



February 21, 2017

Message from the President & CEO



Richard C. Gentry
President & CEO

I am in Washington, D.C., today to speak to U.S. Congressional staff about federal housing programs at the invitation of the J. Ronald Terwilliger Foundation for Housing America's Families.

The presentation includes my observations about federal low-income housing programs, as well as information about the unique approach that the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) has taken to address the housing needs of low-income and homeless San Diegans.

[Read the Presentation](#)

HOUSING FIRST SAN DIEGO
Homelessness Action Plan

HOUSING FIRST SAN DIEGO, SDHC's landmark three-year Homelessness Action Plan (2014-17), is on target to impact the lives of close to 3,000 homeless San Diegans including Veterans, families and individuals.

This far exceeds our initial goal of 1,500 homeless San Diegans.

To date, HOUSING FIRST SAN DIEGO has leveraged SDHC's federal, state and city resources toward the creation of 523 permanent supportive rental housing units through new construction and acquisition.

A total of 1,853 federal housing vouchers have been awarded to nonprofits and developments that are providing supportive services, combined with permanent housing under HOUSING FIRST SAN DIEGO.

[Read the SDHC Board Report](#)

City of San Diego Housing Summit



San Diego City Council
Smart Growth and
Land Use Committee

I was honored to be invited to speak about public-private partnership solutions to the housing crisis in the city of San Diego at the Housing Summit held by the San Diego City Council's Smart Growth and Land Use Committee.

I shared with the Committee the solutions that SDHC has identified and implemented to address the issues of affordable housing for low-income families and housing affordability for moderate-income San Diegans.

Among SDHC's solutions are HOUSING FIRST SAN DIEGO, SDHC's three-year Homelessness Action Plan (2014-17), and the 11 recommended actions included in our report, [Addressing the Housing Affordability Crisis: An Action Plan for San Diego](#).

[Read the testimony](#)

[Watch the Video](#) (SDHC CEO testimony begins at 1:45:45)

San Diego Regional Homeless Organizations Merge

The merger of two essential San Diego County homeless organizations, the Regional Continuum of Care Council (RCCC) and the Regional Task Force on the Homeless (RTFH), creates a coordinated, streamlined and unified effort to address homelessness in the region.

RCCC is now operating under the nonprofit status of the task force, and has assumed the name. RTFH will oversee administration of more than \$17 million annually in homeless funds for the region from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

[Read the News Release](#)

San Diego Annual Homeless Census - "We All Count"

Once again this year, I joined hundreds of volunteers throughout San Diego County who counted and interviewed homeless San Diegans for the We All Count homeless census during the early morning hours on Friday, January 27.



"We All Count" Homeless Census
SDHC Commissioners Roberta Spoon (left) and Ben Moraga (right) interviewing Homeless San Diegan (center) - January 27, 2017

Among the volunteers in Downtown San Diego were U.S. Representative Scott Peters; California State Senator Toni Atkins; California State Assemblymember Todd Gloria; San Diego County Supervisors Greg Cox and Kristin Gaspar; San Diego Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer and San Diego City Councilmembers David Alvarez and Chris Ward.

Also participating were SDHC Board of Commissioners Vice Chair Dorothy Surdi, as well as SDHC Commissioners Margaret Davis, Gary Gramling, Kellee Hubbard, Ben Moraga and Roberta Spoon.

This census, also known as the annual Point-in-Time Count, is required by HUD and is essential to obtaining millions of dollars in federal funding to address homelessness locally.

The full numbers from the count, which is part of a nationwide survey, are usually released in the spring. Last year's count identified 8,692 homeless individuals in San Diego County, including 5,093 in the city.

The 11th Project Homeless Connect Downtown San Diego Assists 1,016 Homeless San Diegans

Every one of the 1,016 individuals who walked through doors for The 11th Project Homeless Connect Downtown San Diego, a one-day resource fair, had a need and a story.



The 11th Project Homeless Connect
1,016 Homeless San Diegans Attended
January 25, 2017

More than 350 volunteers and close to 90 service providers helped provide access to services to address the immediate and long-term needs of these homeless San Diegans.

San Diego Mayor Kevin L. Faulconer greeted homeless individuals and thanked the volunteers at Project Homeless Connect. San Diego City Councilmembers Chris Ward and Barbara Bry also spoke with volunteers and homeless individuals. Among the volunteers were SDHC Commissioners Gary Gramling, Roberta Spoon and Margaret Davis.

SDHC was the lead organizer of Project Homeless Connect for the seventh consecutive time. Our major organizing partners were the City of San Diego, Interfaith Shelter Network, Family Health Centers of San Diego, and Father Joe's Villages.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

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

I invite your comments.

Sincerely,

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

<p>View Previous Email Updates</p>	<p>Watch videos on SDHC's YouTube Channel</p>	<p>Read SDHC's 2015-16 Fiscal Year Annual Report & Highlights</p>	<p>Read SDHC's HOUSING FIRST - SAN DIEGO Report</p>	<p>Read SDHC's Creating Affordable Housing Report</p>
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