



N E W S R E L E A S E

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LINC Housing Awarded \$50,000 AHEAD Grant from Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco to Expand Broadband and Internet Access for Low-Income Residents

LONG BEACH, Calif., March 24, 2014 – LINC Housing recently received a \$50,000 AHEAD Program grant to support a pilot program that aims to expand broadband and wireless Internet access to low-income residents who live at LINC's The Village at Beechwood in Lancaster, Calif., and SEASONS at Ontario (Calif.). The goal is to learn more about the challenges and benefits of providing this technology in affordable housing communities.

"LINC believes that everyone should have the opportunity to take advantage of the economic, educational, health, and civic opportunities made possible by broadband and related information technology," said Hunter L. Johnson, LINC Housing president and CEO. "Low-income communities face barriers to high-speed, reliable Internet access. We hope to learn from this pilot program so we can expand these same benefits to our communities statewide."

AHEAD grant funds are being used to install broadband Internet and wireless connectivity at two of LINC's communities as well as purchase computers and other necessary technology and equipment upgrades. Funds will also be used to pay for one year of Internet access and at least eight 90-minute computer classes for residents at each of the two properties. LINC will monitor the cost impediments and timeline for installing broadband/wireless Internet access in this pilot as well as study and predict the same factors in four other LINC communities. Pre- and post-installation resident surveys will monitor changes in Internet use and tell what impacts greater access has on resident quality of life.

The Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco awarded \$1 million in grants through its Access to Housing and Economic Assistance for Development (AHEAD) Program. The grants, which are made through the Bank's member financial institutions, are used by nonprofit organizations in Arizona, California, and Nevada for projects and programs that foster economic development and promote community stability and self-sufficiency.

About LINC Housing Corporation

LINC Housing, one of California's most productive nonprofit developers of affordable housing, has helped create more than 7,500 homes in 65 communities throughout the state. The organization's properties are known for excellent design, outstanding management and life-enhancing services for its residents. LINC has nearly 30 years of service to families, seniors, and local governments helping to create sustainable communities via new construction, acquisition and rehabilitation, and historic preservation. Visit www.linchoosing.org for more information.

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