

Peoples' Self-Help Housing recognized for environmentally conscious practices

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–Peoples' Self-Help Housing (PSHH) recently earned a Green Organization Designation from the national nonprofit network Neighbor Works America for following environmentally conscious and friendly practices throughout the whole company.

“As a Green Organization, we have demonstrated that we as a whole are concerned with our impact on the environment,” said PSHH President & CEO John Fowler. “From increasing our recycling in our offices to building net-zero energy rental properties, we are committed to sustainability throughout our operations.”

Neighbor Works America is a national, nonpartisan nonprofit that works to create opportunities for people to improve their lives and strengthen their communities by providing access to homeownership and to safe and affordable rental housing. The Green Organization Program encourages nonprofits to think and act green in comprehensive way. The program sets operations and program service area goals for member organizations then assists them in achieving these goals through training, resources and technical assistance.

Some of the sustainability efforts PSHH undertook to earn its Green Organization Designation included:

- Planning and building two new rental properties that had net-zero energy designs, low-water landscaping and water-efficient plumbing.
- Upgrading aging properties with tankless water heaters, Energy Star appliances and better insulation in walls and windows.
- In its three main offices in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura, PSHH adopted processes that cut down on paper use and encouraged recycling and using environmentally friendly products.

For more details about the NeighborWorks Green Designation program, visit www.neighborworks.org.