



## Join Us for Alex Sanchez's Retirement Party on September 10

It's been an honor and pleasure to work with Alex Sanchez, who since 2001 successfully led our agency through many tumultuous years of congressional budget gridlock, unprecedented sequester cuts to Section 8 funding, and even a government shutdown. Together we weathered the storms and, thanks to our Moving to Work program, maintained rental assistance to all of our vouchers holders.

Please join us in honoring Alex at his retirement party on Thursday, September 10 from 5:30pm to 9:00pm at the Mexican Heritage Plaza, 1700 Alum Rock Avenue in San José. For more information and to RSVP for the event, please go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/alex-sanchezs-retirement-party-tickets-18109584254>.

Kathy Espinoza-Howard  
*Chair, HACSC Board of Commissioners*

## HACSC Announces PBV Solicitation Timeline

HACSC is beginning the process of releasing up to 1,000 additional federal Section 8 project-based rental housing vouchers (PBVs) to selected housing developers and property owners through a competitive request for proposals (RFPs) process. Property owners and affordable housing developers interested in submitting project proposals should register to receive notification of the competitive solicitation by visiting the Business Opportunities page on HACSC's website at [www.hacsc.org](http://www.hacsc.org). The solicitation and selection of proposals timeline is as follows:

### PLANNING AND PREPARATION - NOW THROUGH SEPTEMBER 2015

#### RFP Round 1 - October 7, 2015

RFP submittal deadline - November 11, 2015  
Preliminary award - December 16 to 23, 2015  
Final award - February 1, 2016

#### RFP Round 2 - March 2, 2016

RFP submittal deadline - April 6, 2016  
Preliminary award - May 13 to 20, 2016  
Final award - July 1, 2016

#### RFP Round 3 - October 5, 2016

RFP submittal deadline - November 9, 2016  
Preliminary award - December 14 to 21, 2016



## Katherine Harasz Appointed Interim Executive Director

HACSC's Board appointed Deputy Executive Director & General Counsel Katherine Harasz as HACSC's Interim Executive Director. Harasz, who joined our leadership team in 2012, brings more than 25 years of legal and administrative experience to this position. A third-party recruiting firm is helping us conduct the search for a new executive director. We currently are soliciting input from our stakeholders regarding qualities they would like to see in an executive director. We encourage you to give us your opinion by emailing [hacscboard-chair@hacsc.org](mailto:hacscboard-chair@hacsc.org). To be notified when the position opens, interested applicants may also email [hacscboardchair@hacsc.org](mailto:hacscboardchair@hacsc.org).



## MidPen Housing Builds 58 New Affordable Rental Homes at Onizuka Crossing in Sunnyvale

MidPen Housing's Onizuka Crossing development is bringing 58 new affordable rental homes - including 29 units reserved for formerly homeless individuals and their families - to the former National Guard Armory cold-weather homeless shelter site on E. Maude Ave. in Sunnyvale.

The new permanent supportive housing development - slated for completion by spring 2016 - includes a community room, computer lab and exercise room. MidPen Resident Services will coordinate and manage onsite programs and supportive services for all Onizuka Crossing residents. The development is named in honor of Ellison Onizuka, a NASA astronaut and lieutenant colonel with the U.S. Air Force. HACSC provided 13 Chronically Homeless Direct Referral (CHDR) project-based vouchers and 6 Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) project-based vouchers toward the total \$32.3 million development.



Onizuka Crossing, David Baker Architects

## HACSC Wins NAHRO 2015 Award of Merit for MTW University

HACSC's Moving to Work (MTW) University program has earned the agency a 2015 Award of Merit in Housing and Community Development from the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials (NAHRO). Launched by HACSC in 2013, the MTW University program provides housing assistance applicants, assisted families, landlords, community stakeholders and HACSC staff with resources and training to better understand Section 8 and public housing regulations as well as HACSC policies, agency processes and MTW program goals. While our MTW designation continues to be key in our ability to deal effectively with federal budget uncertainty, the MTW University program helped our agency's staff communicate more effectively with participating Section 8 families and landlords during the federal sequestration. The new program has spawned HACSC-sponsored tenant resource fairs, landlord workshops and staff training programs that are continuing indefinitely. To read more about the NAHRO Awards go to <http://www.nahro.org/awards-agency>.

## HACSC Awarded 113 New HUD-VASH Vouchers; Begins Leasing to Vets

Thanks in part to our continuing collaboration with the Palo Alto Veterans Health Care System in housing Santa Clara County's most vulnerable homeless veterans, in June the U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affairs (VA) awarded HACSC an additional 113 new HUD-VASH vouchers worth almost \$1.3 million in annual Housing Assistance Payment (HAP) funding. This brings HACSC's total available HUD-VASH vouchers to 853. In response to the difficulty veterans are having in finding rental housing in this market, HACSC is in the process of project-basing 10 HUD-VASH vouchers at two of our HACSC-managed sites, Morrone Gardens in San Jose and Bracher Gardens in Santa Clara. Both of these properties are part of HACSC's senior housing portfolio and their 10 HUD-VASH vouchers (5 vouchers at each location) are worth about \$150,000 annually or \$4.5 million over the course of a 30-year project-based voucher HAP contract. Additionally, Onizuka Crossing in Sunnyvale - currently under construction - will have 6 HUD-VASH project-based voucher units (see related article in this newsletter). The HUD-VASH program combines rental assistance from HUD with case management and clinical services provided by the VA.