

## About Us

"We're About People"



Every day, the San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) impacts the lives of thousands of low-income families, seniors and homeless individuals living in the City of San Diego—the eighth largest city in the nation.

Established in 1979, SDHC is an award-winning, state-chartered public agency governed by the San Diego City Council, sitting as the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego (Housing Authority).

The Housing Authority has final authority over SDHC's budget and major policy decisions.

A seven-member Board of Commissioners oversees SDHC operations.



*For more information, please visit [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org)*

### Providing Rental Assistance

- SDHC's largest program provides rental assistance to more than 14,000 low-income households through the federal Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program, funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).
- Approximately 54 percent of Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) households are seniors or people with disabilities.
- In 2013, SDHC received \$158,859,892 from HUD to provide federal rent subsidies for the Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program, making housing more affordable for families in the City of San Diego.
- Approximately 5,693 property owners and managers in the City of San Diego accept tenants with Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) rental assistance.
- SDHC is one of only 39 housing authorities nationwide, out of 3,400, to earn a "Moving to Work" (MTW) designation from HUD. MTW status allows SDHC the flexibility to design and implement more innovative approaches to provide federal housing assistance.
- Residents of the City of San Diego may apply for SDHC federal rental assistance online at [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org).

### Addressing Homelessness

- As an MTW agency, SDHC on July 1, 2010, became one of the first housing agencies in the nation to receive approval from HUD to use federal Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers to make housing available for homeless San Diegans.
- SDHC has awarded 358 Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers to local nonprofit agencies, or "sponsors," that provide supportive services to homeless San Diegans.
- SDHC has also awarded 476 federal Project-Based Housing Vouchers, which link rental assistance to a specific housing program, including transitional housing.
- In addition, SDHC administers 797 HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers, partnering with the San Diego Healthcare System of the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, which provides clinical health and case management services to homeless veterans.
- SDHC also administers the City of San Diego's two emergency shelters for homeless individuals. The downtown shelter accommodates up to 200 homeless men and women per night. The second shelter, located in the Midway District, houses up to 150 military veterans per night.
- SDHC played a key role in the creation of Connections Housing Downtown, a City-sponsored, year-round, one-stop homeless center, which provides housing and services for 223 homeless individuals. Connections Housing Downtown's grand opening occurred on March 11, 2013. SDHC is a major funding partner in its ongoing operations through the annual award of 89 federal housing vouchers valued at \$849,660.
- SDHC is also the lead organizer for Project Homeless Connect – Downtown San Diego, a one-day resource fair to help homeless San Diegans. Services were provided to 854 people at the December 4, 2013, event. SDHC's major partners include the City of San Diego, Family Health Centers of San Diego, St. Vincent de Paul Village and the Interfaith Shelter Network.





### SDHC Achievement Academy

- Located at SDHC's downtown San Diego headquarters, the SDHC Achievement Academy is a state-of-the-art learning and skills center and computer lab available at no cost to Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) participants and SDHC public housing residents.
- The main program offered at the SDHC Achievement Academy is the Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) program, a voluntary, two-year program for adults that offers courses such as job training, career planning and financial literacy education.
- For more information about the SDHC Achievement Academy, visit [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org), call 619-578-7451 or email [achievementacademy@sdhc.org](mailto:achievementacademy@sdhc.org).



*San Diego Police Department Recruitment  
SDHC Achievement Academy*

### Creating & Preserving Affordable Housing

- A signature project of SDHC was the creation of 810 additional affordable housing units in the City of San Diego in five years through public-private partnerships and direct acquisitions.
- This project stemmed from a September 10, 2007, landmark agreement between SDHC and HUD, in which HUD transferred full ownership and operating authority for 1,366 public housing units at 137 sites to SDHC. The transfer was the largest public housing conversion at that time.
- On October 13, 2009, the San Diego City Council, with the support of the Mayor, and the SDHC Board of Commissioners, unanimously approved a Finance Plan, through which SDHC leveraged the equity from its former public housing units to create or preserve these additional affordable housing units.
- SDHC's acquisition of Park Crest Apartments in City Heights on October 10, 2012, marked the final investment from the Finance Plan.
- All of the properties will remain affordable for at least 55 years or more.
- On October 2, 2012, SDHC published a special report: "Creating Affordable Housing Through Public Housing Conversion." View the report at [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org).
- SDHC also owns 2,294 housing units, which it rents at affordable rates to low-income individuals and families.
- To find an apartment to rent from SDHC, visit [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org).
- Since 1981, SDHC has directed more than \$1 billion in loans and bond financing for real estate developments that have produced more than 14,782 affordable rental units in the City of San Diego.
- SDHC's First-Time Homebuyer Program has helped more than 5,236 low- and moderate-income families buy their first home since August 13, 1990, when the program began.

### Budget & Finance

- SDHC has a staff of more than 300 employees and managed a budget of \$306.1 million in fiscal year 2014. Overhead costs were 8 percent.
- The Standard & Poor's Ratings Services affirmed SDHC's 2013 "AA" credit rating on January 8, 2014, citing a "stable outlook." An AA rating from Standard & Poor's is its second highest and indicates that SDHC has a "very strong capacity to meet financial commitments."
- In fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014), federal sources accounted for 71.1 percent of SDHC's annual revenue. Local sources, including rents from SDHC properties, made up 28.2 percent of SDHC's revenue. The state of California contributed 0.7 percent.
- For the sixth consecutive year, the Government Finance Officers Association on May 14, 2014, awarded its highest honor to SDHC for annual financial reports prepared by SDHC's Financial Services Department.
- The Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting recognizes "transparency and full disclosure" in government agencies' annual financial reports.

