BUILDING STORIES OF HOPE
TRANSFORMING COMMUNITIES
TRANSFORMING LIVES
In 1966, Robert F. Kennedy and his aides conceived the idea of a community development corporation (CDC) to “get the market to do what the bureaucracy cannot.” Over the past fifty years, CDCs throughout the country have not only achieved what Bobby Kennedy envisioned but have gone beyond by transforming neighborhoods and enriching lives. Hollywood Community Housing Corporation (HCHC) is a CDC established in 1989 that has stepped-up to address the housing crisis throughout Los Angeles County by building homes and providing services for our low-income and homeless neighbors.

Our tagline, Building Stories of Hope, expresses that not only are we constructing each story of an apartment complex to house the most vulnerable residents of Los Angeles County, but we are also working with our residents to empower them to move forward in their lives with dignity and the peace-of-mind that they can afford the place they call home – building their story of hope.

Hope is what inspires us to focus on the future with a fervent determination to make Los Angeles a more just and equitable place. Los Angeles faces a housing crisis that has reached tragic heights and our response to this crisis is to accelerate the pace of HCHC’s affordable housing development work. As depicted in the chart to the left, we are on track to increase the amount of affordable housing we own and operate by 60% in the next several years – from 951 apartments in 28 properties to over 1,500 apartments in 35 properties.

HCHC transforms communities by creating affordable housing that achieves design excellence and environmental sustainability, while at the same time respecting the history, culture and architecture of the communities we serve. HCHC transforms lives by providing services and access to resources that improve the quality of life for our residents. We are proud to be part of the CDC movement that was started by RFK and continues to be a force for positive change.
LOS ANGELES HAS A HOUSING CRISIS...

The housing challenges faced by low-income people in Los Angeles County are acute and on the rise. According to a study published by the California Housing Partnership (CHP) in May 2019, 79% of extremely low-income and 45% of very low-income households in the County are paying more than half of their income on rent, compared to just 3% of moderate-income households. Low-income renters are often one paycheck away from homelessness and are more likely to forgo spending on essentials such as food, transportation and health care.

The reality that people pay such a high percentage of their income on rent was a significant contributing factor to the rise in homelessness in 2019. The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) announced that homelessness increased by 12% in the County and 16% in the City when compared to their homeless count in 2018. And the rise in homelessness occurred despite the fact that more than 21,000 homeless people throughout the County found housing in the past year. Although Los Angeles has built more housing than any other city in California, we need to remain steadfast in our efforts to continue to increase the supply of affordable housing.

LA is the least affordable housing market in the USA

- 79 hours working at minimum wage per week to afford rent on a 1-bedroom apartment
- 58,936 people experiencing homelessness in LA County
- 516,946 new affordable housing units required to meet the needs of low-income renters in LA
- 67% of people experiencing homelessness have lived in LA County for more than 10 years
- 8% increase in senior homelessness
- 24% increase in youth homelessness

Source: Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority & California Housing Partnership
...BUT THERE IS A SOLUTION
HCHC is solving the affordability crisis for homeless and low-income Angelenos with each new building we create. The crisis is a long time in the making and it will take a long time to solve. Factors which have contributed to the crisis include zoning codes that discourage the construction of multifamily housing and cuts in federal and state funds that reduced the investment in affordable housing in Los Angeles County by more than $496 million annually between 2008 and 2019, a 70% reduction. Despite these challenges, HCHC is building housing at the fastest rate in the organization’s history and is committed to doing its part to solve one of the County’s most profound and intractable problems.

OUR VISION

Hollywood Community Housing Corporation envisions a more just society where all people have a place to call home, feel connected to their community and have access to meaningful opportunities.
This place put the light back into my life. I was living outside in the pouring rain and I couldn’t touch the tent without getting water inside. Now I am here and this place is like heaven on earth.

I had applied to many many places and different communities, just hoping to one day to be fortunate to get an opportunity. When I did, it was one of the best days of my life for me and my children.

I had a job. I lost my job. I had to endure a lot. And I am thankful, too, because if it wasn’t for what I had been through, I wouldn’t have ended up here at my apartment with HCHC.
SUPPORTIVE SERVICES

CHANGING THE COURSE OF LIVES FOR THE BETTER
Research indicates that people who live in publicly subsidized housing and/or have experienced periods of homelessness have much higher rates of trauma when compared to the general population. We, therefore, commit to implementing trauma-informed principles in an effort to promote physical and emotional safety among all of our residents. At HCHC we serve seniors, veterans, persons with special needs, people living with HIV/AIDS, and formerly homeless households. Our supportive services team provides a variety of programs such as care coordination, referrals to resources in the community, a food pantry, ESL/GED classes, after school programs, life skills classes and our Books, Backpacks and Bright Futures (BBBF) initiative. These programs are having a positive impact by improving each resident's quality of life and independence.

**BREAKING THE CYCLE OF POVERTY**

*Enriching services provide real-life skills and resources*

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**BOOKS BACKPACKS & BRIGHT FUTURES**
*Annual Book Fair, Summer Reading Challenge & Back-to-school event*

**ESL & GED CLASSES**

**FOOD PANTRY**
*Available to all residents & the community at large*

**AFTERSCHOOL PROGRAMS**
*No cost, with tutoring*

**LIFE SKILLS CLASSES**
*Adult education, health, wellness and skill building classes*
A TRADITION OF TRUST AND EXCELLENCE

Los Angeles Business Council
  Community Impact Award - 2019
  HCHC’s Transformative Civic Development Work
  Award for Excellence - 2003
  Waterloo Heights

Southern California Association of Non-Profit Housing
  Multifamily Project of the Year - 2019
  Coronel Apartments

Multifamily Affordable Housing Project of the Year - 2005
  Views at 270

Enterprise Community Partners
  Community Partner of the Year - 2014
  Hollywood Community Housing Corporation

California Preservation Foundation
  Preservation Design Award - 2013
  Orchard Gables

St. Andrew’s Bungalow Court before restoration

Los Angeles Conservancy
  Preservation Award - 2010
  Hollywood Bungalow Courts
  Preservation Award - 2006
  Palomar Apartments

American Institute of Architects Los Angeles
  Housing Accessibility: Alan J. Rothman Award - 2006
  Waterloo Heights
  Citation Award - 2003
  Harold Way

State of California
  Governor’s Historic Preservation Award - 1996
  St. Andrew’s Bungalow Court

Hollywood Heritage
  Award for Adaptive Reuse of a Historic Structure - 1996
  Dunning Apartments

St. Andrew’s Bungalow Court after restoration
SUPPORT HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING

A REAL SOLUTION TO LA'S MOST PROFOUND PROBLEM

BUILDING STORIES OF HOPE
ONE COMMUNITY, ONE BUILDING, ONE FAMILY AT A TIME

Visit us online at hollywoodhousing.org