We held into summer with eyes on our past and future: an historic hotel restored for affordable housing for seniors, and a program to protect San Diego’s most vulnerable families. Both result in one of our least childhood environmental health problems.

Here’s a brief look at two undertakings at the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) that show the broad scope of our mission to address housing needs, and special recognition SDHC has received in other activities.

Keeping Children Safe

A World War II-era home being remodeled for lead-based paint was the backdrop Thursday for the official presentation of a $2.14 million federal grant to SDHC from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Additionally, SDHC and its partners continue our "Safe & Secure" program, which will test lead-based paint and remove the hazard to protect children from lead poisoning. Watch the video of the news conference at SDHC’s YouTube channel.

A 1944 Lodge Villa returns home lead-based paint remediation.

This grant, our eighth award since 2002, will allow 176 additional homes to be tested for lead-based paint hazards, and 1,919 to be remediated over the next three years. Additionally, four blood-testing events reaching 300 low-income children will be held by our partners at select schools and community centers by the Environmental Health Coalition and conducted by La Maestra Community Health Center. The portable blood analyzers were purchased by SDHC through the "Smoke-free Home" program.

Read the news release.

Additionally, 150 low-income households will receive "Healthy Homes" assessments for such problems as rodents, roaches, dust mites, mold and moisture and poor indoor air quality.

Saving SDHC

On behalf of SDHC I accepted a Preservation Award from the City of San Diego’s Historic Resource Advisory Board for our work on the 1944 Naval Home. The awards recognize "outstanding examples of rehabilitation and creative reuse, recognizing our success preserving the value of our historic land.

Watch the video of the news conference on SDHC’s YouTube channel.

The project restored an historic case study, exterior lighting and wood windows and doors, and the original hardwood floors. The exterior restoration used historically accurate stucco, as well restoring 130 stairs and adding the first modern electric service standard to the new home. Hotel Sanford preserves affordable housing for low-income families for 99 years, funded in part by HUD.

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

Richard D. Skinner
President & Chief Executive Officer
San Diego Housing Commission

Perfect Score

Among the rating systems used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to rate the performance of public agencies in the HEC- system, which monitors the number of housing vouchers provided to HUD tenants, the number of low-income vouchers issued by the city of San Diego’s SDHC ranked high among jurisdictions across the state.

I’m pleased to report that the SDHC Public Housing Performance System (PHIPS) received a "Perfect Score" award from HUD.

Awards Winners

The five single-family, multi-family, and accessory dwellings include

1. Grandview Apartments, an energy efficient affordable housing complex in the Port of Hueneme
2. California Baptist University, a campus housing development
3. The "Home Sweet Home"
4. The Innovation Housing Project of this year went to 50th Street
5. San Diego Housing Commission’s (SDHC) for their work on the "Smoke-free Home" program

Additionally, a "Superior Housing Award" was presented to the Whittier Public Housing Authority for their St. Paul Mason Housing Community. San Diego’s San Carlos Housing Community was also honored.

For more information, call at 2-1190.

Sanding Sanford Preservation Award for Architectural Rehabilitation.

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