



Media Contact: Maria Velasquez Vice President Community Relations & Communications 619-578-7560 mariav@sdhc.org

Former Father Joe's Villages Vice President will lead San Diego Housing Commission's Efforts to Address Homelessness Mathew Packard Joins Housing Commission Leadership

San Diego, CA— Mathew Packard, who brings 15 years experience in administering programs to address homelessness, will be joining the San Diego Housing Commission as Vice President of the Housing Innovations Department. His first day will be December 5.

"Mathew will help us develop effective strategies to reduce homelessness in our city," said Richard C. Gentry, President & CEO of the San Diego Housing Commission. "Homelessness is a significant issue and Mathew's expertise comes to us at a critical time, when there are so many families and individuals being affected by our down economy."

Packard joins the Housing Commission after serving for the past 10 years with Father Joe's Villages. In his role as Vice President of Development, he oversaw grant development, large capital projects and information technology.

"While I am very grateful to have had the opportunity to work for Father Joe's Villages, I am also excited to bring my experience to the Housing Commission," said Packard. "The team at the Housing Commission shares a common objective and that is to provide housing to those in need and reduce the impact the homelessness has on our community."

Previously, Packard was the Director of Residential Services for St. Vincent de Paul Village and the Director of the San Diego Food Bank for the Neighborhood House Association.

He volunteers in the community, serving on the executive board of the United Way's Home Again project and is a member of the Regional Continuum of Care Council.

To learn more about the San Diego Housing Commission's homelessness programs, visit the <u>Media Center</u> on our website.

###