

# BIA charity HomeAid marks 25 years with Folsom Powerhouse project

By Michael Strech

Every year, the homebuilding industry contributes millions of dollars in cash, building materials, supplies, and countless volunteer hours to charities across the nation.

One charitable organization our industry especially supports is HomeAid, a leading national nonprofit provider of housing and resources for people experiencing homelessness. Our local chapter, HomeAid Sacramento, which serves the greater Sacramento region, is the charitable arm of the North State BIA and is now celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Now under the direction of Executive Director Crisand Giles and a board consisting of a who's who of local homebuilding industry leaders, HomeAid has completed more than 100 projects. The organization focuses on building and renovating temporary, transitional, and permanent housing for homeless children, women, men, veterans and families who have experienced a life-



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altering event and are rendered temporarily homeless. The goal is to enable these individuals to take the critical steps toward achieving lives of self-sufficiency.

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new 40-bed facility and supportive services building on the campus of Folsom-based Powerhouse Ministries.

Besides Taylor Morrison, Studio 81 International, North State BIA and USA Properties Fund played key roles in the predevelopment and design phase of the project, and 18 local building companies partnered together to make these buildings a reality.

The new center will enable Powerhouse to significantly scale up the number of clients it serves and the number of lives it changes for the better. The program is a free two-year residential recovery program for single women or women with children. Program highlights include hundreds of hours of one-on-one counseling, therapy, legal assistance and mentorship for both moms

and their children. Additionally, each woman is enrolled in classes including parenting, financial readiness, job readiness, conflict resolution, healthy relationships and more. Year one of the program focuses on healing from things like trauma, abuse and addiction, while the second year focuses on creating a healthy and sustainable future.

Other recent projects

include adding two 900-square-foot cottages to WEAVE's three-acre residential campus; renovating veteran apartments operated by Volunteers of America Northern California and Northern Nevada; renovating My Sister's House, a safe haven for Asian and Pacific Islander women and children; and expanding the Taylor House in Roseville, which serves girls who have aged out of the foster care system.

In all, HomeAid Sacramento's housing projects have a retail value of more than \$16 million dollars and in-kind donations topping \$7.5 million through the generosity of our partners in the regional homebuilding industry (builders and trades), and our many community volunteers.

Besides construction, HomeAid also provides homeless people with CareKits filled with essential hygiene products, socks, and 2-1-1 resource cards that connect individuals to available services.

HomeAid is a great organization and I'd encourage you to learn more about their work by visiting [www.homeaidsac.org](http://www.homeaidsac.org).