



HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO Accomplishments

As of May 2017

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, the San Diego Housing Commission's (SDHC) three-year Homelessness Action Plan (2014-17), is an effective, diverse funding and housing strategy that 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. Initially launched as a five-point action plan, **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO** was announced on November 12, 2014.

1. Award up \$30 million Development Funds over three years (up to \$10 million per year) to create Permanent Supportive Rental Housing Units – Launched November 12, 2014

- **Total:** 407 Permanent Supportive Housing units for homeless individuals - 8 properties (This does not include Hotel Churchill or Village North Senior Garden Apartments, which are listed separately.)
- **Total:** \$29.8 million awarded

2. Commit up to 1,500 federal housing vouchers over three years, awarded to nonprofit agencies and developments that are providing supportive housing – Launched November 12, 2014

- 1,986 awarded to nonprofit agencies and affordable housing developments:
 - 1,189 – **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO** developments and programs
 - 100 – San Diego State University (SDSU) Guardian Scholars Program
 - 25 – Monarch School Project
 - 272 – Project One for All - County Partnership
 - 400 – Housing Our Heroes Initiative

3. Renovate Hotel Churchill, creating permanent supportive housing—Grand reopening September 19, 2016

SDHC, working with its nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners, renovated the historic Hotel Churchill in downtown San Diego to create 72 affordable rental studios for homeless San Diegans:

- 56 units for Veterans
- 8 units for transitional age youth ages 18-25
- 8 units for adults exiting the corrections system

Hotel Churchill's grand reopening was celebrated on September 19, 2016.

SDHC invested more than \$15.3 million in Federal and City of San Diego funds toward the \$20.6 million total rehabilitation cost.



Hotel Churchill

The renovation of Hotel Churchill has been recognized with six awards for architecture or historic rehabilitation and preservation.



4. Invest up to \$15 million from Moving to Work Federal Funds to acquire a senior citizen property, setting aside 20 percent of units for homeless San Diegans – Purchased May 1, 2015

- SDHC purchased the 120-unit Village North Senior Garden Apartments in Clairemont Mesa.
- 44 units – 36 percent – are set aside for homeless seniors, with 44 federal rental housing vouchers committed by SDHC to provide rental assistance.

5. SDHC-owned Housing Units - 25 Units dedicated year-round for homeless individuals and families – Launched January 2015

- SDHC is one of the first public housing agencies in the nation to commit affordable rental housing that it owns for this purpose.
- This is a rapid rehousing component of **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**. Rapid rehousing assists individuals and families who become homeless because of a recent, unexpected life experience, such as a job loss, domestic violence or a medical crisis.
- 53 families were assisted with rental housing (179 people, including 115 children) since the program was launched on January 1, 2015.
- 17 families became self-reliant
- 28 individuals enrolled in education or vocational training programs through the SDHC Achievement Academy.

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO also includes three additional initiatives that were launched by SDHC during the 2015-16 Fiscal Year (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016).

San Diego State University (SDSU) Guardian Scholars Program – Launched August 2016

- A nationally unprecedented partnership between SDHC and SDSU to provide rental assistance for up to 100 SDSU students who have been homeless or at risk of homelessness.

As of April 12, 2018

- 73 students secured housing.
- 22 students graduated in 2016–17 Academic Year.

The Monarch School Project – Launched December 2015

- SDHC is providing rental housing vouchers through this three-year pilot program for up to 25 families who have at least one child enrolled at The Monarch School, which serves homeless children.

As of April 12, 2018

- 22 families have secured housing.
- 3 vouchers are available for families.

Housing Our Heroes Initiative

On September 28, 2017, the Housing Our Heroes initiative reached its goal of helping 1,000 homeless Veterans in the City of San Diego secure rental housing.

SDHC and the City of San Diego are partners in Housing Our Heroes, which launched on March 1, 2016, and is part of **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**, SDHC's homelessness action plan.

Landlords are essential partners in Housing Our Heroes, with 435 individual landlords joining the initiative. Approximately 45 percent of them are new to SDHC rental assistance programs.

