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Honeycrest Groundbreaking in Claremont Marks New Investment in Wellness and Housing Stability for Older Adults

Tri-City Mental Health Authority commits $2,160,000 and ongoing supportive services to the 59-home affordable housing community at St. Ambrose

CLAREMONT, Calif. — Community partners and local leaders gathered on November 16, 2026 on the campus of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church in Claremont to celebrate the groundbreaking of Honeycrest, a new 59-home affordable housing community for seniors.

Honeycrest brings together National CORE, St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA), Tri-City Mental Health Authority (TCMHA) and other public agencies and community partners to expand affordable housing in Claremont.

It is National CORE's sixth development on land owned by faith-based organizations and its third collaboration with the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles. Honeycrest is also the second LACDA-funded development in the City of Claremont.

"This project shows what Claremont does best. We are not a city that finds solutions and works alone; we convene outstanding partners to bring solutions to our community," said Jed Leano, City of Claremont Councilmember District 4 and Chair of the TCMHA Governing Board.

Honeycrest breaks ground on an underutilized surface parking lot at the southern end of the Church property located at 830 W. Bonita Avenue. The three-story community will offer one- and two-bedroom apartment homes for seniors ages 55 and older earning at or below 70 percent of the area median income. Of the community's homes, 29 will be designated for low-income seniors who have experienced homelessness or are at risk of homelessness.

As a funding and supportive services partner, TCMHA is helping bring the development to life while preparing to support residents with services focused on behavioral health, recovery and long-term housing stability. TCMHA has committed $2,160,000 in Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Community Services and Supports funding to support development, construction, financing and operation of affordable and permanent supportive housing at St. Ambrose. The project also includes 12 permanent supportive housing units for eligible TCMHA clients within the larger development.

This investment aligns with California's statewide behavioral health transformation under the Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA), which places greater emphasis on directing funding

toward housing interventions for people with significant behavioral health needs who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

"Our commitment extends well beyond the construction of these homes. Our role will continue long after the ribbon is cut and the doors are open. We will be there to provide supportive services that help individuals maintain their housing, navigate life's challenges, improve their mental health, and achieve greater independence," said Ontson Placide, Executive Director of Tri-City Mental Health Authority.

The nation's housing crisis underscores the need for collaborative efforts to turn underutilized land into affordable housing. In Los Angeles County, housing affordability is becoming increasingly dire. According to the California Housing Partnership, more than 473,000 low-income renter households lack access to an affordable home. Renters in LA County must earn $49.98 per hour - 2.8 times the City of Los Angeles minimum wage - to afford the average monthly asking rent of $2,599.

Emilio Salas, Executive Director of the Los Angeles County Development Authority, emphasized the importance of expanding affordable housing in well-resourced communities such as Claremont. He described the city as a potential example for surrounding communities working to make housing more attainable.

Salas also highlighted LACDA's 14th collaboration with National CORE, crediting powerful partnerships, a shared vision and a continued commitment to expanding affordable housing with creating a safe, supportive and strong community where residents can thrive.

Designed to support connection and everyday wellbeing, the Honeycrest housing community will include a variety of amenities, including a senior- oriented community room to serve as a hub for supportive services and programming accessible to all residents living onsite. Residents will be within walking distance of grocery stores, restaurants and local businesses.

Diane Stielstra, senior warden of St. Ambrose Episcopal Church, said the new community is in line with the church's longstanding focus on aiding families experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless.

"Our church has been working with the homeless for years providing showers, food and clothing. So with National CORE and the construction of Honeycrest, we look forward to providing a real solution to their problems," Stielstra said.

Supportive services will be provided in partnership by TCMHA and the Hope through Housing Foundation to ensure residents receive the ongoing care they may need to remain housed and pursue their recovery goals.

Residents of the 29 designated homes will have access to comprehensive, wrap-around services, including care coordination, behavioral health treatment, case management, crisis care and linkage to community resources. This integrated approach helps ensure that individuals not only obtain housing but also receive the ongoing services necessary to focus on their life goals, maintain treatment and build meaningful connections with others.

"By investing in affordable housing and pairing it with behavioral health services and community-based support, we are helping create a community where seniors, including those who have experienced homelessness, can remain stably housed and live with dignity, security and connection," said Placide.

Beyond Honeycrest, TCMHA is working with the cities of Claremont, La Verne and Pomona on additional innovative housing initiatives to strengthen the regional continuum of care and expand access to safe, stable and permanent housing for residents most in need. These partnerships align with California's statewide behavioral health transformation and the BHSA's Housing Interventions focus on stable housing and long-term recovery for people with significant behavioral health needs who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. Together, these efforts help more community members find stability, recovery, connection and a place to call home.

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About Tri-City Mental Health Authority

Tri-City Mental Health Authority (TCMHA) is a local government agency serving the residents and communities of Claremont, La Verne, and Pomona since 1960. Formed through a Joint Powers Authority, Tri-City provides a comprehensive continuum of behavioral health care, including treatment, prevention, early intervention, and recovery services for individuals of all ages and their families. As a steadfast community partner, TCMHA supports a comprehensive system of care that strengthens our community's capacity for healing, wellbeing, and recovery.