



SAN DIEGO  
HOUSING  
COMMISSION

San Diego Housing Commission  
Guardian Scholars Program  
2017 Moving to Work Annual Conference  
April 20, 2017

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San Diego Housing Commission



# 2017 MTW Annual Conference

## San Diego Housing Commission

### Agency Overview

- Housing Choice Vouchers: 15,273
  - Local Non-Traditional Tenant-Based Program: 1,257
- Public Housing Units: 154
- SDHC-Owned Affordable Housing Units: 3,400

### San Diego Overview

- 80 Percent of Area Median Income: \$68,000
- Two-Bedroom Fair Market Rent: \$1,741
- 2 Percent Vacancy Rate



*Housing Choice Voucher  
recipient Eliza and  
her two children*



# 2017 MTW Annual Conference Guardian Scholars Housing Program

## Program Description

- Target Population:
  - Youth exiting foster care, wards of the court, under legal guardianship, and unaccompanied homeless
  - Students enrolled at San Diego State University
- Design:
  - Up to \$600,000 annual grant for housing subsidy
  - Serve up to 100 students



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## Guardian Scholars Housing Program (Continued)

### Program Description (Continued)

- Programmatic Goals:
  - San Diego State University
    - Reduce reliance on student loans for housing
    - Promote housing stability and quality
    - Maintain focus on obtaining a bachelor's degree
  - San Diego Housing Commission
    - Opportunity to pioneer a new program
    - Serve an underserved population



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## Guardian Scholars Housing Program (Continued)

### Partnership

- San Diego State University
  - Office of Student Affairs
    - Educational Opportunities Program (EOP)
    - Financial Aid and Scholarships
  - Office of Housing
  - Research Foundation
- San Diego Housing Commission
  - Rental Assistance Division
  - Financial Services Department



*SDSU President Elliot Hirshman  
News Conference  
December 3, 2015*



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## Guardian Scholars Housing Program (Continued)

### Implementation

- Program Plan
  - Policies
  - Procedures
  - Process Flows
- Web Portal
  - Information Sharing
- Invoicing
  - Billed Monthly
- Landlord and Student Outreach



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## Guardian Scholars Housing Program (Continued)

### Results

- Increased Housing Choice
  - 64 students secured housing
  - 32 students approved and searching for housing
- Leverage of Federal Funds
  - \$400,000



*Bianca*  
*SDSU Guardian Scholar*  
*August 25, 2016*



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## Guardian Scholars Housing Program (Continued)

### Lessons Learned

- Increase Due Diligence Activities
  - Student's Program Interest
- More Robust Marketing Strategies
  - Students
- Landlord Engagement







# 2017 MTW Annual Conference Guardian Scholars Housing Program

## Questions/Comments

