



San Antonio Housing Authority
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News Release

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SAHA RECEIVES \$669,264 TO ASSIST HOMELESS SAN ANTONIO FAMILIES

SAN ANTONIO – The San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) has been awarded a one-year, \$669,124 grant from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for its Shelter Plus Care Program (S+C) to provide 86 homeless persons with rental assistance.

The S+C Program provides long-term rental assistance and supportive services for homeless persons with disabilities, such as mental illness, substance abuse problems and HIV/AIDS or related diseases.

“What’s most effective about the Shelter Plus Care Program is that families are being provided with supportive services in addition to rental assistance,” said SAHA Board Chair Ramiro Cavazos. “We’re partnering with local organizations, including the Center for Health Care Services, to provide case management services for individuals with health-related needs.”

Housing assistance combined with vital supportive services for individuals living with mental illness or other serious health problems significantly enhances housing stability, and numerous research studies have proven it is less costly than other forms of emergency and institutional care.

“We’re excited to receive a grant that allows us to meet our mission of providing affordable, quality housing for families while working with them on issues that affect the quality of their life as well,” said Lourdes Castro Ramirez, President and CEO of SAHA.

The S+C program is in addition to SAHA’s other homelessness initiatives, including a partnership with Haven for Hope. To read more about the specifics of the S+C program, visit www.hud.gov/offices/cpd/homeless/programs/splusc.

SAHA provides housing assistance to over 65,000 children, adults and senior citizens. Nearly half of our clients are elderly or disabled and more than 80 percent of the families on SAHA’s public housing program utilize the program for less than five years. SAHA owns and manages approximately 6,300 public housing units at 61 properties and owns/or manages more than 6,300 affordable housing units at 43 properties. SAHA brings \$122 million in federal funding annually to San Antonio with \$79 million of that going directly to private landlords on behalf of approximately 12,000 Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) families.

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