

January 26, 2024

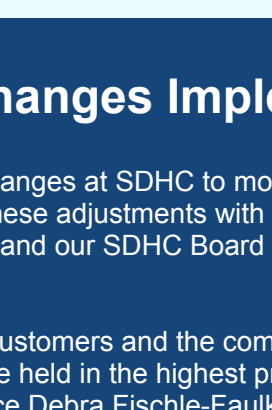
Now in my second month as the San Diego Housing Commission's (SDHC) President & CEO, I remain mindful of the thousands of households struggling economically that need the critical work this agency performs each day to provide housing assistance.

This is especially true this week, as San Diegans cope with the aftermath of record-breaking rainfall and ensuing catastrophic flooding in some areas. I am so grateful for our staff who mobilized quickly to serve our clients and customers in collaboration with the City of San Diego, County of San Diego and community partners. We are also compiling information about resources that we will make available on our website and will distribute to our program participants and residents to connect them to assistance. I would also like to acknowledge the frontline workers in the homelessness shelters and programs we administer and the shelter residents so deeply impacted by this week's events. The compassion, courage and resiliency of residents and staff alike cannot but inspire hope.

While our community continues to face significant challenges that existed even before this week's storm, I am looking forward to the year ahead of us and the progress we can make together.

Like many communities across the country, addressing our housing and homelessness crises in San Diego is not easy, nor is it work that SDHC can do alone. But we continue to innovate, collaborate and implement solutions with local leaders and partners to keep moving forward to provide housing solutions for those who need it most.

I invite you to read more about our recent activities in this newsletter, and I look forward to sharing more with you in the months and years to come.



**Lisa Jones**  
SDHC President & CEO

## SDHC Structural Changes Implemented

We have implemented structural changes at SDHC to more clearly reflect our priorities and provide support for staff. I shared these adjustments with our Housing Authority of the City of San Diego on December 13, 2023, and our SDHC Board of Commissioners on January 19, 2024.

To truly communicate to staff, our customers and the community that our efforts around diversity, equity and inclusion will be held in the highest priority, SDHC Senior Vice President of Compliance and Equity Assurance Debra Fischle-Faulk now reports directly to me in all matters related to diversity, equity and inclusion. Additionally, the oversight of our two overarching plans that guide much of what we do—our Strategic Plan and our Moving to Work Plan—will move under her leadership. This will ensure current and future activities and policies are approached through an equity, diversity, inclusion and access lens.

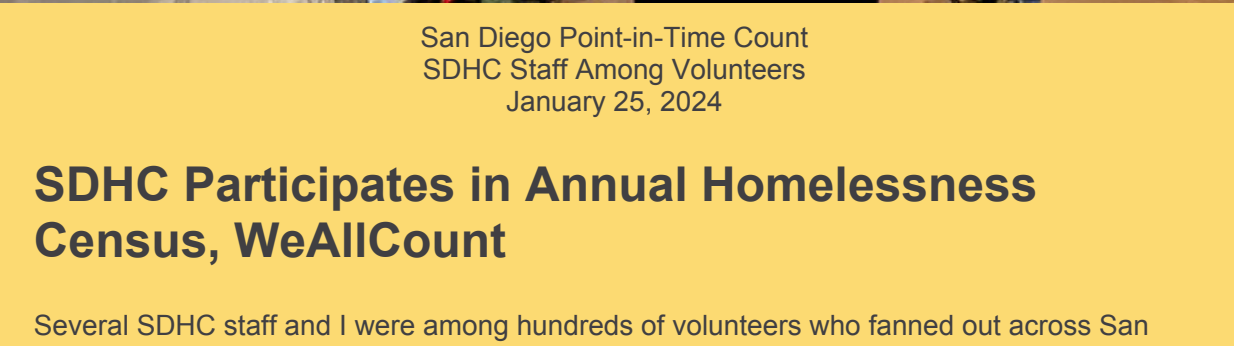
Focusing on our advocacy efforts at state and federal levels will also be critical as we move forward, especially as it relates to funding opportunities. To support and enhance focus in these areas, SDHC Senior Vice President of Policy and Land Use Molly Weber now reports directly to me as well.

We've also made some interim adjustments to make sure staff have the support and resources they need and to cover some current vacancies.

- Executive Vice President of Rental Assistance and Workforce Development Azucena Valladolid will report to me for an interim period. This will give me the opportunity to work closely with her as we continue to focus on our voucher commitments and housing assistance funding forecasts.
- Deputy CEO Jeff Davis will be providing direct support to several departments in our Real Estate Division to assist with covering some temporary vacancies. This is in addition to his many existing duties. I am thrilled that Jeff is staying on with SDHC after his 20 months of service as Interim President & CEO.
- To best support ongoing operations of our Homelessness Innovations departments, Casey Snell has taken on the role of Interim Senior Vice President of Homelessness Innovations.

Over the coming year, we will continue to look at what our organizational structure needs to be to support our evolution and growth. This is important as we ensure stability and effective ongoing operations and work with the members of the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego and the SDHC Board of Commissioners to create our vision for SDHC going forward.

[Watch the SDHC Board Meeting Video](#)



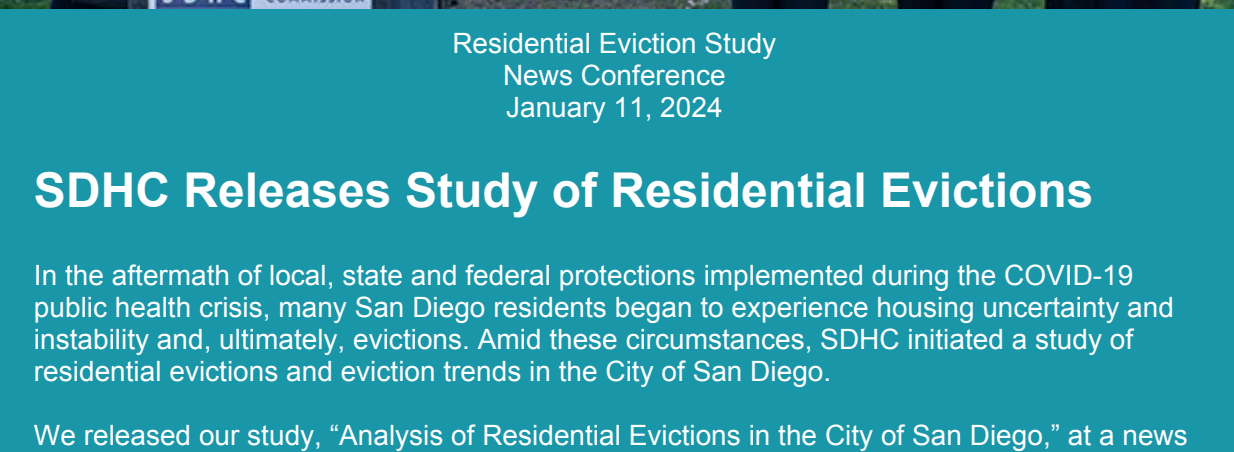
San Diego Point-in-Time Count  
SDHC Staff Among Volunteers  
January 25, 2024

## SDHC Participates in Annual Homelessness Census, WeAllCount

Several SDHC staff and I were among hundreds of volunteers who fanned out across San Diego during the early morning hours for the annual point-in-time count of our unhoused neighbors who are currently experiencing homelessness, known locally as WeAllCount.

Thank you to the San Diego Regional Task Force on Homelessness, which coordinates WeAllCount, and all the volunteers who participated.

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires this count every two years; however, the count in San Diego occurs annually in January. The count is essential to secure millions of dollars in federal funding from HUD for local homelessness programs. Results from the count are expected to be released later this year.



Residential Eviction Study  
News Conference  
January 11, 2024

## SDHC Releases Study of Residential Evictions

In the aftermath of local, state and federal protections implemented during the COVID-19 public health crisis, many San Diego residents began to experience housing uncertainty and instability and, ultimately, evictions. Amid these circumstances, SDHC initiated a study of residential evictions and eviction trends in the City of San Diego.

We released our study, "Analysis of Residential Evictions in the City of San Diego," at a news conference that included San Diego City Council President Sean Elo-Rivera, Legal Aid Society of San Diego CEO, Executive Director and Chief Counsel Joanne Franciscus, and HR&A Advisors Partner Judith Taylor.

The study may inform the evaluation and development of opportunities to potentially strengthen existing eviction prevention and housing stability initiatives in the City of San Diego. We invite you to read the study and our news release about this effort.

[Read SDHC's Residential Eviction Study](#)

### Groundbreaking: Nearly 100 Affordable Rental Apartments

Families with lower income or experiencing homelessness, will have new options for housing they can afford when the Iris at San Ysidro development is completed. The development celebrated its groundbreaking last month. SDHC awarded financing and rental housing vouchers to make this development possible.

San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, San Diego City Councilmember Vivian Moreno, San Diego County Board of Supervisors Chair Nora Vargas and SDHC Vice President of Multifamily Housing Finance Jennifer Kreutter participated in the groundbreaking, organized by the developer, the ground, CORE.

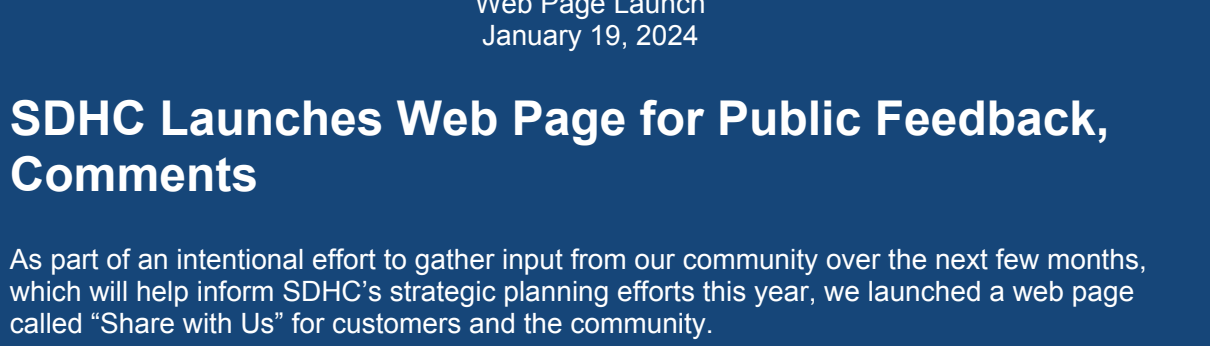
[Read the SDHC News Release](#)

### \$604,000 Prebys Foundation Grant to Create Healthcare Training Program for Youth

A new program to create a pathway for careers in healthcare for youth ages 18 through 26 in the City of San Diego with lower income launched last week with financial support through a \$604,000 grant from Prebys Foundation.

The grant will provide funds over two years for "Healthcare Career Catalyst for Young Adults," an SDHC Achievement Academy program to provide Certified Medical Assistant training and life skills at no cost to eligible youth.

[Read the SDHC News Release](#)



SDHC 'Share With Us'  
Web Page Launch  
January 19, 2024

## SDHC Launches Web Page for Public Feedback, Comments

As part of an intentional effort to gather input from our community over the next few months, which will help inform SDHC's strategic planning efforts this year, we launched a web page called "Share with Us" for customers and the community.

This page will be open for approximately 60 days. It provides an opportunity for the community to provide direct feedback, ideas, suggestions and concerns to me and SDHC leaders. We welcome comments about their experiences with SDHC, our programs and what their needs are.

We're making his page accessible through our website, [www.sdhc.org](http://www.sdhc.org), and a unique website address through SDHC's community engagement site, [engagesdhc.org/sharewithus](http://engagesdhc.org/sharewithus).

## Did you know?

**1,182**

Affordable Housing Units Approved and Pending Completion

**\$17.5 MILLION**  
SDHC Loans

**\$315.2 MILLION**  
Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds

**107**  
Rental Housing Vouchers for Households Experiencing Homelessness

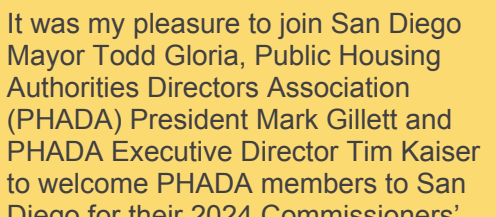
**162**  
Rental Housing Vouchers for Households with Low Income but not Experiencing Homelessness

Multifamily Affordable Rental Housing Developments Preliminary or Final Approval of SDHC Financing Calendar Year 2023

SDHC's Multifamily Housing Finance Department in our Real Estate Division works with affordable housing developers on essential financing that makes developments possible. This includes new construction and rehabilitation of existing units with rents required to be affordable for households with specific lower income levels, according to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development-defined levels from extremely low income to low income.

In Calendar Year 2023, the SDHC Board of Commissioners provided preliminary or final approval for financing for 1,182 affordable rental housing units in the City of San Diego. Including developments with SDHC financing approved in previous years as well, 2,314 affordable housing units are currently in the process of securing additional financing or are under construction.

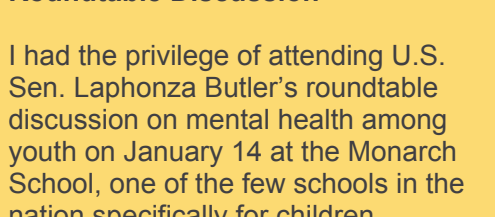
Financing includes SDHC loans awarded through a competitive Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA), Multifamily Housing Revenue Bonds and Recycled Bonds. These bonds do not create any financial liability for SDHC, the City of San Diego or the Housing Authority of the City of San Diego. Private sources of funds, such as revenue from the development, are used to repay the bonds. SDHC also sometimes makes rental housing vouchers available through a NOFA to award to developments to help resident pay their rent.



### PHADA Conference in San Diego

It was my pleasure to join San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria, Public Housing Authorities Directors Mark Gillett and PHADA President Association (PHADA) Executive Director Tim Kaiser to welcome PHADA members to San Diego for their 2024 Commissioners' Conference.

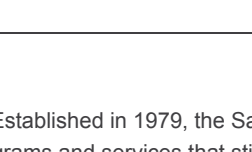
PHADA consists of 1,900 member housing agencies—including SDHC—which represent over 1.9 million housing units nationwide for people with lower income. The conference provided public housing agencies opportunities to learn from one another about innovative housing policies, strategic planning, managing industry challenges and more.



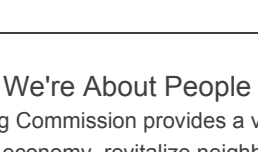
### U.S. Sen. Laphonza Butler Roundtable Discussion

I had the privilege of attending U.S. Sen. Laphonza Butler's roundtable discussion on mental health among youth on January 14 at the Monarch School, one of the few schools in the nation specifically for children experiencing homelessness.

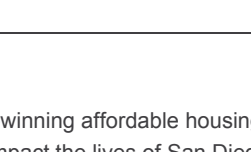
Sen. Butler, San Diego Mayor Todd Gloria and representatives from mental health organizations heard directly from current and recently graduated high school students about their perspectives, experiences and activism related to mental health issues. Their insight and passionate commitment in advocating for the needs of youth was deeply compelling and inspiring. Stable housing is essential for quality of life, mental health and wellness, and I am grateful to have heard from these young leaders.



[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 lower income and/or experiencing homelessness.