



March 27, 2019

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

The San Diego Housing Commission's (SDHC) homelessness action plan, HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, continues to receive recognition for its innovative programs to address homelessness, including receiving a national award for developing permanent supportive housing.

SDHC also welcomed The Chartered Institute of Housing South East International Housing Group from the United Kingdom for a visit to learn about our programs to create and preserve affordable rental housing and address homelessness.

I invite you to read more about these and additional recent SDHC activities.

National Award for HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO

HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, SDHC's landmark homelessness action plan, received the 2018 NMA Development Award for creating permanent supportive housing, which is affordable rental housing with supportive services for San Diegans experiencing homelessness.



2018 NMA Development Award
The Housing Conference
February 25, 2019

This award, which recognizes outstanding achievement in affordable housing, was presented by Nan McKay and Associates, a national affordable housing industry organization, during The Housing Conference, an educational event for housing professionals.

Since the initial launch of [HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO](#) in November 2014, SDHC has invested development funds or purchased properties to create more than 700 new permanent supportive housing units, including units currently under construction.

The creation of new permanent supportive housing is one of the many programs of HOUSING FIRST – SAN DIEGO, which has created more than 6,000 housing opportunities overall in less than five years for San Diegans experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness.

[Read the News Release](#)

International Housing Group Visits SDHC

Hosting a group of housing professionals from The Chartered Institute of Housing South East (United Kingdom) during their visit to Southern California this month was an honor.



The Chartered Institute of Housing South East
San Diego Housing Commission Visit
March 13, 2019

After their initial stop in Los Angeles, the group met in San Diego with SDHC senior leaders to discuss our respective programs to create and preserve affordable housing and address homelessness.

Their visit included a bus tour of SDHC affordable housing partnership developments, as well as walking tours of the award-winning rehabilitation of the historic [Hotel Churchill](#) in downtown San Diego and our [SDHC Achievement Academy](#), a learning and resource center and computer lab with programs that emphasize career planning, job skills and personal financial education.

SDHC Partners with Habitat for Humanity

The path to homeownership culminated for four families with a ceremony to commemorate the completion of their new townhomes in the Logan Heights neighborhood of San Diego.



First-Time Homebuyers Move into New Homes
SDHC Partnership
March 23, 2019

When construction of all three phases of the San Diego Habitat for Humanity development are complete, the project will be home to 11 families.

SDHC committed up to \$770,000 in loan funding through our First-Time Homebuyer Program to help eligible families buy these homes.

SDHC's first-time homebuyer loans assist families who earn up to 80 percent of the San Diego Area Median Income, approximately \$77,850 a year for a four-person household. No payments are required for 30 years, unless the owner sells or no longer occupies the home as their primary residence.

The SDHC loans for eligible families in this townhome development are funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's HOME Investment Partnerships Program, which consists of funds that are awarded to the City of San Diego and administered by SDHC.

[Read the News Release](#)

HUD Secretary Visits San Diego

While in town to speak at the National Alliance to End Homelessness conference, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Dr. Ben Carson toured one of the City of San Diego's Temporary Bridge Shelters.



HUD Secretary Dr. Ben Carson
City of San Diego Temporary Bridge Shelter Tour
February 22, 2019

SDHC funds operations for this and two other City Temporary Bridge Shelters and administers the contracts for the shelters on behalf of the City of San Diego.

The shelter for single adults, which is operated by Alpha Project, provides up to 324 beds.

At the conclusion of his tour, Secretary Carson said the Temporary Bridge Shelter could be a model for the rest of the country.

The City's three Temporary Bridge Shelters offer a total of up to 674 beds and provide a safe, centralized location for men, women, and children experiencing homelessness to receive temporary housing and appropriate services needed to expedite placement into permanent housing using the principles of Housing First.

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

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

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