



PRESS RELEASE

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
2 Coral Circle, Monterey Park, CA 91755

For Immediate Release

Contact: Elisa Vásquez, (323) 890-7415, elisa.vasquez@lacdc.org

21 PUBLIC HOUSING AND SECTION 8 PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AWARDED COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIPS

Housing Authority Resident Scholarships will Help Low-income Individuals Attend a 4-year University, Community College, or Vocational Program



Southern California Edison Representatives present the CDF and HACoLA Executive Directors and program staff with a check for \$4,380 to benefit the HAR Scholarship Program.

Monterey Park, May 23, 2012 – For many low-income families, a college degree is not always an attainable goal. Many struggle to find resources to pay constantly increasing fees for tuition, books, transportation, while still meeting the financial needs of the family. Today, with

the help of the Los Angeles County Community Development Foundation (CDF), 21 individuals who participate in the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles' (HACoLA) Public Housing and Section 8 programs received assistance to help make their educational and career goals a reality.

In March 2012, over 50 Section 8 participants and Public Housing residents submitted applications for the Housing Authority Resident (HAR) Scholarship to the CDF. Each applicant was carefully screened and 21 awardees were selected to receive grants valued at \$750 or \$1,000 to be used to attend a 4-year university, community

college, or vocational program. The scholarship awards can be used toward tuition, books, equipment such as computers, and any other school related expense.

This year's awardees will attend 4-year universities such as the University of California at Santa Cruz, California State University, Long Beach, California State University, San Marcos, and Howard University, as well as local campuses including East Los Angeles, Cerritos, and Citrus Community Colleges. Students will pursue careers in law, social work, nursing, and nuclear physics, among others. Although the awardees have diverse backgrounds and career plans, their commonality lies in their resiliency to overcome extreme challenges in pursuit of an education and career that will transform their lives.



Sean Rogan, HACoLA Executive Director, and HAR Scholarship Awardees

Sean Rogan, HACoLA Executive Director stated, "Through the tireless fundraising efforts of the CDF, HACoLA residents and participants take one more step toward a successful future. I am so proud of the students who take the initiative to apply for the HAR Scholarship and encourage them to stay motivated and determined to reach their goal."

The CDF partners with HACoLA to achieve its mission of "Inspiring Public Housing and Section 8 Residents by Providing Life Changing Opportunities." It is dedicated to improving the quality of life of low-income persons. Since 1997, the CDF has provided scholarships to over 150 students pursuing a higher education.

For more information on the CDF, or the HAR Scholarship fund, please contact Jennifer Blackwell-Trotter at (323) 838-7730. All media inquiries can be directed to Elisa Vásquez, Public Information Officer for HACoLA, at (323) 890-7415.

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