

July 16, 2024

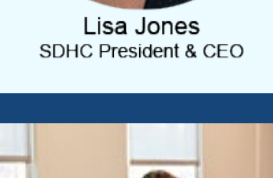
With the launch of our new fiscal year on July 1, we're looking ahead to the new and continuing opportunities we will have in the coming year and beyond to assist families with low income and struggling financially in the City of San Diego. We're also mindful of the past year and the challenges and opportunities it brought—experiences that will inform our forward movement.

Like many government agencies, our budget season was more challenging than previous years. We worked through these challenges with Mayor Todd Gloria, the San Diego City Council, led by Council President Sean Elo-Rivera and Budget Chair Councilmember Kent Lee, and our San Diego Housing Commission (SDHC) Board of Commissioners, led by Chair Eugene "Mitch" Mitchell. Our collective efforts culminated with the approval of SDHC's Fiscal Year 2025 Budget a few weeks ago on June 11.

With this budget, SDHC has implemented updated payment standards this fiscal year to continue to keep housing affordable for our rental assistance participants as rental housing costs continue to rise in the San Diego market. We will also create and preserve affordable rental housing units and perform needed repairs, maintenance and safety measures at the affordable rental housing properties we own or manage. Additionally, our Homelessness Housing Innovations team will continue to administer programs that provide shelters and services for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness in our city, including an award-winning homelessness prevention initiative you can read more about in this newsletter, along with some of our additional recent activities.

We also are advancing our efforts to develop a new Strategic Plan that will guide our decisions and focus our efforts in the coming years. We will be seeking input from our community, stakeholders, elected officials and our staff as we go through this process. We appreciate that diverse views and experiences strengthen innovation and create the best opportunities for us to grow as an agency and enhance our resources to best meet community needs.

Through whatever comes our way in the new fiscal year—whether anticipated or unexpected—SDHC will remain an agency upon which our community can rely and that puts people first.



Lisa Jones  
SDHC President & CEO



Housing Resource Fair  
Jackie Robinson Family YMCA  
June 5, 2024

## Flood Recovery Program for Displaced Residents

Recovery from catastrophic floods in January that displaced many San Diego families from their homes is a long process that continues today, almost six months later.

With funding from the County of San Diego and the City of San Diego, SDHC is operating the Flood Recovery Program for Displaced Residents, a three-pronged approach to assist these families.

The **Family Financial Assistance** component of this program provides financial assistance to move an eligible, displaced family into housing, including application fees, a security deposit, storage costs, hotel expenses for up to two weeks for families that have executed a lease and are awaiting the unit's availability, moving costs, up to six months of rent subsidy, and a Landlord Leasing Bonus of \$1,500 for landlords who rent to an eligible family.

We're also providing **Housing Search Assistance**, including a housing search class and referrals to available homes for rent based on the family size and needs.

The third component of this program is **Housing Restoration Assistance**. We're contracting with a local nonprofit organization, the Harvey Family Foundation, to assist with restoring homes damaged by the floods to make them habitable again—either for homeowners who occupied a damaged home or renters displaced by the floods.

Additionally, we also organized housing resource fairs held May 11 at the Mountain View Community Center and June 5 at the Jackie Robinson Family YMCA to connect displaced families with a variety of resources.

We're accepting applications for assistance through August 31, 2024.

[Read SDHC's Informational Flyer](#)

[View SDHC's Data Report](#)

## SDHC's Commitment to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access

To reinforce our commitment as an agency to diversity, equity, inclusion (DEI) and access, SDHC has developed a new DEI policy statement.

Our Equity Assurance Division worked externally and internally to conduct research and gather input that helped develop a statement to clearly express our dedication to these principles:

We're about people. At SDHC, Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Access are embedded in our values, mission, and culture. We make an intentional effort to provide equitable access to our programs and services and foster a diverse and inclusive workplace and community. Diversity and inclusion are catalysts for meaningful change. We encourage and welcome diverse approaches and points of view from employees, customers and our community as we continuously improve our programs, projects and policies.

Our DEI policy statement is also available on the DEI page on our website at [sdhc.org/about-us/diversity-equity-and-inclusion/](https://sdhc.org/about-us/diversity-equity-and-inclusion/)



Innovative Government Agency Award  
San Diego Housing Federation Ruby Awards Ceremony  
June 7, 2024

## SDHC Honored with 'Innovative Government Agency' Award

SDHC was recognized last month with the "Innovative Government Agency" award from the San Diego Housing Federation for one of our programs to assist families to remain in their homes and prevent homelessness.

This program, the Housing Instability Prevention Program (HIPP), helps pay rent and other housing-related expenses for families in the City of San Diego with low income, experiencing a housing crisis and at risk of homelessness.

About 260 households are currently enrolled, and HIPP has served more than 300 households since it began in September of 2022.

Enrolled households—on average—spent 77 percent of their household income on rent before they began receiving assistance. After they receive a rent subsidy through HIPP, they spend, on average, about 46 percent of their income on rent. That is a significant difference and means a lot to the families in the program.

The San Diego City Council allocated funding specifically to launch this program and identified funding for FY 2025 to support and expand HIPP assistance.

[Read the News Release](#)



Puesta del Sol  
59 Affordable Apartments for Seniors  
Grand Opening: May 2, 2024

## Creating and Preserving Affordable Housing

Extensive activity occurred throughout our last fiscal year to celebrate the creation and preservation of affordable housing units and add a significant number of units to the development pipeline for FY 2025 and years to come.

During FY 2024, SDHC's Board of Commissioners approved 1,678 affordable rental housing units. These consist of 1,442 affordable units for which the SDHC Board approved financing and 236 affordable units at properties for which the State of California awarded Homekey funds to SDHC in collaboration with the City and the County.

Of the 1,678 approved affordable units, 1,080 are new construction developments, 375 are rehabilitations of existing properties, and 223 are conversions of former hotels into permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness.

Additionally during FY 2024, we joined development and financing partners to celebrate the grand openings of 523 affordable rental housing units and groundbreakings for 670 affordable rental housing units, for which construction is underway.

The new units completed, the units for which ground was broken, and the projects that received approvals during FY 2024 all represent the addition or preservation of homes that families with low income in San Diego will be able to afford for many years to come.



Pacific Village  
Conversion of Former Hotel into Housing  
June 18, 2024

## Pacific Village Construction Underway

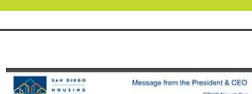
One of the projects the SDHC Board approved in FY 2024 was SDHC's purchase and conversion of a former hotel property into permanent supportive housing units for people experiencing homelessness. SDHC acquired the property in January and immediately prepared it for use as short-term emergency lodging for City of San Diego families displaced from their homes due to a January 22, 2024, storm that produced catastrophic floods.

Construction on the rehabilitation of the property began in March and is ongoing in all. The property, to be known as Pacific Village, includes the installation of kitchenettes in new units, the addition of a fire sprinkler and alarm system, upgrades to building systems; security additions such as fencing and cameras; and accessibility upgrades.

We anticipate completion of the rehabilitation in time for residents to begin residing here in February of 2025, which is well in advance of the deadlines the Homekey program requires.



[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.