



Your IMPACT!

How your investment is changing the future for individuals
...leading the way to life in recovery!



July
2017

AND THEY ARE HOME!



VETTED VOLUNTEERS

Creating a warm welcome...

Since January, Step Up has been preparing to house 54 Veterans experiencing homelessness in the newly refurbished Building 209, located on the West Los Angeles VA Campus. Once Step Up and Veterans Housing Partnership received approval, a move-in date of June 9 was set. Two shifts of volunteers set aside time to assemble bedframes, stock cabinets, make the beds, and add personal touches to ensure each Veteran felt a warm "Welcome Home!" Brentwood School and Village for Vets supplied each permanent supportive housing unit with a kit that contained kitchenware, towels, bed linens, toiletries, tools, & cleaning supplies. It was an amazing and satisfying day for all!



Volunteers came from American Foreign Legion Auxiliary Post 283, Home Depot, LA Works, Path Point, UCLA, UCLA Operation Mend, Upper Bundy Next Door, and Volunteers of America.



PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Productivity and social connectedness...

On June 9, all the Veterans met in the Building 209 Multipurpose room to sign their leases! It was a momentous occasion. Step Up staff and Board members were on hand to help the Veterans locate their new homes. Step Up will provide services and property management for Veterans in the building.

Left: Marc Van-Asselt, Director of Veteran Services, discusses the lease-up process with new Veteran tenant; Right: Step Up Board member Mia St. John takes a tour of a Veteran's new home.

A SENSE OF BELONGING

Mutuality, safety, and respect...



From left: Interim Deputy Secretary, Department of US Veterans Affairs Scott Blackburn, New Veteran resident with her Service Dog, HACLA President & CEO Douglas Guthrie with Navy Veteran and resident Betty Love, and Assemblyman Richard Bloom in attendance.

Recovery "is a process, not a contest," said Marine Veteran and resident Monte Williams at the historic opening of Building 209. Step Up, Veterans Housing Partnership, and Veterans Affairs Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (VAGLAHS) collaborated on the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony held June 16. Emceed by Step Up Board member Philip Mangano, speakers included Navy Veteran Betty Love (resident), Step Up Board Chair, Barrett Esarey, President & CEO Tod Lipka, Marine Veteran Monte Williams (resident), Housing Authority of the City of Los Angeles (HACLA) President & CEO Douglas Guthrie, Los Angeles Deputy Mayor Brenda Shockley, VAGLAHS Director Ann Brown, and Deputy Secretary, Department of US Veterans Affairs Scott Blackburn.

Interim Deputy Secretary Blackburn announced that Step Up's development partner Shangri-La Construction won the Extended Use Lease (EUL) for Buildings 205 & 208, which will bring 100 more units of permanent supportive housing for Veterans experiencing homelessness to Los Angeles. Step Up is the services & property management provider for these projects as well.