



the linc between hope & home

September & October 2020



Take a Virtual Flyover

Linc is more productive than ever before! Despite the complications and challenges that have come with 2020, we are building more new affordable housing for California at an unprecedented pace, with six communities currently under construction.

Watch our [Linc Flyover](#) that captures this momentous milestone, on an adventure that visits each of these communities as they now stand, from breaking ground to finishing touches.

- Historic Filipinotown, [HiFi Collective](#) opening in Summer 2022
- Inglewood, [Fairview Heights](#) opening in Winter 2021
- Watts, [Cadence](#), opening in Winter 2021
- Willowbrook, [Springhaven](#), opening end of 2020
- Long Beach, [Bloom at Magnolia](#), opening in Winter 2021
- Long Beach, [Spark at Midtown](#), opening end of 2020

Take this journey with us around the LA county region to get an up-to-date glimpse of the scale of our current construction work, and a preview of some of the newest and most exciting upcoming affordable housing communities.



Meet Elmer

Elmer, a resident of Mosaic Gardens at Westlake, is in the process of starting his own nonprofit organization, named Inevitably Loved. He says, "it will be for battered and abused foster children with PTSD, to give them psychological, spiritual, and mental health." He admits that the mission is personal. "Because I'm one of them. I was beaten every day for eleven years."

It was this trauma that sent his life in a downward spiral, leading to him spending 25 years living homeless on the streets. He describes the experience: "It was like you're living in your own hell and you don't know how to get out of it." When he first heard about the opportunity to live at Mosaic Gardens at Westlake, he was skeptical, but he finally decided to take a chance. As Elmer put it, "And it took me straight to the gold mine. It made me so happy, I watched them build this place. I'd come over on weekends and watch them build it. I'd say, 'I'm moving in there, man, I'm in!'"

The excitement and gratitude haven't faded. Elmer shares that he's still overwhelmed by having his own home. He recalls his first day moving in, feeling scared as he turned the key in the lock. He opened the door and was amazed, breaking down in tears right there in the doorway.

He saw everything provided by the [Welcome Home](#) program: the sheets, pillows, blankets, dishes, pots and pans. . . That was when he realized; there was nothing left for him back in his old life. He says, "I never went back to that tent. I left it there because you provided it right here. So why go back to my past when I'm standing in my future? And that's what you give people: a future. . . . And I really appreciate that-- because without y'all coming along, I'd probably still be out there in my tent, probably ready for another 25 years."



Your Vote. Your Voice.

Voter engagement efforts have taken off across Linc's communities. Resident Services staff posted "Your Voice. Your Vote." flyers with important dates, offered one-on-one office hours (with all COVID-19 precautions in place), and hosted workshops where residents could check their registration status, update their information, and even register to vote.

Says Angel To, Linc's Community Involvement Coordinator, "Linc's mission goes beyond housing; it seeks to cultivate spaces for residents to embrace their voice. A vote is a voice, and that's why we led with the slogan: Your Vote. Your Voice. Historically, there is significantly less voter turnout in minority groups and lower income households. We support individuals in these groups and we want them to know their voice will impact the elections through their vote."



Financially Fearless

Aandi used to fear her finances. She avoided checking her credit report, but with several debts in collections, she suspected that the situation was bleak. When the Financial Empowerment Program started right where she lived at The Palace, she avoided attending, assuming it would only confirm her financial failures.

It took some convincing for Aandi to start coming. Though disengaged at first, she soon started to show genuine interest. With the knowledge she gained, she opened a secure loan to begin working on her credit. She hasn't missed a single payment and is on track to complete it within the next few months.

Resident Services field staff reported the rewarding impression that many of these residents are planning on using their vote for this year's elections. One particular resident excitedly shared that she had not taken part in an election for several years, and was planning on participating in this year's 2020 election.

We are so excited to see our residents empowering themselves to make their voices heard!

As Aandi gained confidence from starting to taking control of her finances, she decided that she was ready to check her credit score, where she found a pleasant surprise. Her debt was more manageable than she thought, and her credit score wasn't as low as she expected. She began paying off the debt she had in collections. Through the help of Linc's Financial Empowerment program she is now financially fearless and on her way to a secure future.

Get Involved: Become a
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