



July 22, 2014

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

Providing momentum in the drive to end homelessness among military veterans, the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) received an additional 177 federal housing vouchers to provide rental assistance to

veterans in a program that includes case management and clinical health services.



(Left to right) Veterans Village of San Diego President & CEO Phil Landis; San Diego City Council President Todd Gloria; SDHC President & CEO Richard C. Gentry; and VA San Diego Healthcare System Acting Director Cynthia Abair.

The announcement was made by San Diego City Council President Todd Gloria at the 27th annual Stand Down, held at San Diego High School's Balboa Stadium by Veterans Village of San Diego, a three-day event to provide support and services to homeless veterans.

Including the newly announced vouchers from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), SDHC has received 797 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers since the program began. The estimated total annual value of these vouchers is more than \$6.8 million.

HUD defines chronic homelessness as being continuously homeless for a year or more or experiencing at least four episodes of homelessness in the last three years while also having a disability.

[Watch video on SDHC's YouTube Channel](#)

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

[Read SDHC Fact Sheet](#)

I would also like to share with you additional important SDHC activities:

SDHC Assists with Stable Housing for Homeless Individuals

More than 700 homeless men and women moved into more stable permanent or longer-term housing as a result of help they received at the City of San Diego's two emergency winter shelters, which remained in continuous operation for an unprecedented 19 months.

The Single Adult Emergency Winter Shelter (200 beds) and the Veterans Emergency Winter Shelter (150 beds) closed Tuesday, July 1, ending their longest run ever. They will reopen around Thanksgiving for regular operation during the winter months.



Single Adult Emergency Winter Shelter, 200 beds for homeless San Diegans – Downtown San Diego

SDHC administers the contracts for the homeless emergency winter shelters. In April 2014, SDHC partnered with Mental Health Systems, Inc., to provide enhanced case management, using a new, coordinated intake system to identify each individual's needs, then follow a case plan toward obtaining stable housing and income.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

SDHC Partnership: The Churchill - A Second Century

Interior demolition is underway at The Churchill, a historical hotel that is being renovated to create 72 affordable studios for homeless individuals in Downtown San Diego.

SDHC and its nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners (HDP), are collaborating to preserve this affordable housing from the former Hotel Churchill, which was built in 1914. When completed early in 2016, The Churchill will set aside 56 units for veterans and 16 units for transitional age youth.



The Churchill was built in 1914
827 C Street, Downtown San Diego

The \$17 million rehabilitation was the subject of a recent article in the U-T San Diego newspaper.

[Read U-T San Diego Article](#)

[Read SDHC Fact Sheet](#)

Focus on Affordable Housing

The high demand for affordable housing in San Diego - and how it is funded - was the subject of a lengthy feature this past Sunday in U-T San Diego.

[Read U-T San Diego Article](#)

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

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

SDHC Earns Awards for Financial Reporting



For the sixth consecutive year, SDHC's Financial Services Department has received a Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting from the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA).

The certificate recognizes "transparency and full disclosure" in government agencies' annual financial reports.

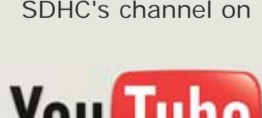
In addition, SDHC's Financial Services Department, on July 10, 2014, also received an Award for Outstanding Achievement in Popular Financial Reporting from GFOA for the fifth consecutive year.

This award recognizes government agencies that produce reports that are "readily accessible and easily understandable to the general public and other interested parties without a background in public finance."

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Read SDHC's Creating Affordable Housing Report

