

About Us

We're About People



The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) has earned a national reputation as a model public housing agency, creating innovative programs that provide housing opportunities for individuals and families with low income or experiencing homelessness in the city of San Diego—the eighth- largest city in the nation, second largest in California.

An award-winning public housing agency created in 1979, SDHC performs three major program functions that create affordable housing opportunities:

- Federal rental housing assistance provider for more than 16,000 low-income households, annually;
- Partner to address homelessness, including **HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO**, SDHC's landmark Homelessness Action Plan; and
- Affordable housing developer and lender—producing more than 27,000 affordable housing units since 1979 through partnership developments and acquisitions.

Governance

- SDHC is governed by the San Diego City Council, sitting as the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego (Housing Authority).
- SDHC President & CEO Richard C. Gentry is the Executive Director of the Housing Authority.
- The Housing Authority has final authority over SDHC's budget and major policy decisions.
- A seven-member Board of Commissioners oversees SDHC's operations and makes recommendations to the Housing Authority.
- The Mayor appoints Commissioners, who are confirmed by the San Diego City Council. All members must file an annual Statement of Economic Interest and disclose any potential conflicts of interest.

Providing Rental Assistance

- SDHC's largest program provides rental assistance funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to more than 16,000 low-income households annually.
- The majority of SDHC's rental assistance households are seniors or individuals with disabilities.
- SDHC is one of only 39 original "Moving to Work" (MTW) agencies out of approximately 3,200 public housing authorities in the nation. MTW status from HUD provides SDHC the flexibility to design and implement innovative approaches to provide Federal housing assistance.
- The SDHC Achievement Academy is a learning and resource center and computer lab, which provides programs that emphasize career planning, job skills, job placement and personal financial education at no cost to federal rental assistance participants, public housing residents or participants in certain homelessness programs.



Having this voucher, for someone with a physical disability, has just been a big blessing for me."

- Michael

Federal rental assistance participant Michael





Addressing Homelessness

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, SDHC’s homelessness action plan, is an effective, diverse funding and housing strategy to create permanent housing opportunities for San Diegans experiencing homelessness.

This action plan is rooted in the national “Housing First” model of addressing homelessness – to provide appropriate housing options as quickly as possible, with as few requirements or conditions as possible, and access to supportive services, as needed.

The current phase of HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO launched on July 1, 2017. It builds on the accomplishment of the previous phases of this homelessness action plan, which launched on November 12, 2014.



“You guys are all giving us an opportunity at having a better life.”

- Angela

SDSU Guardian Scholar Angela

November 12, 2014 – August 31, 2021:

- 9,800 housing solutions created
- 523 additional new housing units pending completion

July 1, 2017 – August 31, 2021

The programs of the current phase of HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO include:

- Homelessness Prevention & Diversion
- Coordinated Street Outreach
- SDHC Moving Home Rapid Rehousing
- Landlord Engagement and Assistance Program
- New Permanent Supportive Housing
- SDHC Moving On Rental Assistance
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Mainstream Vouchers

Creating & Preserving Affordable Housing



Hotel Churchill – Downtown San Diego

- As a developer, lender and administrator of City land use programs, SDHC has helped to produce more than 27,000 affordable rental housing units in the city of San Diego since 1979.
- SDHC has administered a First-Time Homebuyer Program for the City of San Diego since September 1988 and for the County of San Diego since September 2014. These programs have helped more than 5,800 low- and moderate-income families buy a home.
- More than 4,100 affordable rental housing units in the City of San Diego are owned and/or managed by SDHC, including SDHC’s nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners (HDP).