



Unity Care Group, Inc.
"Creating Healthier Communities"

Media Contact

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Green Affordable Housing Apartments Open for Parenting Former Foster Youth

San Jose, Calif., (September 12, 2011) Unity Care in association with Assemblymember Jim T. Beall Jr., Santa Clara County Supervisor Ken Yeager and San Jose City Councilmember Ash Kalra and our community partners are excited to celebrate the grand opening of Unity Place II, an 8-unit affordable housing complex for former foster youth who are now parenting.

Each year in California, 5,000 youth exit the Foster Care system and are at higher risk for unemployment, early parenting, increased rates of incarceration and homelessness. Unity Place II meets the needs of parenting former foster youth by providing safe, secure, stable and affordable housing coupled with individualized supportive services.

Built in 1962, Unity Place II is comprised of two four-plexes (8 units), each with 2 bedrooms and 1 bathroom. To be eligible for housing, tenants must have a source of income and must be considered Extremely Low-Income (ELI). Rent is also based upon 30% of the resident's income. Supportive services available to tenants include: Case Management; Individual/Family Therapy; Medication Support Services; Spiritual Support; Parenting Support/Classes; connecting families to other community services and other services as needed.

This multi-family project was purchased through a grant from the City of San Jose's Housing Department. Renovation work was completed by Licensed Contractors in conjunction with the San Jose Conservation Corps' YouthBuild San Jose. The renovated complex also features green technology that in turn will help lower tenant utility bills including: Water-Saving and Energy-Efficient products, and use of recycled and renewable materials.

The agency is also seeking in-kind donations from caring individuals and organizations to help furnish each apartment unit. The goal is to furnish each unit with two beds, living room couch, coffee table, dining room table, refrigerator, utensils, etc. Currently, Sleep Train has generously committed to donating 7 full sized bed sets and 6 twin bed sets. While Cakes4Kids volunteers have assembled 8 kitchen welcome boxes and Robinhood Ministries, an outreach from Saratoga Federated Church, has donated numerous furnishings for the units. Individuals interested in making a donation may contact Donna Knowlton, Development Specialist/Community Resources at (408) 510-3480 ext. 101.

The Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony will take place at Unity Place II, Thursday, September 15, 2011 from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m at 109 and 115 Roundtable Drive, San Jose, CA 95111. Elected Officials, community partners and individuals are invited to attend. Limited parking is available. Members of the press are encouraged to attend and to RSVP online by Tuesday, September 13, 2011, at www.unitycare.org.

ABOUT UNITY CARE GROUP

Founded in 1992, Unity Care Group, Inc. is a community-based non-profit multi-service youth and family development agency. Founded with the goal of developing educational and social programs to enrich the lives of at-risk youth, our mission is to provide quality youth and family programs for the purpose of creating healthier communities through lifelong partnerships. For more information contact Linda Vu, Communications and Development Specialist, at (408) 510-3480, or via email at lvu@unitycare.org or visit www.unitycare.org

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