

Opening Doors to a Brighter Future





When James saw his new apartment at Springhaven for the first time, he said, "I felt like I made it to paradise - it confirmed that I was changing my life for the better."

Springhaven's new mural (shown below) by artist Jeff Carnie celebrates these realized dreams.





PARTNER SPOTLIGHT

Olive Crest

Over the holiday season, Linc's young residents received boxes of toys from Olive Crest, a nonprofit organization focused on supporting families. As part of their wonderful fundraising efforts, Olive Crest often gets an excess of toys and stuffed animals. Instead of letting these amazing gifts go unused, Olive Crest partnered with Linc to donate toys to our residents.

"Over the past few years, Olive Crest has been an integral part of the Resident Services department's efforts to spread holiday cheer to its neighbors," said Linc's community involvement coordinator. "Many toy distribution programs were impacted by the pandemic, and Linc communities needed to find new partners. Olive Crest not only shared hundreds of quality toys for Linc's residents to enjoy from Sacramento to San Jacinto but also became a dependable partner we could count on to work together on the mission of serving youth."

We are grateful for Olive Crest's continued partnership in bringing new toys and stuffed companions to our youngest residents!

Fresh Meals for Fresh Faces Based on feedback that new residents were arriving hungry, Linc's Welcome Home program expanded to provide two fresh, nutritious meals from Everytable for new residents moving into Bloom at Magnolia and Fairview Heights.

Microsoft Teams up with Linc

Thanks to the sponsorship of U.S. Bank, Linc's Welcome Home program purchased bedding, towels, pots and pans, and so much more for new residents at Cadence's 64 supportive housing apartments. Before residents could enjoy setting up their new homes, hundreds of boxes needed to be unpacked and distributed. Microsoft volunteers were excited to be part of such an important opportunity, working tirelessly to haul boxes, pack baskets with move-in essentials, and help make the new

apartments in Watts feel like a true Welcome Home. The Microsoft team enjoyed working alongside Linc staff and USC occupational therapy interns. Volunteer Joe Corigliano said that he was, "honored to represent Microsoft at this event and grateful that my daughter and I could contribute." Walking through the courtyard, the group could envision the upcoming movie nights, food bank distributions, and community gatherings.



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Meet Juliet

Linc Housing is happy to welcome Juliet de Guzman to the Intensive Case Management Services (ICMS) team at the recently opened Fairview Heights Apartments in Inglewood! When residents began moving into their homes in January, Juliet was encouraged by their excitement and gratitude. "Seeing the tears of joy and hearing them say thank you from the bottom of their hearts was a truly human experience to witness. I was happy to be a part of that moment in their journey," she said. In her free time, you can find Juliet meditating and spending time dancing and singing with her cats. Looking ahead, Juliet is excited to support residents in obtaining their personal goals and dreams.



PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

Encanto Month: Families Make Their Own Magic





Last month, families at Terracina apartments in San Jacinto brought the movies to their own backyard. Thanks to Resident Services Coordinator Julie Perez Cumplido, "Encanto" inspired activities were organized for families to enjoy each week of February. Encanto is a popular new Disney movie that has been celebrated for its themes of family resilience, intergenerational trauma and healing, and the on-screen representation of Latino culture.

Terracina kicked off Encanto Month with an outdoor movie night. Residents brought folding chairs and blankets and enjoyed popcorn and drinks with their families. The next week, Julie organized a karaoke night where children and parents alike were happy to belt out their favorite songs from the movie.

In the film, each family member has a magical special talent. For instance, one can cause plants to grow at will, and another has superstrength. To explore the themes presented in the film, Terracina's younger residents celebrated those talents. Activities included planting a variety of succulents as well as testing their mental and physical strength by playing field games and solving problems using teamwork.

To round out the month, residents participated in a resiliency art activity. While working together on an easy clay project, they dissected the role of each family member in the movie. "The kids talked about which character they most related to and how sometimes they struggle with fitting into certain roles in their own families," said Julie. "We explored ways to be able to communicate needs or address feelings, and how doing so could help make their relationships with family even stronger."

RESIDENT SPOTLIGHT

Self-Love Crafts with Seniors

In honor of Valentine's Day, Seasons at The Hoover launched the Happy Hearts Club to promote self-love and care. The club provides resiliency support services, using the "A Window Between Worlds" curriculum to support senior residents who may be dealing with trauma or stress.

Residents recalled special memories and tapped into things that spark happiness and gratitude. They shared what brought them joy and created frames that represented those moments, turning their feelings of positivity into beautiful works of art. What a wonderful way to celebrate joy and love!





Bridging the Digital Divide

The digital age is upon us now more than ever, but equitable access to technology is still around the corner. That is why CJ made it one of his top priorities to catch up on his digital learning skills when he moved into Mosaic Gardens at Taylor Terrace in Sacramento. CJ is a veteran who had experienced homelessness. He moved into his apartment late last year with his dog Freddy. Since then, he has committed himself to personal growth by setting up his apartment with essentials, accessing supportive services, and creating a budget plan.

Upon moving in, CJ was in short supply of home essentials. Diana, Linc's resident services coordinator at Mosaic Gardens at Taylor Terrace, put together a welcome basket with necessities including bedding, towels, and toiletries. A kind neighbor at the apartments helped with some furniture basics, and CJ soon settled in. Over the next few months, he applied for CalFresh benefits, began to save up for furniture, and started working with Diana regularly to achieve his goals.

Most recently, CJ noticed the pandemic increased the use of technology for everyday tasks. He felt it would be prudent for him to utilize his smartphone to communicate more with friends and family, order things online, and access services on the web. Soon, CJ was borrowing a tablet from Linc on a regular basis and coming in once a week for supportive services to learn how to use it. Nowadays, he is regularly sending emails and ordering food online. His next goal is to save money to buy a new phone.



"As I approach
my golden years, I
am very thankful
for people like
Diana to help
guide me through
our technological
revolution."

CJ, RESIDENT, MOSAIC GARDENS AT TAYLOR TERRACE

THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS











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