The Day That Changed My Life Forever

Daniel wanted to be independent and make a home of his own. After researching possible places to live, he came across SHC’s permanent housing program for people with low-incomes who have a verified disability and desire to live in an independent setting.

Although the wait list was long, SHC staff helped him with paperwork and verified that he met all the requirements to get subsidized (HUD 811) housing once a unit opened up. One year later, while Daniel was on a camping trip with his family, he received a call that there was an apartment available for him. Daniel described that he felt shocked and happy at that moment. He called his mom and said “Mom, I can’t believe it, this might be the day.”

He was shown the apartment, that was soon to be his, a week later and knew that he wanted to live there. With the help of his loved ones, he was able to get all the essentials for him to live on his own for the first time. He has been happily housed for over a year and since then has gone to work as a poll official for elections and bought his own TV for his apartment. When talking about the day he got our call he said, “That was the day that changed my life forever.”

Daniel is a genealogist and has written two books with his cousin Connie about their family ancestry. Their books can be found at the Main Library downtown titled “Fourth Generation Families” and “Three Generations of a New Conquest in New Mexico.”

SHC owns and operates two HUD 811 housing complexes in Albuquerque and Las Vegas, NM. The apartments were built to specifically houses persons with very low and low incomes and living with disabilities who desire to live as independently as possible in the community. HUD provides rental assistance that covers the difference between the HUD-approved operating cost of the project and the amount the residents pay - usually 30 percent of their adjusted income. This type of affordable housing is critical to making our communities stronger and allows anyone, no matter the circumstance, the opportunity to have a home.

Welcome Home Annual Luncheon - Please Join Us!

Join Bank of America and SHC on Tuesday, April 21 for our Welcome Home annual fundraising luncheon and silent auction. We will celebrate SHC’s milestones, our donors, and our commitment to ending homelessness for good. RSVP:
www.shcnm.org/welcomehome
info@shcnm.org
505.255.3643
**Why We Give: “We can help lift people off the streets”**

SHC is honored to be a grant recipient from Bank of America to support our efforts to develop and preserve affordable and permanent supportive housing. This year, Bank of America is the official **Welcome Home Sponsor** for SHC’s annual fundraising luncheon. We asked Nikki Mitchell, NM market manager why they give.

“While today’s economy continues to be strong, there are still far too many who find themselves on the streets either temporarily or becoming chronically homeless. As a matter of fact, last year New Mexico had the nation’s largest percentage increase in homelessness. There is no one, simple solution to end homelessness and, honestly, all of us are just one major life event away from being at risk of becoming homeless ourselves. But, together with nonprofit leaders like Supportive Housing Coalition, we can help lift people off the streets and onto the path to personal and financial stability. That is why Bank of America has made housing and basic needs like access to behavioral health our top philanthropic priorities and is proud to work with Supportive Housing Coalition to support and serve all New Mexicans.”

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**Giving Tuesday Toy & Blanket Drive**

SHC ended 2019 on a celebratory note, surprising some of our families with the toy and blanket donations we received on Giving Tuesday. Giving Tuesday is an international day of giving that is celebrated the Tuesday after Thanksgiving. This year our staff conducted a toy and blanket drive to benefit the families in our housing programs. One of the families we delivered to was especially surprised and appreciative. Their home had been unexpectedly flooded just months before and lost most of their belongings. The daughter of the family was overwhelmed with joy when she saw her new blanket, the first soft and new item that she has owned in six months. Her mother was delighted with the coloring book and colored pencils she received because it is an activity that they can do together and bond over.

We are so grateful for everyone that donates and supports our organization, allowing us to provide housing and support to our housed families.

**LDS Women Create Welcome Home Baskets at Annual Conference**

Each January, the Albuquerque Stake of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints holds a Women’s Conference attended by nearly 200 women and includes a service opportunity. Christy Burton, Service Coordinator, found the Welcome Home Basket project on justserve.org, a service project website. and thought this hands-on project was perfect for their group. She organized the donation process a month prior to the event and had each woman sign up to make sure that they had enough items for several baskets. The women were amazingly generous and they completed 21 baskets that day! They also colored framed word art with phrases like “Welcome Home” and “It’s So Good to Be Home” to include as a welcome gift for SHC’s newly housed participants. “We hope the baskets and pictures give the recipients a feeling of hope and a great start in their new home,” says Christy. For more information on the Welcome Home Basket Project, please visit www.shcnm.org/welcome-home-basket-project/.