

## MEDIA RELEASE

### COUNTY CELEBRATES A \$1 MILLION HUD GRANT FOR REMOVAL OF LEAD HAZARDS

Funding Helps Families at the Carmelitos Public Housing Community



Los Angeles County, August 29, 2019 - The Los Angeles County Development Authority (LACDA) joined the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), City of Long Beach Councilmember Al Austin, and Herlinda Chico representing the office of the Chair of the Board, Supervisor Janice Hahn to celebrate a \$1 million Lead-Based Paint Capital Fund Grant awarded to the LACDA. The event was also supported by the offices of Congressman Alan Lowenthal and the City of Long Beach Mayor Robert Garcia.

“HUD is committed to protecting families from harmful exposure to lead in-and-around HUD-assisted housing,” said HUD Regional Administrator Christopher Patterson. “To this end, we are proud to partner with the Los Angeles County Development Authority by deepening HUD’s investment in proven lead remediation solutions. The residents of the Carmelitos Public Housing Community and in public housing across Los Angeles County deserve nothing less.”

Overall, HUD is providing more than \$28 million to 38 Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) in 25 states. These funds will target approximately 2,800 public housing units in the United States and help to identify and reduce lead-based paint hazards, provided through HUD’s Public Housing Capital Fund. In Los Angeles County, the awarded funds will help rehabilitate the interior and exterior of units at the Carmelitos Public Housing Community. This will positively impact 194 children under the age of six living at this community.

“Throughout the years, the LACDA has taken aggressive measures to ensure that its properties are safe for our residents,” Monique King-Viehland, LACDA Executive Director, said. “We are honored to be one of the PHAs who received this grant so we can continue to maintain a healthy environment.”



The LACDA also plans to couple this grant with the 2019 Capital Fund Program Grant for full kitchen rehabilitations. So far, the LACDA is in its third phase of updates and has successfully completed 190 kitchens.

The Carmelitos Public Housing Community, which is owned and operated by LACDA, has the historical distinction of being the first public housing development in Los Angeles County with 713 units. The community provides innovative resident programs that further enhance the Long Beach community and its residents, including a community clinic, urban farm and community garden, senior and family community centers, family resource and learning centers, and a recreation center.

All media may contact Elisa Vásquez, LACDA Public Information Officer, at (626) 586-1762.



###