

Feb. 26, 2020

Housing Authority Honors Landlords Who Rent to Voucher Holders

San Jose Mayor Sam Liccardo and Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Cindy Chavez to present commendations at Feb. 27 landlord appreciation event

SAN JOSE, Calif. – Feb. 26, 2020 – The Santa Clara County Housing Authority (SCCHA) will honor landlords who participate in programs that house the county’s most vulnerable residents during its annual landlord appreciation event on Thursday, Feb. 27. About 6,000 dedicated private property owners countywide are providing rental homes to very low-income families and individuals who pay their rent with the help of a Section 8 or other federally funded housing voucher. The Housing Choice Voucher (Section 8) program is the Housing Authority’s largest rental assistance program with more than 14,000 participants. The agency welcomed 250 new landlords to the program in 2019.

Following the Feb. 27 event, the Housing Authority will provide photos and short profiles of mom and pop landlords receiving commendations.

“Searching for housing in Silicon Valley’s extremely competitive rental market is difficult under the best of circumstances,” said San Jose Mayor Liccardo. “We’re grateful to the landlords who’ve stepped up to rent to our vulnerable neighbors in the Section 8 program—helping us prevent displacement and homelessness throughout our community.”

Among the owners being honored are those who participate in supportive housing programs for families who have experienced homelessness and for families with children in foster care.

“We can get families the services they need to thrive, but only a landlord can provide them with a home,” says Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President Cindy Chavez. “Section 8 landlords are key to helping our most vulnerable families remain stably housed, and the County is grateful for their partnership.”

Landlords receiving special recognition include:

Rockstar Rookie Award – new landlords joining SCCHA’s Section 8 program in 2019 who subsequently leased the most additional Section 8 units within the year

- **Jackalyn Ye**
- **Gilroy Lewis Street LP**

Heavy Hitter Award – landlord serving the most families under Section 8 program in Santa Clara County

- **ROEM Development Corporation**

Family Homecoming Award – landlords serving the most families in the Section 8 Family Unification Program in Santa Clara County

- **Albert Rocha**
- **Gilroy Pacific Associates**

Home Sweet Home Award – landlords serving the most families in the Chronically Homeless Direct Referral program in Santa Clara County

- **Joe Cota**
- **Curtner Studios LP**

Housing Authority partnership with landlords

The agency actively recruits landlords to participate in its voucher programs. In addition to the security and convenience of reliable rental payments, even if their tenant loses a job or other income, participant landlords receive a \$2,500 bonus for their first Section 8 lease-up and a loyalty payment of \$1,500 for each re-rented Section 8 unit. Landlords can charge their regular rents (including security deposits) and apply their usual background screening criteria to new tenants. Landlords should know that voucher holders have strong incentives built into the program to be good tenants.

SCCHA is currently working with organizations such as the California Apartment Association to help landlords understand and comply with new statewide tenant protection laws, including the new rule that protects Section 8 renters from housing discrimination.

Landlords wanting to learn more about the Section 8 program are invited to visit SCCHA's website and to attend our next Owners' Information Session on Wednesday, March 4, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at SCCHA's office, 505 West Julian St. in San Jose.

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About SCCHA

SCCHA is the largest provider of affordable housing assistance in Santa Clara County, helping make rental housing safe and affordable for low-income families through Section 8 voucher programs and below-market rental properties. Designated a Moving to Work agency by Congress, it has the capacity to assist about 18,000 households through innovative policies for the delivery of assisted housing. For more information, visit www.scchousingauthority.org.

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