



Windsor Veterans Village Receives Approval for \$9.9M in State Funding

SANTA ROSA, Calif. – November 15, 2018 – Windsor Veterans Village, a planned 60-unit housing complex sponsored by Santa Rosa-based Veterans Resource Centers of America ("VRC") and Urban Housing Communities LLC ("UHC"), has <u>received</u> approval for \$9.9 million in state funding under the Veterans Housing and Homeless Prevention Bond Act. The project will provide 60 one- and two-bedroom apartments in six residential buildings, as well as a community room, a service center, and outdoor recreation space. Construction is expected to begin in April 2019.

"Windsor Veterans Village is a great example of why we're in this business," said Peter Cameron, President, CEO, and co-founder of VRC. "Our goal each and every day is to improve the lives of the veterans we serve, and projects like this—where veterans reside in a close-knit community of their peers—provide the support they need so they can live the enriched, fulfilling lives they deserve. Windsor Mayor Okrepkie, Councilmember Fudge, and Chairman Gore of the Sonoma County Board of Supervisors have been instrumental in this effort, and I want to thank them again for their continued support."

"Windsor Veterans Village is unique as it will provide both housing and services to our veterans in need," added John Bigley, Chief Operating Officer of UHC. "We are thankful for the support we have received from both the County of Sonoma and the Town of Windsor."

California is home to nearly 1.8 million veterans, the largest veteran population in the nation. Physical, intellectual, emotional, social, occupational, spiritual, and environmental wellness will be the guiding principles of Windsor Veterans Village. Services offered will include employment and job training, behavioral health treatment, intensive case management, daily living classes, family reunification, and peer support. The housing complex will be built on Oak Park Lane, on a wooded parcel only four miles from the regional VA clinic and within walking distance of the town center, where veteran residents can access additional services as well as community events and activities that will add to their overall experience and quality of life. Veterans and their families will also have access to onsite services provided by VRC, the VA, and other agencies.

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors and the Windsor Town Council have been, and continue to be, important advocates providing critical support for Windsor Veterans Village. In early 2018, Sonoma County contributed \$750,000 to this project, and the Town of Windsor contributed an additional \$500,000.

"We have supported the construction of Windsor Veterans Village from the very beginning, and we are thrilled that this critical funding has been secured," said Windsor Mayor Bruce Okrepkie. "We look forward to welcoming our veterans into this housing complex upon completion, and having them as part of our community for many years to come."

"We are delighted to move forward with this important project on behalf of such a deserving segment of our community," said Debora Fudge, Windsor Councilmember and former Mayor. "Windsor Veterans Village will be a wonderful home for our veterans and a tremendous asset to Windsor and Sonoma County."

About VRC

A nonprofit veteran service agency founded in 1972, VRC serves veterans of all ages at 14 resource centers embedded in local communities in Northern California, Nevada and Arizona. VRC focuses on rebuilding and enhancing the lives of America's heroes, reintegrating them back into their communities through a process of healing and growth that celebrates their individuality and mitigates barriers to success so they can live up to their utmost potential. Services provided by VRC include homeless prevention and rapid re-housing, employment and training programs, permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, behavioral health treatment, and individualized case management. Find out more by visiting www.vetsresource.org.

About UHC

Formed in 2003, Urban Housing Communities LLC ("UHC"), a family owned private business, is a premier real estate development firm specializing in the structure and management of a complex, highly specialized and diverse array of state and federally supported financial programs to develop affordable housing. Equally important, UHC works in concert with local government agencies providing coordination and management of each phase of a development. They develop various affordable housing communities throughout California and Hawaii.

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