



SDHC Homelessness Programs and Solutions

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, the San Diego Housing Commission's (SDHC) Homelessness Action Plan, is an effective, diverse funding and housing strategy to create permanent housing opportunities for homeless San Diegans.

This action plan is rooted in the national "Housing First" model of addressing homelessness – to provide homeless individuals with housing as quickly as possible, with supportive services as needed.

SDHC's "Moving to Work" (MTW) status has allowed SDHC to leverage its available resources to address homelessness through **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**.

SDHC is one of only 39 public housing authorities in the nation, out of 3,400, to receive an MTW designation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).



Homeless Point-in-Time Count, Downtown San Diego – January 27, 2017

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO: 2018-2020

Over the next three fiscal years (2018-2020), SDHC will direct \$79.7 million in Federal, City of San Diego and SDHC resources for six programs to provide permanent housing opportunities for 3,000 homeless San Diegans:

1. **Landlord Incentives** – Assist at least 3,000 homeless households by increasing the resources for SDHC's landlord incentives and benefits program.
2. **New Permanent Supportive Housing** – Invest Federal MTW and City of San Diego Affordable Housing Funds to create 500 permanent supportive housing units, which will also be eligible for Federal rental housing vouchers to provide rental assistance for homeless San Diegans.
3. **SDHC Moving Home Rapid Rehousing Assistance** – Assist approximately 600 homeless households to obtain and maintain permanent housing through light case management and short-term rental assistance.
4. **SDHC Moving On Rental Assistance Program** – Provide rental assistance to 50 formerly homeless individuals who are transitioning out of permanent supportive housing, but continue to need rental assistance.
5. **Homeless Prevention & Diversion Services** – Assist up to 1,450 households, which will reduce the inflow of newly homeless individuals and families.
6. **Coordinated Street Outreach for Coordinated Entry** – Expand support and coordination among existing street outreach efforts.





HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO: 2014-2017

These new initiatives build on the accomplishments of the first three years of **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**, which was launched on November 12, 2014, and is on target to impact the lives of close to 3,000 homeless San Diegans—Veterans, families and individuals in the city of San Diego—which far exceeds its initial goal of 1,500 homeless San Diegans:

- **Award Development Funds – Up to \$30 Million (up to \$10 million per year)** – Awarded \$29.8 million toward the creation of 407 permanent supportive housing units.
- **Commit up to 1,500 Federal Rental Housing Vouchers** – Committed 1,869 rental housing vouchers to nonprofit agencies and affordable housing developments to assist homeless San Diegans.
- **Renovate Hotel Churchill** – Created 72 Units of permanent supportive housing: 56 for homeless Veterans; 8 for transitional age youth, ages 18-25; and 8 for adults exiting the corrections system. SDHC invested \$9.2 million in MTW funds toward the \$20.6 million total rehabilitation cost. Grand Reopening: September 19, 2016.
- **Invest MTW Federal Funds to Acquire Property** – Invested \$15 million in MTW funds to purchase the 120-unit Village North Senior Garden Apartments on May 1, 2015, and set aside 44 rental apartments, or 36 percent, for homeless seniors.
- **Dedicate SDHC-owned Housing Units** – Committed 25 SDHC-owned housing units year-round, which have assisted 36 families (139 individuals, including 89 children); 16 families have become financially self-reliant and are able pay rent on their own.
- **The Guardian Scholars Program** – Provide rental assistance for up to 100 San Diego State University (SDSU) students who have been homeless or at risk of homelessness; this partnership program with SDSU is one of SDHC's MTW initiatives.
- **The Monarch School Project** – Provide rental housing vouchers for up to 25 families who have at least one child enrolled at the Monarch School, one of the few schools in the nation specifically serving homeless children; this is also an SDHC MTW initiative.
- **Housing Our Heroes** – Provide housing opportunities for 1,000 homeless Veterans in the city of San Diego. As of June 30, 2017, 800 previously homeless Veterans secured permanent housing, and 328 homeless Veterans were searching for housing with rental assistance. In addition, 388 private landlords have joined Housing Our Heroes.



Through Housing Our Heroes, U.S. Army Veteran Noble Robinson (left) rents units at his Logan Heights apartment complex to assist homeless Veterans. His tenants include James (right), a formerly homeless U.S. Navy Veteran.

