



March 30, 2015

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

I am pleased to tell you that the San Diego City Council (City Council) took a significant step to address homelessness by replacing temporary winter shelter tents with a permanent, year-round interim housing facility.

The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) also recently commemorated milestones for four affordable housing developments in the City—a grand opening, two groundbreakings and the completion of an extensive rehabilitation project.

SDHC – Year-Round Interim Housing for Homeless San Diegans

After nearly 30 years of providing temporary tents during the winter months for homeless San Diegans, the City of San Diego in July will have year-round interim housing in a permanent facility, following the City Council's unanimous approval of a recommendation by SDHC.



The City's year-round interim housing program will be located at St. Vincent de Paul Village.

The 350-bed, City-funded year-round interim housing program will be operated by St. Vincent de Paul Village, Inc. at its Downtown campus, beginning July 1.

It will assist as many as 2,835 homeless individuals annually—compared to 800 individuals served annually by the City's Single Adult Emergency Winter Shelter and Veterans Emergency Winter Shelter tents.

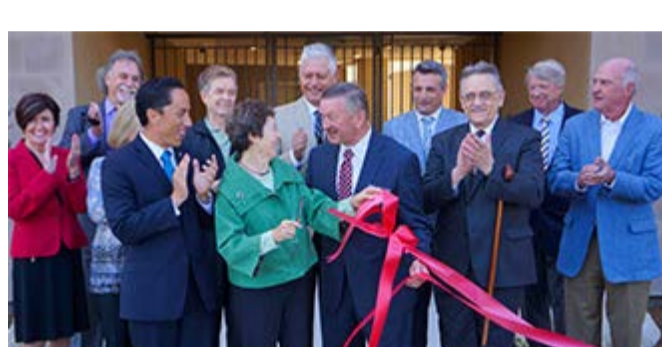
At the direction of the City Council, SDHC oversaw the selection process for the interim housing program. This effort was directed by Mayor Kevin Faulconer, who played a key leadership role in finding a year-round interim housing solution to replace the temporary tents, which included identifying additional funding sources.

[Read the SDHC news release](#)

Versa at Civita – Affordable Housing in Mission Valley

SDHC Commissioner Frank Urtasun, Regional Vice President of External Relations for San Diego Gas & Electric Company, and SDHC Commissioner Dorothy Surdi, Commercial Real Estate Advisor with Sperry Van Ness Finest City Commercial, joined me at the grand opening of a 148-unit affordable housing development for low-income seniors.

The apartments at Versa at Civita (Versa) will remain affordable for 55 years. In addition, approximately 30 renters with federal Housing Choice Voucher-Section 8 rental assistance are among the first low-income seniors who qualified to live at Versa.



Ribbon-cutting ceremony for Versa at Civita, affordable housing for low-income seniors.

Versa is the first affordable housing to open in the master-planned Civita development under the City of San Diego's Inclusionary Housing Ordinance, intended to bring about balanced communities that can be home to all income levels. SDHC administers the Inclusionary Housing Fund for the City of San Diego.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

[Watch video on SDHC's YouTube Channel](#)

SDHC Partnership – Groundbreaking – 202 Affordable Apartments in Downtown San Diego

A vacant lot in Downtown San Diego will be replaced with 202 units of affordable housing for low-income San Diegans, with the development of Atmosphere, an SDHC public-private partnership.



Affordable apartments at Atmosphere will include supportive housing to address homelessness.

I joined City Councilmember Todd Gloria at the groundbreaking ceremony for Atmosphere, which will also include 51 units of supportive housing for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

To provide rental assistance for these units, SDHC is committing 51 federal Project-Based Housing Vouchers with an annual value of \$504,288.

Developed by Wakeland Housing and Development Corporation, Atmosphere will be restricted to low, very low- and extremely low-income households. Units will remain affordable for 55 years.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

[Watch video on SDHC's YouTube Channel](#)

SDHC Partnership – Renovations Completed at 10 Apartment Sites

Financial assistance from SDHC helped to complete renovations at 10 apartment sites in San Diego's City Heights neighborhood, preserving 129 apartments for low- and very low-income households for 55 years.



Village View Apartments, one of ten rehabilitated apartment sites.

In financing the rehabilitation, 17 previous SDHC loans to City Heights Community Development Corporation totaling \$6.2 million were refinanced into a single loan. SDHC also authorized the issuance of \$8 million in tax-exempt multifamily housing revenue bonds for the rehabilitation. The City Council, sitting as the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego, approved the bonds.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

[Watch video on SDHC's YouTube Channel](#)

SDHC Partnership – Groundbreaking – Affordable Housing for Low-Income Families

City Council President Sherri Lightner and I participated in the groundbreaking for a new affordable housing development for low-income families in the master-planned community of Pacific Ranch—approximately 20 miles north of Downtown San Diego.



Cielo Carmel is affordable housing being built 20 miles north of Downtown San Diego.

Developed by Affirmed Housing Group, Cielo Carmel will provide 195 apartments that will remain affordable for 55 years and two managers' units.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

[Watch video on SDHC's YouTube Channel](#)

Pay for Success Grant

Building on the success of previous supportive housing programs that follow the Housing First model, SDHC was selected for a federal grant of up to \$150,000 to develop a project providing supportive housing for chronically homeless individuals.

The grant is from the Corporation for National and Community Service's Social Innovation Fund. SDHC applied through the Corporation for Supportive Housing, and was one of only 27 subgrantees nationally.

In our application, we noted we already have achieved great success from housing programs that combine permanent, stable housing with intensive supportive services.

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

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

<p>View previous Email Updates</p>	<p>View videos on SDHC's channel on </p>	<p>Read SDHC's 2013 Annual Report & Portfolio</p>	<p>Read SDHC's FIRST – SAN DIEGO Report</p>	<p>Read SDHC's Creating Affordable Housing Report</p>
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