



PRESS RELEASE

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
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For Immediate Release

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COUNTY HELPS WELCOME LOW-INCOME SENIORS TO THEIR NEW HOME

Hayworth House Offers Seniors Fully Renovated Affordable Housing Units



Hayworth House

West Hollywood, August 11, 2012 – The Community Development Commission of the County of Los Angeles (CDC) joined the West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (WHCHC) to celebrate the grand opening of the Hayworth House affordable housing development.

The 1950's apartment building was newly renovated to include sustainable features such as Energy Star materials, low-flow plumbing fixtures, and drought tolerant landscaping, and as a result received an Enterprise Green Communities Certification. Additionally, Hayworth House now features leveled walkways and wheelchair access for improved mobility for residents.

The apartments were purchased in 2003 by a market-rate developer and slated for demolition after approvals were acquired for a new, 50-unit luxury apartment complex. All tenants were evicted (many of them low-income seniors), and the building

sat vacant for over five years before being purchased by WHCHC in 2009, with the assistance of the City of West Hollywood. With the project's completion, WHCHC offered Hayworth House's former tenants, who still qualify, the opportunity to return home.

Board of Supervisors Chairman Zev Yaroslavsky said, "Hayworth House effectively serves our community's aging residents by offering valuable on-site services and easy accessibility to their apartments. WHCHC and its partners have done an excellent job of accommodating residents' needs while blending this new development into the community in an environmentally sustainable manner."



Pictured: Robin Conerly, WHCHC Executive Director, Thomas Mann, WHCHC Board of Directors, Zev Yaroslavsky, and Corde Carrillo, CDC Economic and Housing Development Director

The CDC provided \$1.5 million in HOME Investment Partnerships (HOME) Program funds to facilitate the acquisition of the property, which will be converted into permanent financing. Since the inception of the CDC's HOME Program in 1994, Los Angeles County has assisted in financing over 2,690 units of affordable and special needs housing using these funds. The CDC's goal to increase and preserve the supply of affordable housing for seniors, families, and persons with special needs in Los Angeles County has become more challenging. Despite the valuable contributions of the local program and numerous similar success stories across the nation, the HOME Program continues to be at risk of Federal funding reductions.

Federal cuts coupled with the dissolution of the State's redevelopment agencies (RDA) as of February 1, 2012, which eliminated the 20% low- and moderate-income housing funds, generated annually from RDAs tax increment, left local affordable housing financing in a dire situation. The cuts have translated into fewer resources

being available for the construction of affordable housing and rehabilitation of existing housing, jeopardizing other future valuable projects such as Hayworth House.

For additional information on Hayworth House, please call WHCHC, at (323) 650-8771. All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, CDC Public Information Officer, at (323) 890-7415.

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