

NEWS RELEASE

March 20, 2009

**City of San Diego, Housing Commission secure
\$8.9 million for special needs housing**

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego and the San Diego Housing Commission secured in \$8.9 million for local nonprofit organizations serving special needs groups. Funded by the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD), the Shelter Plus Care and Supportive Housing Program grants will be used to provide affordable housing and supportive services to homeless and disabled individuals.

The grants will be distributed as follows:

- \$8.2 million in renewal funding for existing programs operated by the following organizations: Pathfinders of San Diego, Stepping Stone, St. Vincent de Paul, Center for Social Support and Education, and The Association for Community Housing Solutions. The funding combines \$6.8 million from HUD's Supportive Housing Program with \$1.4 million in Shelter Plus Care grants.
- \$732,368 for the Townspeople 34th Street Apartments – a new project which will provide permanent supportive housing to individuals with HIV/AIDS. This allocation is comprised of \$400,000 in Supportive Housing Program funds and \$322,368 from Shelter Plus Care.

The City of San Diego acts as the lead agency in applying for these grants through HUD's Continuum of Care (COC) Homeless Assistance Program. The San Diego Housing Commission assists in the COC application process and oversees Shelter Plus Care grant administration.

The Supportive Housing Program is designed to help persons with special needs to live as independently as possible, while the Shelter Plus Care assists "hard-to-reach," chronically homeless individuals with disabilities. Both programs provide affordable housing and social services.

The San Diego Housing Commission is a public agency working to expand affordable housing opportunities in the City of San Diego. Each year, the agency helps 80,000 low-income individuals with affordable housing through award-winning programs that benefit the city's economy and revitalize neighborhoods. The agency also finances affordable housing development and advises the San Diego City Council on housing policy matters.

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