

Old Pueblo Community Services

Housing Development Annual Report 2007

Old Pueblo Community Service's Housing Development Department has now established itself as a leading producer of affordable housing and housing counseling services in Tucson. In 2007, we again doubled the amount of families that we assisted. A total of 68 families purchased homes thanks to our down payment assistance, home buyer education, and through the construction of new homes throughout the City of Tucson and in Pima County.

In August of 2007, Old Pueblo Community Services became a member of the City of Tucson/Pima County Down Payment Assistance Program. We are now able to provide grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to first-time home buyers. In the short time that we have been a member of the Program, we have already assisted eight (8) first-time home buyers.

Our budget for the Housing Development Department increased to \$1,800,000 from \$1,600,000 in 2007. The majority of our funding goes directly to the needy families we serve through down payment grants, and grants to repair homes.

In 2007, Old Pueblo received grants from the Rural Communities Assistance Corporation, M & I Bank, the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco, the City of Tucson and Pima County. In addition, JP Chase Morgan, Northern Trust Bank and Wells Fargo Bank gave OPCF grants to help with our home buyer education classes and the one-on-one counseling that we provide to our first-time home buyers. In 2007, over 400 families received housing counseling services.

Old Pueblo repaired the homes of 20 very low-income individuals and families. Anna Marie Patti oversees Old Pueblo's owner-occupied rehabilitation programs.

In order to meet the growing demand for our services, the Housing Department added two new staff people in 2007, Olga Flores and Lourdes Frese. Olga and Lourdes work closely with our home buyers to help them get ready to purchase their first house.

Many new opportunities started in 2007 and will continue to grow in 2008. Construction has started at We-Chij Estates on 21 new homes, and we broke ground on 13 new homes at Sylvester Drive Estates. Old Pueblo Community Services is working with Compass Health Care on the rehabilitation of 72 apartments which will begin in 2008.