



Resident Quotes from Letters to Governor 2011

“If I had to pay \$850 a month for a studio apartment, I would be in a really tough situation. I am in affordable housing and not on the streets.”

“The past 2010 I moved from place to place in San Diego county trying to get a stable place to live within my means. Now that I have a place with Townspeople my life has changed in many ways. I can’t imagine what life have be without my home.”

“I’m very grateful with Townspeople’s affordable housing. If I didn’t have it, I would be on the streets. Like me there are many who suffer from the same situation. Please don’t cut funding for affordable housing.”

“I live in a affordable housing apartment in downtown San Diego, CA. I have seen how effective redevelopment and affordable housing has help to create positive changes in the downtown community. For instance, most of the downtown areas had neglected and abandon houses boarded-up with old planks of wood or rusted tin. Some of these houses were used as a shelter for the homeless. But with the redevelopment housing funds, such as affordable housing, many people with and without families are able to live in safe and security monitored buildings.”

“I was homeless for a short duration approximately 6-years-ago, but because of affordable housing, I no longer had to be a burden on family members and face the possibility of living on the streets.”

“affordable housing is making a difference in the lives of individuals, keeping families, together, mending wounds, helping to end homelessness, and living without hopelessness.”

“The re-development housing money helps many families such as we are to be able to have a place to call home. Other families will need to have that same availability also. Thanks for caring.”

“My family and I live in one of these projects. If it wasn’t for this affordable housing opportunity this family of three might otherwise be living on the street.”

“Please reconsider your proposal to end funding for future affordable living projects. I live in one of these projects and feel very fortunate.”

“We are among those who were once faced with life on the streets. Redevelopment funds built the building we now live in and has provided us with a new lease on life. Please give the same hope to those still living on the streets of our city and so many others.”

“Redevelopment housing money is helping me with my rent. I would not be able to make ends meet without the help. I am grateful for the help.”

"I just do not have the money."

"If not for low income housing, I would probably not be able to afford my own apartment, meaning I would have to share an apartment with someone else which would mean having a very uncertain life this is the first apartment I could afford on my own."

"Because of affordable housing I am not homeless and a big expense to the state or local economy."

"I am a dual disabled ARMY Veteran is disabled in the army, honorable discard blind in one eye. I could not afford an apartment if it wasn't for this place I would be on the streets again."

"none of what I've written about here and what I've experienced would've been possible without redevelopment funding to build the apartments where I live and others just like it."

"I'm a disabled retiree and was homeless before coming here. Living in low income housing really helps me."

"I rely on affordable housing to live."

"Without affordable housing I would be living on the streets."

"The low-income housing unit I am in has helped me to stay off the streets. Others like myself need low-income housing apartments."

"Personally being a Senior with handicaps without affordable housing I would be homeless and dying on the street."

"I strive to survive on \$601 per month of Veteran's benefits. I am unemployable mainly due to the type of pain control medications I must take. I have been homeless more often than not and would probably still be if not for subsidized housing. Not to put too fine a point on it, if I had to live streets again, it would probably kill me."

"Rent is too high so for me affordable housing is about the best thing that could happen to a person. Having your own place is very important for your well being, health and happiness."

"Getting into Villa Harvey Medel gave me a shower, laundry, a good return phone number for employers, an address, access to the internet to send out resumes, a warm place to sleep so that I can be ready to go in the mornings, a refrigerator, stove a balanced diet of food and a stove to cook a hardy meal and stay healthy."

"Having a place to live kept me in the arena of life instead of in the darkness of despair and desolation."

"I've been homeless for 20 years and to finally have a place I can call my own is truly a blessing. My studio feels like a mansion every day I wake up."

"After 18 months living at the St. Vincent's homeless program, I was able to afford my own studio apartment, thanks to the affordable housing program."

“It would not be possible for people like me to be able to afford a home if it wasn’t for this great assistance.”

“My son had been born in Coronado in 1963 and I had made it my home; however, with a low retirement income I would have been forced to move out the area unless this affordable housing senior complex had not been available to me.”

“I’m 73, my small apartment at an affordable rate saves me.”

“Financially, this housing is the best thing that could happen to me and all elders.”

“Redevelopment housing money has made it possible for people such as myself and many others to live a clean safe, decent life and to give back to the community in many ways”

“I have no family or retirement only social security. But because of my good fortune to live in affordable housing I am able to live in a small, clean, safe environment.”

“I had a stroke at 59. I live only on my Social Security. IF not living at Redwood Villa, I would be living on the street.”

“As a Senior citizen with limited income, I appreciate affordable housing in this state. Now I have a nice and comfortable place to live.”

“Because of income based rent that is well managed, quiet, and resident friendly, I have enjoyed affordable housing here approximately 13 years.”

“My wife passed away recently due to lung cancer, her social security was then stopped causing a reduction of my income. Although I worked for 30 years my income now would not provide decent housing that is safe as the apartment in which I now live.”

“Low income housing means being able to live in my own place.”

“I am a 74 year old disabled Senior citizen, who relies exclusively on my Social Security money to pay my rent, my medicines, food and so on. Without obtaining a low income apartment, I too would be living on the street. \$825 does not go very far.”

“I have been living here at Renaissance Apartments and I consider myself very lucky to have found this affordable place. I am very happy and grateful living here.”

“I had to wait years, to be admitted due to scarcity of these apartments. I couldn’t afford to live at this comfortable level any other way. It was worth waiting for.”

“I don’t know where we would have been living if it weren’t for this affordable housing. I was living in a condo that went into foreclosure. It was a blessing to be able to live in a decent apartment that was affordable”

“As so many without this housing I would not have my job or a place to live.”

“I feel safe, maintenance is quick and efficient and I can manage to pay the rent. I am happy here.”

“I now live on social security payments of less than \$1,000 per month. If I did not have an affordable housing unit, I could not live in San Diego and don't know where I would go to start all over at age 71. There are lots of people like me.”

“With less than \$900 a month income I would be living on the streets if it were not for section 8/HUD housing.”

“affordable housing is what make me to be able to live because I am on a fixed income.”

“Being on a fixed income, I must now leave because of income lost when my husband died.”

“If it wasn't for this Senior housing I would be living in a cardboard box, or maybe with a friend.”

“I am grateful for the opportunity to have quality housing which otherwise would not be affordable. Affordable housing changes the everyday quality of life especially for seniors.”

“Affordable housing is important to me because, without it I don't know where I would live.”

“I live on social security. I can afford to live here. My apartment is spacious, clean, a safe environment, this is the nicest place I have ever lived. My children do not worry about me.”

“Rents are extremely high here in San Diego. If it were not for my little “affordable rent” apartment, I would be homeless or renting a room.”

“San Diego, CA is a very expensive place to rent or buy a home or apartment. The affordable apartment is the only way I and many others can afford to live here.”

“I'm not sure where I might be living if it were not for the affordable apartment like mine.”

“I have deeply appreciated my apartment and I do hope and pray that others will have the same opportunity.”