Hosting Business and Civic Leaders from Virginia
SDHC hosted an informational visit from ChamberRVA, the regional chamber of commerce of Richmond, Virginia, which included nearly three dozen civic and business leaders from the Virginia capital region.

SDHC Headquarters
April 20, 2016
SDHC gave presentations about HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, our three-year Homelessness Action Plan; the SDHC Achievement Academy, which helps families that receive Federal Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher rental assistance become more financially self-reliant; and the landmark 2007 agreement between SDHC and the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development that converted Federal public housing to SDHC-owned affordable housing. SDHC leveraged the equity from this portfolio to create or preserve 810 additional affordable housing units.

The visit also included a walking tour of SDHC partnership developments.

May 12, 2016
Message from the President & CEO
I’m honored to be in the nation’s capital today to testify about the future of housing in America at a hearing of the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Financial Services’ Subcommittee on Housing and Insurance.

The Subcommittee is hearing from a distinguished panel of witnesses about comparisons between models for affordable housing in the United States and the United Kingdom.

I will be sharing with the Subcommittee many of the innovative programs the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) has implemented that bring together government and the private sector in partnerships to create and preserve affordable housing, provide Federal rental assistance, and address homelessness.

SDHC Construction Milestone – Sonic Sign Returned to Hotel Churchill Roofing
A meticulously, manually restored 1940s era sign is back atop the historical Hotel Churchill in Downtown San Diego, returning to the skyline that it has been a part of for nearly seven decades.

This is a significant milestone in SDHC’s rehabilitation of the 102-year-old Hotel Churchill, which is nearing completion of 72 permanent affordable housing studios that will be home for 56 homeless Veterans, eight youth aging out of foster care, and eight adults exiting the corrections system. The studios will remain affordable for 65 years.

The sign’s neon lights are scheduled to be lit at the grand reopening this summer of the SDHC-owned property, which is being rehabilitated in partnership with SDHC’s nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners.

Affordable Housing Capacity Ballot Measure Moves Forward
The San Diego City Council has taken a step forward to put a ballot initiative on the November ballot that would increase the capacity to construct affordable housing in the city of San Diego to 38,680 additional affordable housing units.

The City Council unanimously voted to direct the City Attorney to draft proposed language for the ballot measure. The ballot measure will return to the City Council this summer to be placed on the November ballot.

The ballot measure will not grant approval for any specific project, and will not commit funding for affordable housing or guarantee that any new units will be built. It will only allow the potential construction or acquisition of affordable housing in the city.

Article 34 of the California State Constitution requires voter approval to increase the capacity to build low-rent housing that is developed, constructed or acquired by a State or local public agency.

SDHC staff manages compliance with Article 34 on behalf of the City of San Diego, such as tracking the units counted toward the Article 34 voter-authorized capacity and notifying the City of San Diego when capacity falls below 4,000 units.

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,
Richard C. Gentry
President & Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Housing Commission

Established in 1979, the San Diego Housing Commission provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and impact the lives of more than 125,000 individuals in the City of San Diego annually.