

# Opening Doors to a Brighter Future



In Santa Ana, students proved STEAM is for everyone as they completed engineering and anatomy projects at City Gardens.





### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

# Healing through Music

Combat-related trauma and the difficulty of adjusting to civilian life often leave veterans more likely to struggle with housing stability and mental health.

Fortunately, there are a variety of treatments and therapies that can be beneficial. Studies show that therapeutic music programs can help relieve symptoms of PTSD and depression and improve health-related quality of life.

A generous grant from Provident Savings Bank Charitable Foundation allowed Linc to purchase guitars and hire an instructor for a therapeutic music program for our veteran residents at Liberty Village in Beaumont. Dale, the onsite Resident Services Coordinator, says that veterans are already feeling the calming effects, enthusiastically reporting "the program is thriving!"

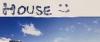
GamingRoom

Healthy 3

### LIFE-ENHANCING SERVICES

### **Empowered to Achieve Dreams**

Setting goals, eliminating debt, planning budgets. This year residents at six Linc properties began the journey to achieve the dreams they have for their lives by joining Linc's Financial Empowerment Program.



BELTO

### **Finding Home**

Mr. Rodgers cried the day he saw his apartment at The Nightingale. He could not believe how nice it was and that he was a part of this new community in South LA. However, it took him a long time to get used to living in an apartment.

For months, he continued living in the only home he truly knew, his van. Even after being hospitalized from an assault, he returned to the familiar van rather than the safety of his new apartment. Though Mr. Rodgers couldn't yet bring himself to move into his apartment, he began to come by the community room each day for coffee, and slowly started participating in some of Linc's resident programs.

In time, he was finally ready. He sold his van, moved into his apartment, and is now an official full-time resident at The Nightingale. Welcome home, Mr. Rodgers!



### STAFF SPOTLIGHT

### Meet Anna!

Passionate and dedicated, Anna comes to us with over 13 years of experience in social services. We are thrilled to have her join the Linc family as the Program Manager for our newly launched Intensive Case Management Services. She oversees and coordinates the holistic support services that Linc is now directly providing to our residents who have experienced homelessness. Her expertise and dedication are great assets as we continue our work to cultivate communities where our residents can thrive.







#### PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

# **Social & Emotional Learning**

At Pleasant View Apartments in Fresno, Resident Services Coordinator Larry Smallie is making a big impact on his young students.

He has been integrating socialemotional learning (SEL) into his afterschool program, which helps children learn the core skills of:

- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills, and
- Responsible Decision Making

Each month, Larry focuses on a principle such as self-esteem, friendship, or patience. Students participate in activities such as responding to scenarios, drawing mandalas of how they feel in different settings, and discussing what it means to be compassionate.

While these activities may not seem immediately relevant to a program that



traditionally provides homework help and tutoring, research shows that by creating a safe, supportive environment for learning, SEL actually increases academic achievement and improves behavior. Studies have even shown that the economy benefits from SEL: eleven dollars for every dollar invested!

Larry has seen the students at Pleasant View begin to learn and grow from the program, and shared his experience with other Resident Services field staff at a team training. We are excited to see SEL benefit student development at Linc communities across California.

# Residents Giving Back



At Linc Housing, our most important partners are our residents. Two fantastic examples are Carole and Pam at East Street Senior Apartments in Redding.

Although all programming is currently on hold in order to support social distancing, this pair was great at building a sense of community at East Street. They usually met up a couple times a week to plan events that would pull residents out of their apartments and bring them together to have some fun.

Pam has a passion for physical fitness and taught exercise classes for years. Twice a week the recreation room would find her leading safe and simple sitting exercises with light weights.

Carole would also gather a crowd in the community room for Wii Bowling Nights. She spent many years in a bowling league, making it a challenge to beat her score! She also organized a monthly potluck that provided an opportunity for residents who do not often cook for themselves to get a good homemade meal.

We are so grateful for such wonderful volunteers and community builders, and we can't wait to bring these activities back!



### NEW CHALLENGES

# COVID-19: Linc's Response

At Linc Housing we believe that we will emerge stronger and better from the challenges of this time so long as we remember what it truly means to be members of our immediate and broader community. During the current health crisis, we are inspired by the way so many have embraced collective responsibility and accountability to their neighbors.

For our part, we have closed our physical office and transitioned to remote operations to comply with the "Safer at Home" order and protect our employees. We are also continuing construction of affordable housing, which will be increasingly needed in the times to come. Linc's five construction sites are moving ahead with all recommended safety procedures in place, with another to break ground in the coming months.



Linc knows that our residents are among the most vulnerable during this crisis. While most onsite programming at our communities has been suspended, we continue to host the most crucial services, including food bank distribution and resource referrals. Our resident service coordinators are innovating with virtual resident programing and creating activity and wellness packages for residents to bolster engagement and mental health. They are also operating a "Stay Connected" phone and email

> "We will emerge stronger so long as we remember what it truly means to be members of our community."

campaign, and communicating with property managers in order to closely monitor the individual needs of our residents, which range from food delivery to bill pay assistance.

In response, we've established Neighbors Care COVID-19 Relief to swiftly meet the resource, financial, and service needs our residents face. To support this vital work, please contribute by donating on our website or by contacting ato@linchousing.org for volunteer opportunities. Thank you!

### THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS







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3590 Elm Avenue Long Beach, CA 90807

Linc is a 501(c)(3) builder of sustainable affordable housing with life-enhancing services.

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PROGRAMS

Therapeutic Music for Veterans RESIDENTS

Mr. Rodgers Finds A Home COMMUNITY

COVID-19: Linc's Response