

**PRESS RELEASE**



**FOR: Peoples' Self-Help Housing**

**FOR: Release anytime**

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**Weingart Foundation Awards \$100,000 to Peoples' Self-Help Housing**

The Weingart Foundation has awarded a \$100,000 grant for core operating support over two years to Peoples' Self-Help Housing (PSHH), it was announced by Jeanette Duncan, Peoples' Executive Director.

The grant will be used to strengthen the mission of Peoples' Self-Help Housing to provide affordable housing and programs leading to self-sufficiency for low income families, seniors, and special needs groups on California's Central Coast.

PSHH has developed and now manages over 1,200 affordable residential housing units in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties.

"Peoples' is very grateful for this strategic financial support from the Weingart Foundation. Affordable housing is needed now more than ever, along with supportive services and programs, to prevent homelessness and to house low-income workers. The development of affordable housing in three counties is a complex and long-term endeavor which requires highly skilled staff. Typical housing development can take up to ten years. This core support funding from the Weingart Foundation will keep our core programs going, retain skilled staff, and preserve 150 units of affordable housing in the pipeline for 2010," stated Rochelle Rose CFRE, PSHH Director of Development.

Founded in 1951, the B.W. Foundation was established by Ben Weingart and his wife Stella. The name was changed to 'Weingart Foundation. in 1978. Mr. Weingart died in 1980 at the age of 92. During his lifetime, this real estate developer and investor built an estate composed principally of hotels, shopping centers and apartment buildings. He developed affordable housing for thousands of families in Southern California and was well known as one of the principal developers of the City of Lakewood and Lakewood Center.

Because of Mr. Weingart's life long concern for the welfare of the homeless, destitute, and people in need, the Foundation has focused its grant making on programs that address the needs of the under-served. During the past 36 years (1972-2009), the Foundation authorized grants of more than \$856 million.

For 40 years, Peoples' Self-Help Housing has not only developed affordable housing in 25 cities and communities but has also provided community facilities, supportive housing programs, financial education, and youth after-school programs leading to greater self-sufficiency for low-income households, seniors, the formerly homeless, and special needs households. It has also provided first-time homeownership opportunities for over 1,100 working families. PSHH is the leading affordable housing developer on the Central Coast, with offices in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo.

For more information on Peoples' Self-Help Housing, visit [www.pshhc.org](http://www.pshhc.org) or phone Rochelle Rose CFRE, Development Director, at (805) 966-5152 x227.

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