Planning for Financial Security

While Cynthia, a resident of The Village at Beechwood in Lancaster, was struggling to pay her bills she received a flyer from LINC Cares inviting her to attend an Emergency Fund program. Cynthia immediately called the LINC Cares program registration line to enroll and was the first person seated at the first of two workshops. In the class, Cynthia cried when she learned that upon completing the Emergency Fund workshops she was eligible to receive $500, thanks to funding provided by Bank of America. Residents were encouraged to put their check towards saving, paying off debt, and developing a financial security plan.

Like Cynthia, many residents living in six of our family and senior communities were offered the opportunity to attend the LINC Cares Emergency Fund program. The Emergency Fund program counseled 30 family and senior residents on the importance of budgeting, managing credit, developing a financial stability plan and establishing an emergency fund. After the program was complete, our LINC Cares staff extended phone calls of encouragement to each participating resident to aid their efforts in sticking to their financial plan. Cynthia now has her bills paid and is enjoying living life with a little less stress because she has created a financial plan and an emergency fund.

LINC Teams Up for Healthcare Screenings

After receiving a glucose screening, one senior resident living in our SEASONS at Chino community discovered that her glucose level was above normal. She scheduled an appointment with her physician and found that she had type II diabetes. If it were not for Molina Healthcare, this particular resident would not have learned about her above normal glucose level until her next scheduled doctor appointment - six months later. Since August, LINC Cares and Molina Healthcare have collaborated to provide health awareness workshops and screenings at eight of our Southern California communities. Each family and senior community received three health related workshops and screenings on topics such as glucose level, lung function, bone density, and flu shots. In addition to the screenings each resident had an opportunity to explore their healthcare plan and coverage with professional staff provided by Molina Healthcare. Thanks to Molina Healthcare’s generous support and contribution to LINC and LINC Cares, our residents are more informed about their healthcare needs and options.
After-School Programs

While parents and children were getting ready for the hustle and bustle of a new school year, there was one thing they would feel at ease about, that their children have a safe place to be at the end of the day. Once again the doors of LINC Cares’ after-school program opened at City Gardens in Santa Ana and The Village at Beachwood in Lancaster to provide homework help, tutoring and extracurricular activities during the critical hours of 3pm to 6pm. Our newest after-school program is scheduled to open its doors beginning January 2008 at Pepperwood Apartments in Rancho Cucamonga.

Volunteer Bertha Sanchez

High school can be a stressful time in any teenager’s life. Balancing friends, family, grades, extracurricular activities, and college prerequisites is not an easy task. Finding time in this busy schedule to give back to your community is often impossible. Bertha Sanchez, a student at Desert Sands High School and resident of The Village at Beachwood in Lancaster, does not let that get in the way of her commitment to improving her neighborhood.

Bertha has served over 375 hours since October 2006 as a Youth Education Volunteer in the local LINC Cares after-school program. “She’s there on time and doesn’t leave until the program facilitator locks the door at the end of the night,” said Assistant Property Manager Teresa Sosa. Bertha’s main contribution to the program is helping students with their homework and art projects, but she goes above and beyond her assigned tasks by spending extra time mentoring the younger students. Bertha attributes her commitment to her love of children and desire to become a teacher.

In July of 2007, Bertha received the President’s Volunteer Service Award (Gold) for serving over 250 hours in one year. This award recognizes her dedication to volunteer service and signifies that she has served her community and country with distinction.

LiNC Cares Volunteer Coordinator: Ian Nevarez

Prior to accepting the staff position as Volunteer Coordinator for LiNC Cares, Ian Nevarez played an integral part in the development of our after-school tutoring program as an AmeriCorps member. A Cal State Long Beach graduate, Ian recruits, trains and coordinates volunteers supporting LiNC Cares programs, activities, and special events. He finds inspiration in Gandhi’s quote, “Be the change you want to see in the world.”

Last year, Ian participated as a trainee at the LiSC-AmeriCorps National Training in Biloxi, MS. This year, Ian was invited to serve as a trainer. He provided four three-hour workshops on volunteer resource management in New Orleans. His awareness of the unlimited power and potential of volunteer resources helped launch company-wide of volunteerism with LiNC Cares.

LiNC’s Lakewood, Lancaster, Santa Ana and Whittier communities are now supported by an established volunteer core with policies and procedures in place to sustain activities and volunteer services. In the coming year, Ian will similarly develop the volunteer core in downtown LA, La Mirada, Rancho Cucamonga, and Santa Ana Heights, thereby doubling our volunteer presence.

Ian’s interests reach beyond volunteer service. In 2008, he will take a key role in producing LiNC’s award-winning monthly podcast, “Notes from the Housing Studio.” Please stay tuned…you won’t want to miss a beat!

“Fifty-nine million persons volunteer each year in the U.S.”

Department of Labor

To support this and other LiNC Cares programs, please use the enclosed envelope.
Message from the Director

I hope you enjoy reading our LINC Cares Newsletter: Opening Doors to a Brighter Future. It serves as a symbol of how far LINC Cares, LINC Housing’s resident services studio, has come.

We began three years ago by creating community resource guides for each property. Today, because of your support and the hard work and vision of the LINC Cares team, we’ve had numerous successes including: providing children safe places to complete their homework, one-on-one tutoring, families have purchased their first home, and our seniors are experiencing additional programs that promote healthy and independent living.

This year we launched our volunteer program and today, because of the over 1300 hours of service, our residents receive a vast amount of support, resources and extracurricular activities. I am proud to announce that with volunteer assistance, LINC Cares will be opening its third after-school program in Rancho Cucamonga!

LINC Cares growth could not have been possible without the generous support of many individuals and corporations alike. Each and every one of you can help us touch lives in ways unimaginable – every dollar contributed to LINC Cares makes a difference in someone’s life. This holiday season we have some special gifts designed by the children in our programs as a way to say thank you for helping us Open Doors to a Brighter Future!

Happy Holidays,

Maria Elena Marquez, MSW, Director of Resident Services

Yes, I want to help LINC Cares make a difference!

Name: ____________________________
Address: ____________________________
City, State, Zip: ____________________________
Phone: ____________________________
email: ____________________________

I/we wish to make my (our) gift with:

☐ Enclosed is my check made payable to LINC Housing

Credit Card: ☐ Visa ☐ Mastercard

Name on the card ____________________________

Card Number ____________________________

Expiration / Signature ____________________________

Billing Address (if different than above):
Street ____________________________
City ____________________________ State ______ Zip ______

Your contribution is tax deductible.

Also, I would like to do even more:

☐ Please Call Me ☐ Volunteer ☐ Include LINC in my Estate Plan

Thank you for your generous contribution!

LINC Housing is a nonprofit builder of affordable housing serving families and seniors throughout California.

I want to contribute:

☐ $5,000 supports 5 children with an after-school program (Complimentary Sweatshirt)

☐ $2,500 funds 1st time homebuyers class for 15 families (Complimentary Tote Bag)

☐ $1,000 sponsors 1 child for a year with an after-school program (Complimentary Apron)

☐ $ 500 provides 1 family an emergency fund (Complimentary Mug)

☐ $ 250 sponsors 1 senior with a year of activities (Complimentary Note Cards)

☐ $ 100 provides 12 new books to a property reading area

☐ $ 50 provides a week of snacks for 30 children at an after-school program

☐ $ 25 provides 1 emergency safety kit for a senior resident

☐ I would like to make a monthly donation of $________________

Please bill my credit card

Our artwork is designed by children who are residents of LINC Housing properties. Merchandise artwork subject to variances.
Special Thanks to Our 2007 Supporters

CORPORATE AND FOUNDATION SPONSORS
Bank of America - Homelessness Prevention Program
Century Housing - General Operating Support
Citibank - Financial Literacy / First-Time Homebuyer Program
Children’s Nature Institute - WonderMobile
Cold Creek Docents - Field Trips
Dance Peninsula Ballet - Senior Arts Field Trips
The Home Depot Foundation - “Green” Welcome Bags & Education
Los Angeles Kings - Home Game Tickets
Los Angeles Philharmonic - Hollywood Bowl & Disney Hall Tickets
LISC/AmeriCorps - Staff Support
Molina Healthcare - Senior & Family Health Screenings
The Norris Theatre for the Performing Arts - Theater Ticket Support
Santa Maria Trails & Parks Association - Family Field Trips
Simpson Housing Solutions - General Operating Support
Theatre of Hearts - Arts Enrichment

FRIENDS OF LINC CARES
Supervisor Yvonne Burke - Transportation
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Supervisor Don Knabe - Transportation
Trader Joe’s - Redondo Beach “Go Green Bags”

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Mary Hall - SEASONS at Lakewood

Mary Hall and her mother, Katherine, lived in separate units of the same Gardena apartment complex for 14 years. Mary tells us that over the years, the surrounding area became increasingly noisy, congested, and run down. She noted deterioration inside the complex as well. Four generations of their family live in the area, so Mary and her mother came to tolerate and accept their living situation. They didn’t think they could afford a better situation in close proximity to extended family.

Katherine’s hospitalization last year triggered a sequence of events that led Mary and her mother to SEASONS at Lakewood. Katherine needed ground level housing after discharge and was referred to SEASONS; she got herself and her daughter on the waiting list. In December 2006, they received the call and went to see the available first floor unit. Mary tells us she was immediately impressed with the quiet, peaceful surroundings and the beautiful grounds. Both ladies found the units beautifully maintained and knew their needs would be well met.

Katherine moved into the first floor unit in December and Mary moved into an upstairs unit of the same building when it became available in February.

Mary especially enjoys monthly potlucks, bingo, the Monday exercise class, and karaoke nights. She finds fellow residents to be quite neighborly and complex manager, Margaret, to be especially delightful. Katherine turns 85 in November. Though she continues to improve in terms of mobility, daughter Mary is nearby to check in and help with appointments or errands. Mary’s daughter lives in Long Beach, providing yet another level of support for the senior ladies.

Mary says, “My prayer’s been answered.” LINC is pleased to provide affordable housing that helps families stay close.

Managers Recognized at LINC Tribute

In October, LINC Housing hosted our 14th Annual Tribute to Affordable Housing Leaders. The event was held outdoors under the stars this year at the beautiful L.A. River Center & Gardens just north of downtown Los Angeles. Each year LINC hosts close to 300 housing and business industry members for an evening that includes cocktails, networking, and dinner. The organic menu, carpooling, usage of recycled paper, and a mini “Green Expo” all reflected our need to be more thoughtful about our environment. In keeping with our corporate-wide effort to “green” our organization, we honored three persons for their leadership in the cause of sustainable building and healthy communities: Kelly Caffarelli, president of The Home Depot Foundation, Andy Lipkis, founder and president of TreePeople, and Robert Hertzberg, former speaker of the California legislature.

A highlight of the evening was awarding “Manager of the Year” plaques to two very deserving women: Margaret Green, of Simpson Housing Solutions LLP who is property manager at SEASONS II at Lakewood, and Kourtney Law of Pacific West Management, our property manager at The Pepperwood Apartments in Rancho Cucamonga. Both managers help make their respective communities great places to live and go the extra mile to support resident services programs. We thank them for their efforts in assisting the LINC Cares staff and volunteers with selection and implementation for new activities for our families and seniors. Congratulations!

Proceeds of this year’s event benefit LINC Cares programming. Special thanks go to our generous Tribute sponsors. Please see page 4 for a complete listing.
LINC Cares is the Resident Services program of LINC Housing Corporation.

LINC Cares Newsletter is printed on Acid Free, Lignin Free paper, that is made with Green-e certified renewable wind energy and thirty-percent post-consumer waste.

CALAENR OF EVFENTS

12/2007 COMMUNITY HOLIDAY EVENTS AT SOMERSET GLEN, LA MIRADA, LAKEWOOD AND THE HOOVER

12/21 THEATRE OF HEARTS/LINC CARES ARTS SHOWCASE AT CITY GARDENS

12/22 THEATRE OF HEARTS/LINC CARES ARTS SHOWCASE AT THE VILLAGE AT BEECHWOOD

1/2008 PEPPERWOOD AFTER-SCHOOL PROGRAM LAUNCH

1/26 GO GREEN DAY AT BARTLETT HILL MANOR

1/30 FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER WORKSHOP #4 AT PEPPERWOOD

2/2008 FUN WITH MONEY & CAREER DAY AT BARTLETT HILL MANOR

2/13 FIRST TIME HOMEBUYER PROGRAM LAUNCH AT THE VILLAGE AT BEECHWOOD

2/13 SEASONS AT REDONDO BEACH FIELD TRIP

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