

June 22, 2022

As we prepare to transition to another new fiscal year, the San Diego Housing Commission's (SDHC) collaborative efforts to create affordable housing and address homelessness continue to receive national and local recognition.

U.S. Senator Alex Padilla visited an SDHC collaborative development to discuss his proposed housing legislation. In addition, SDHC earned prestigious local recognition for our leaders and collaborations.

We also commemorated new collaborative initiatives to provide more shelter beds for people experiencing homelessness and to help homeowners with low income create affordable housing units through accessory dwelling units, also known as "granny flats" or casitas.

I invite you to read more about these activities below.



Jeff Davis  
SDHC Interim President & CEO



U.S. Senator Alex Padilla Tour  
Saint Teresa of Calcutta Villa  
May 31, 2022

## U.S. Senator Alex Padilla Tours SDHC Collaborative Development

On May 31, 2022, U.S. Senator Alex Padilla visited San Diego and toured the [Saint Teresa of Calcutta Villa](#) affordable housing community, which Father Joe's Villages and Chelsea Investment Corporation developed in collaboration with SDHC.

Senator Padilla was joined on the tour by U.S. Representative Scott Peters, San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, Father Joe's Villages CEO Deacon Jim Vargas, and SDHC Senior Vice President of Housing Finance and Property Management Colin Miller.

At the property, Senator Padilla spoke with the news media about his proposed legislation known as the [Housing for All Act](#) of 2022, which would invest more than \$500 billion over 10 years to address the homelessness and affordable housing crises.

Saint Teresa of Calcutta Villa consists of 403 affordable housing units, of which 270 are set aside for people who previously experienced homelessness. SDHC awarded 270 rental housing vouchers to support these units, as well as an \$11.5 million loan toward the development, consisting of federal and local funds SDHC administers: \$6.7 million from federal HOME Investment Partnerships Program funds the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development awarded to the City of San Diego (City) and \$4.8 million from the City of San Diego Affordable Housing Fund. In addition, SDHC authorized the issuance of approximately \$115 million in Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds for this development.



SDHC Executive Vice President Azucena Valladolid  
Public Service Award – Ruby Awards Ceremony  
June 16, 2022

## Local Awards Honor SDHC and Its Collaborations

SDHC's Executive Vice President of Rental Assistance and Workforce Development, Azucena Valladolid, has been honored with the John Craven Public Service Memorial Award from the San Diego Housing Federation.

Her recognition was one of several prestigious local Ruby Awards that SDHC and its collaborations received among the "best people, projects and achievements" honored this year.

She received the award for her leadership of initiatives to enhance the process of leasing permanent supportive housing units for which SDHC awarded rental housing vouchers to help pay rent for tenants who previously experienced homelessness.

Additional honors included:

- **Special Recognition Award** for former SDHC President & CEO Rick Gentry for his 50 years of service working in the affordable housing sector.
- **Innovations in Response to COVID-19 Award** for SDHC and multiple housing authorities in the San Diego region for their actions to utilize federal Emergency Housing Vouchers awarded through the American Rescue Plan Act.
- **Project of the Year for New Construction (Less Than 100 Units)** for Keeler Court Apartments, a development that provides 71 affordable housing units. SDHC awarded seven Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing Vouchers and authorized Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds for this development by Community Housing Works.
- **Project of the Year for New Construction (More Than 100 Units)** for Saint Teresa of Calcutta Villa, which provides more than 400 affordable housing units, of which 270 are for people who previously experienced homelessness. SDHC awarded 270 rental housing vouchers and an \$11.5 million loan and authorized Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds for this development by Father Joe's Villages and Chelsea Investment Corporation

The Ruby Awards were presented at a ceremony on June 16. Congratulations to SDHC's leaders, staff, the many organizations we work with and all who were honored with Ruby Awards.

[Read the News Release](#)



Humanitarian Award Presentation  
Lambda Alpha International Awards Ceremony  
May 7, 2022

## Humanitarian Award for 'Operation Shelter to Home'

"Operation Shelter to Home," a collaborative initiative for which SDHC was one of the lead agencies, received the inaugural Humanitarian Award on May 7, 2022, from the San Diego Chapter of Lambda Alpha International (LAI).

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, County of San Diego Board of Supervisors Chair Nathan Fletcher, Regional Task Force on Homelessness CEO Tamara Kupner, SDHC Executive Commissioner Chair Stefanie Benvenuto and Vice Chair Ryan Klumpner, SDHC Executive Vice President of Strategic Initiatives Lisa Jones, and staff from SDHC's Homeless Housing Innovations Division accepted the award.

Operation Shelter to Home launched in response to the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the health of San Diegans experiencing homelessness and help them obtain housing as quickly as possible. This initiative helped 1,465 individuals obtain permanent or longer-term housing in less than a year.

LAI is a nationwide organization whose members include local land-use and land-economics industry professionals, such as architects, engineers, real estate developers, planners, government officials, professors and bankers.

This was the first year that LAI's San Diego chapter presented this award.



New Homelessness Shelter  
Commencing Construction  
May 31, 2022

## Groundbreaking for New Homelessness Shelter

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, City Councilmember Jennifer Campbell and County Board of Supervisors Chair Nathan Fletcher held a [news conference](#) on May 31, 2022, for the ceremonial groundbreaking for a new homelessness shelter that will provide emergency shelter beds for up to 150 people.

SDHC is contracting with Alpha Project to operate the shelter. The SDHC Board of Commissioners [approved the contract](#) on May 5.

The shelter will provide access to on-site behavioral healthcare assessment, care coordination and connection to a variety of community resources made available to eligible participants through the County Behavioral Health Services department. The Lucky Duck Foundation provided the Sprung Structure and is funding the construction of the shelter at the County of San Diego-owned site on Rosecrans Street.

The shelter is expected to be open in July.

## SDHC Accessory Dwelling Unit Finance Pilot Program

SDHC has launched a pilot program to provide financing to help homeowners with low income who want to build an Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) on their property.

Through the [ADU Finance Pilot Program](#), eligible households with low income can receive a low-interest loan of up to \$200,000 per household.

The program will also provide technical assistance for eligible homeowners at no cost to the homeowner. This technical assistance from a consultant will help with predesign, permits and construction.

ADUs financed through this program will create additional affordable rental housing because rents are required to remain affordable for seven years for households with income up to 80 percent of AMI.

In addition, the property owners who participate in the program may generate wealth for themselves through the increase in their property's value and the rental income from their ADU.

[Read the News Release](#)



[SDHC Website](#)



[Previous SDHC Email Updates](#)



[SDHC Annual Reports](#)

### We're About People

Established in 1979, the San Diego Housing Commission provides a variety of award-winning affordable housing programs and services that stimulate the local economy, revitalize neighborhoods, and impact the lives of San Diegans with low income and/or experiencing homelessness.

