



SDHC Moving to Work

The San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) is one of only 39 public housing authorities nationwide (out of 3,400) to earn a Moving to Work (MTW) designation from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).



SDHC Rental Assistance family

As a result, SDHC has the flexibility to implement a variety of new approaches to provide housing assistance in the City of San Diego—the eighth largest city in the nation, second in California.

SDHC provides federal Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8)–(HCV) rental assistance to more than 14,300 low-income households in the City of San Diego.

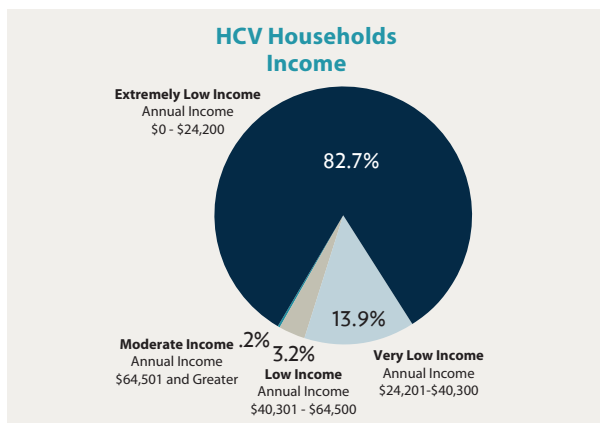
The three statutory objectives of MTW are:

- Reduce administrative costs to more efficiently allocate federal funds;
- Provide incentives for low-income families to become self-sufficient; and
- Increase housing choices for low-income families.



View Plan -
Moving to
Work FY2014

SDHC's MTW operating budget in FY2013 was \$159,172,080:



Addressing Homelessness

As an MTW agency, SDHC on July 1, 2010, became one of the first housing agencies in the nation to receive HUD approval to use federal Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers to make housing available for homeless San Diegans.

SDHC has awarded 358 federal Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers with an estimated annual value of \$4,046,832, to five local nonprofit agencies, or "sponsors," that provide supportive services to homeless San Diegans.

“Home Again, Project 25”

SDHC awarded 25 federal Sponsor-Based Housing Vouchers to St. Vincent de Paul Village for the United Way “Home Again, Project 25” (Project 25) campaign, which began on January 12, 2011, to support housing for chronically homeless individuals who were frequently jailed or used emergency rooms and hospitals.

On April 10, 2012, Project 25 announced first-year results of the program:

- Emergency room visits down 77 percent;
- Ambulance transports down 72 percent;
- In-patient medical stays down 73 percent;
- Arrests down 69 percent; and
- Jail days down 43 percent.

Project 25 saved more than \$1.4 million in the first year (January 2011–2012).

Connections Housing Downtown

SDHC has awarded 466 federal Project-Based Housing Vouchers (PBV) that link rental assistance to a specific housing program, such as [Connections Housing Downtown](#). SDHC played a key role in the creation of Connections Housing Downtown, a City-sponsored, year-round, one-stop homeless center that provides housing and services for 223 homeless individuals. SDHC is a major funding partner in Connections Housing Downtown’s ongoing operations through the annual award of 89 PBVs, valued at approximately \$849,660 a year.



Success Story

Under Project 25, James Marsh went from:

- 54 ambulance rides in 2010 to one in 2011
- 51 emergency room visits in 2010 to one in 2011
- 34 jail days in 2010 to one in 2011

[Read SDHC News Release](#)



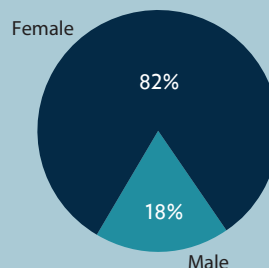
Path to Success

Path to Success is one of SDHC's innovative initiatives under the federal MTW program. Path to Success changes the method used to determine the monthly rent payment amounts for HCV and public housing participants.

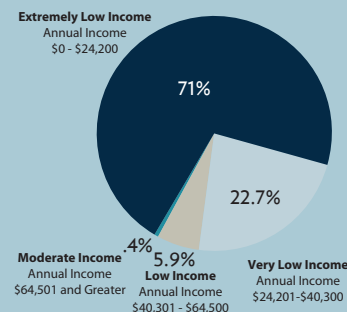
Implemented for HCV families on July 1, 2013, Path to Success also sets minimum monthly rent payment amounts for participants who are identified as able to work (Work-Able). The initial minimum monthly rent payment amounts are based on California's minimum wage standards—currently \$8/hour.

As this Work-Able population contributes more toward their rents, SDHC's goal is to expand the HCV program to those families on the waiting list if it is financially feasible to do so. SDHC sees HCV participants as partners in solving the dilemma of how to utilize limited federal funds to help as many families in need as possible.

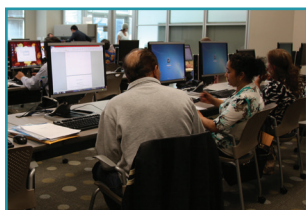
MTW Work-Able Population—Gender
(Head of household)



MTW Work-Able Population—Income
(Percent of households)



SDHC Achievement Academy



SDHC Achievement Academy
[Read SDHC online Annual Report](#)

SDHC will guide Work-Able families to become more self-reliant at the [SDHC Achievement Academy](#), a state-of-the-art learning and resource center and computer lab with programs that emphasize career planning, job skills and personal financial education—at no cost to HCV participants and public housing residents.

Participants are urged to enroll in these classes, which will help guide and prepare them to enter the workforce. Since the 2010 opening, 1,149 families have been assisted.

SDHC Achievement Academy Achiever: LAURA



Laura reached her goal of a career in health care and is working toward financial self-reliance with help from the SDHC Achievement Academy.

A single mother of four who has received HCV rental assistance for two years, Laura, 29, earned a job as a certified nursing assistant at a local hospital by applying what she learned at SDHC Achievement Academy workshops about resumes, cover letters and job posting websites.

Creating Affordable Housing

With more than \$8.296 million in MTW funds, SDHC and its nonprofit affiliate, Housing Development Partners, are renovating the historical Hotel Churchill in downtown San Diego to create 72 studios for homeless or low-income military veterans and individuals who need mental health services.

Choice Communities

Approximately 200 low-income families in the City of San Diego have been able to move to areas with better transportation, schools and employment opportunities because of the [Choice Communities](#) program. This MTW program helps HCV participants move to low-poverty neighborhoods in the City of San Diego and allows participating families to increase the percentage of monthly adjusted income they pay toward rent so they can move to these communities of enhanced opportunities.

