



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

SERVING THE HOMELESS

UPDATES ON HOMELESS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

April 2001

Number 8

City and Architects Moving Ahead with Transitional Housing Facility Plans

Detailed plans have been completed for building renovation and landscaping of the proposed short-term transitional housing facility for homeless families.

The Days Inn located on Cortez Hill in downtown will be purchased by the City and converted into a transitional housing facility for 150 homeless family members.

Golba Architecture and TOPIA Landscape architects recently submitted concept drawings to the City for each of the two phases of the project. The architectural drawings were reviewed by neighboring residents and property owners on March 14, and the group will review the landscape plans later this spring.

The City will soon begin the process

of selecting the most qualified operator/agency to oversee the day-to-day operations of the project. A selection is expected to be made by the end of May.

When completed, the program will provide homeless families with case management counseling, health care, employment resources, and other social services. Most families in this 60-to-90-day program will move into long-term housing programs to continue their efforts to become self-supporting.

The County of San Diego has committed to providing case management services to program participants.

It is anticipated that rehabilitation of the property will begin in late June and be opened to families in early October.

City Homeless Services Provides Emergency Shelter for St. Vincent

When a St. Vincent de Paul building had to be closed for fumigation, many of the facility's residents were relocated to one of the City's temporary homeless shelters.

The building had to be closed and fumigated when a bedbug infestation was discovered. Although the City's temporary winter shelters for single adults had closed on March 15, the Newton Street shelter was reopened March 26 to provide 250 St. Vincent de Paul clients with emergency housing.

The City's Homeless Services Program coordinated activities involving St. Vincent de Paul, the Metropolitan Transit Development Board, and City departments. The men and women were able to return to the St. Vincent de Paul building on April 6.

News Briefs

City to Receive \$200,000 from State for Homeless Programs

The City has been awarded two grants from the state's Department of Housing and Community Development to assist City homeless service programs. The Winter Shelter Program has been awarded \$100,000 to help pay for operating and supportive service costs. The planned short-term transitional housing facility for homeless families will also receive \$100,000 to help cover the cost of program operations.

Homeless Outreach Team Helps Pregnant Homeless Woman Find Shelter and Assistance

After receiving a complaint about a homeless couple living in a Pacific Beach alley, the City's Homeless Outreach Team located the couple and discovered that the woman was pregnant. The team helped the woman enter Catholic Charities Rachel's Night Shelter where she could receive medical care, clothing, meals, and other services. The man told the team that he would live in a nearby hotel.

More Information About Homeless Services

The City's Homeless Services Program is administered by the City's Community and Economic Development Department.

For more information, call (619) 533-6525, or visit the City's web site: www.sandiego.gov