



PRESS RELEASE

HOUSING AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SINGLE MOM FINDS HER WAY OUT OF HOMELESSNESS AND INTO PUBLIC HOUSING

County's Public Housing Program Leases its First Family Unit
Through its Initiative for Homeless Families

Los Angeles, November 8, 2016 - Crystal Beacham, homeless since 2015 and a single mother of two young boys, found herself living at a shelter operated by the Watts Labor Community Action Committee (WLCAC). Due to funding constraints, the shelter closed in September 2016 leaving Ms. Beacham with few available housing options for her family. While at the shelter, Ms. Beacham learned about the County's Public Housing Program and its initiative for homeless families.



From left to right: Jose Macias, South Scattered Sites Maintenance Supervisor; Ms. Beacham; , her 9- year old son Deshon; Toni Lopez, HACoLA Property Manager; and Nicole Floyd, WLCAC Case Worker.

On September 16, 2016, Ms. Beacham and her two boys received a referral for permanent housing at the Housing Authority of the County of Los Angeles' (HACoLA) South Scattered Sites. Through the collaborative efforts of HACoLA and the Los Angeles

Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), Ms. Beacham was leased into a two-bedroom public housing unit on October 24, 2016.



HACoLA has historically given priority to homeless families, Veterans, and victims of domestic violence seeking placement in public housing. On July 1, 2016, HACoLA's Public Housing Program implemented a new initiative as an additional means of addressing the area's homeless crisis. As South Scattered Sites Public Housing units become available, they are now offered to a homeless family first.

Sean Rogan, HACoLA Executive Director said, "HACoLA prides itself in being forward thinking, and using all available resources to ensure that families, like Ms. Beacham's, have a safe and suitable home."

WLCAC Case Worker Nicole Floyd describes Ms. Beacham as a person who does not let hard times put her down. Ms. Floyd further adds that Ms. Beacham would cheer up other women in the shelter by doing their hair. Ms. Floyd will provide two years of continued case management services to Ms. Beacham, to ensure she thrives in her new permanent living environment.

Through the Public Housing Program's homeless initiative, HACoLA continues its mission of "*Building Better Lives and Better Neighborhoods.*" As in the words of Ms. Floyd, it took a village of resources, to provide a stable living environment to the Beacham family, and HACoLA is proud to have been of that effort.

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