



Anchorum

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CASE STUDY

Supportive Housing in Santa Fe: The Lamplighter Inn

In response to a growing housing and homelessness crisis in Santa Fe, New Mexico, a group of organizations, philanthropists, and experts gathered in the fall of 2020 to explore ideas and opportunities to develop a transformational housing initiative that would fill a gap. Collectively, the consortium decided to fund a comprehensive report to better understand the micro-data points of the housing situation and identify ways the group could work together to provide a viable solution.

The report, titled “Santa Fe Homeless and Housing Needs—Interim Solutions and Funding Plan: Ensuring Safety During COVID-19,” was prepared by Marisol Atkins, of Luz del Sol, on behalf of the New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness. The report documented inventory gaps in housing and identified the need for buildings and housing units to accommodate 350 households, which includes 45 families, 263 individuals, and 57 youth. According to the report, of these 350 households, “176 households have been determined to be chronically homeless.”

This reality was in direct alignment with the City of Santa Fe’s data that puts “housing first.” And so began the arduous but rewarding journey for this coalition to develop a viable solution to create new units for permanent supportive housing.

The result of this dynamic collaborative is the Lamplighter Inn project. With the leadership and support of Anchorum St. Vincent, the City of Santa Fe, Santa Fe County, New Mexico Coalition to End Homelessness, JL Gray Company, Inc., JLG Properties, and The Life Link, the consortium purchased the Lamplighter Inn on Cerrillos Road for \$3.5 million and is working to remodel the units to provide 58 permanent supportive housing units. In total, this will be a \$7 million dollar investment. The remodeled property will be called Bella Luz Apartments.

Jeff Curry of JL Gray, the chosen property management company said, “We would not have done this project without Anchorum St. Vincent. They brought the partners together who made this possible.”