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New renderings show proposed senior housing community near The Rim, La Cantera

By [Madison Iszler](#), Staff writer Feb 21, 2024
Gift Article



Renderings show Bella Vida at La Cantera, a senior housing community that is slated to be built across the highway from The Rim.

Courtesy of Three and Forefront Living

A faith-based nonprofit has unveiled new renderings of a senior housing complex it wants to build across the highway from The Rim shopping center between San Antonio and Boerne.

On 26.5 acres near the Eilan development along Interstate 10, [Forefront Living](#) of Dallas [plans to build](#) 164 apartments and 40 villas for people 62 and older who live independently. Units will range from 820 to 2,550 square feet.

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The community, named Bella Vida at La Cantera, will also have 16 assisted living units with memory support care and amenities such as a salon and spa, fitness center, pickleball court, indoor pool, restaurant-style dining and wellness programming. Forefront Living declined to disclose the range of costs for various unit sizes and services.

“This is very much a lifestyle choice. This is really designed for seniors who want access to health care, but want an active, independent lifestyle,” CEO Tim Mallad said.

Forefront Living was founded in 1962 as Grace Presbyterian Ministries. It operates the Presbyterian Village North retirement community, Faith Presbyterian Hospice and T. Boone Pickens Hospice and Palliative Care Center in Dallas, and it is opening the Outlook at Windhaven senior housing community in Plano this summer.

Its leader has long eyed San Antonio. It is an under-served area, and it has been decades since a nonprofit built a senior living community here, Mallad said. The location off I-10 is attractive to Forefront Living because it’s a short drive from shops and restaurants, as well as being atop a hill in a natural setting with trees and greenery.

Bella Vida is designed by [Three](#), a Dallas-based firm that designed Hotel Emma at Pearl.

The response from people interested in learning more about living at Bella Vida has surpassed expectations, Mallad said. More than 450 people signed up for a “priority club program” to receive initial information about the community, and Forefront Living opened a waiting list. The organization plans to begin construction in 2025 and open Bella Vida in late 2026.

“I think it confirmed ... there is definitely a need,” Mallad said.