



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

# SERVING THE HOMELESS

UPDATES ON HOMELESS SERVICES IN THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

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## City Completes Days Inn Purchase

*Site to be Turned into Transitional Housing for Homeless Families*

The City has completed the purchase of the Days Inn on downtown Cortez Hill and plans to transform the 30-year-old motel into a transitional-housing facility for homeless families. Total acquisition cost for the site was \$2.66 million.

### Housing for 150 Family Members

As proposed, the transitional housing facility, to be known as the Cortez Hill Family Center, would accommodate as many as 150 homeless family members.

The families would receive case management, counseling, health care, jobs, and other social services. Staying at the facility would help families stabilize their lives and move into long-term programs and allow them to save money and eventually rent their own homes. The City will contract with a social services agency to operate the facility.

### Six City Agencies Involved

The City's Community and Economic Development Department is overseeing the project, with assistance from the Real Estate Assets, Engineering and Capital Projects, and Development Services departments; the City Attorney's Office; and Centre City Development Corp.

When completed, the transitional housing facility will be of great benefit to homeless families who need assistance in getting back on their feet and improving their quality of life, said

Hank Cunningham, director of the Community and Economic Development Department.

The estimated cost of rehabilitating the hotel is \$1 million, and the annual operating costs are estimated at approximately \$700,000. The County of San Diego has agreed to provide \$130,000 as part of the case management services and rehabilitation costs.

### EIS to be Completed in June

An environmental impact study is expected to be ready for public comment in June. The study will need approval from the state and federal governments. Construction and rehabilitation of the property is scheduled to begin in July with completion anticipated in September.

## City Soliciting Letters of Interest from Nonprofit Agencies for Transitional Housing Facility

As part of the process of providing transitional housing for homeless families, the City is soliciting letters of interest from nonprofit service providers to manage the Cortez Hill Family Center.

The nonprofit agency would manage the facility and provide services to the residents. Letters of interest must be submitted by 5 p.m. on June 8. For information, call Sharon Johnson at (619) 533-6280.

## Report Shows 4,947 People Housed in City Winter Shelters

The City's three winter shelters housed 4,947 people between Dec. 15, 2000, and March 15, 2001, according to the recently-released 2000-2001 Seasonal Shelter Report. The report also includes many other statistics regarding the shelter and the services provided.

The City contracts with St. Vincent de Paul to provide staff for approximately 550 homeless persons per night through the City's Winter Shelter Program.

All three City shelters were operated by St. Vincent de Paul in cooperation with the Solutions Consortium. The veterans and single adults shelters closed March 15. Plans call for the family shelter to remain open until the Cortez Hill Family Center opens in the fall.

Copies of the report are available by calling St. Vincent de Paul at (619) 687-1031.

## 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](http://www.sandiego.gov)