

MEDIA RELEASE

COUNTY RECEIVES NATIONAL RECOGNITION FOR TWO AFFORDABLE HOUSING BEST PRACTICES

Efforts to Provide Housing Stability to Residents Put the Los Angeles County Development Authority Center Stage

Los Angeles County, August 9, 2021 – Last month, the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) was recognized with two Awards of Merit from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). The Agency Awards recognize best practices in housing and community development. The LACDA was recognized for the following project and programs:

Public Housing Improvements with No Relocation! (Project Design Category) - The LACDA sought new ways to service 354 public housing units experiencing “pinhole” leaks in the plumbing system. Replacing the copper potable water piping systems involved cutting into walls and ceilings, and the subsequent restoration of the damaged walls and ceilings. This inevitably meant disrupting and relocating residents during the process. Originally estimated to cost \$6.8 million to complete the project, the LACDA partnered with ePIPE® system, a lead-free, leak-free, in-place pipe restoration process that allows residents to remain in their homes during the improvements and complete the work for half the cost, a win-win for all involved.

Guiding Residents on a Path to Success (Resident and Client Services Category) - The LACDA’s Family Self-Sufficiency (FSS) Program links residents with a case manager who helps clients develop a plan to increase income with tools such as training, education, and financial literacy. Each client is expected to meet their goals in five years. During the term of the contract, any increase in income that results in an increase in the tenant’s portion towards the rent, will be saved in an escrow account with the goal towards home ownership. Since January 1, 2017, the agency expanded its outreach efforts through its social media, website, and information sessions to increase enrollment and highlight program successes; these efforts have resulted in 332 new enrollees.

Emilio Salas, LACDA Executive Director said, “We are honored by NAHRO’s continued support and recognition of our projects and programs. Our residents are our priority – whether it be through family guidance and resources, or ensuring they have a safe living environment. We are proud to be at their service.”

For an overview of the LACDA’s projects and programs, please [click here](#). All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, LACDA Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.

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