of January should be submitted by December 20 in order to ensure your request is honored before we close on December 25.
- Submit all requests to Lauren Benjamin (she/they), Client Services Coordinator, at LBenjamin@TheSpahrCenter.org or 415-886-8561.

Food Pantry

- The Food Pantry will be closed December 25-January 9. All clients should rely on groceries from other sources between these dates.
- One other source in Marin is St. Vincent de Paul Society's free dining room which is open every day of the year for breakfast (6:30am-8am) and lunch (11am-1pm). St. Vincent de Paul Society of Marin County is located at 820 B Street in downtown San Rafael.
- The Spahr Center Food Pantry will reopen January 10 at the new location and continue on the normal Wednesday-Friday schedule.
- Food vouchers are available for pick-up at the Center by December 20.

Medical Transportation

- All medical transportation services will not be available between December 25-January 1.
- Additional clipper cards and bus tickets are available in advance for pick-up at the Center by December 20.

Grupo Latino

- Our group for Latine People Living With HIV and family will be canceled on December 25 and January 1. This group will be held virtually on Zoom on January 8 and return in person on January 15 at the new location.

Mental Health Services

- Mental Health Services will be canceled December 25-January 1.
- All in-person mental health services will be virtual January 2-January 5, and return in-person starting January 8 at the new location.

Community Programs

Senior Programs

- Our Senior Discussion Group on Zoom is canceled December 25, December 28 & January 1. This program will continue online starting January 4.
- Our West Marin Senior Gathering Group is canceled on December 26.
- The monthly LGBTQ+ Men's Brown Bag Lunch senior group is canceled on December 29.

Family Programs

- Our Community Support Groups for Parents/Caregivers and Grandparents are canceled December 26.

Any in-person programs or services hosted offsite are canceled December 25-January 1, and will operate as normal starting January 2. This includes:

- All Harm Reduction services
- Monthly Senior Novato and West Marin gatherings
- Monthly Senior San Rafael Joe's Mixer
- LGBTQ+ Youth Q Groups in schools

If you have any questions throughout this process, please call our staff for assistance:

HIV & Ryan White Services: Lauren Benjamin (she/they), Client Services Coordinator, at LBenjamin@TheSpahrCenter.org or 415-886-8561.

Mental Health Services: Ari Sifuentes (she/her), LMFT, Director of Mental Health, at ASifuentes@TheSpahrCenter.org or 415-907-2423.

Community Programs: Pamela Chavez (she/ella), Director of Community Outreach, at PChavez@TheSpahrCenter.org or 415-907-2429.

All other operational and organization questions: Violet Zaragoza (she/ella), Finance & Operations Manager, at VZaragoza@TheSpahrCenter.org or (415) 886-8556.