




Congressman Jim Costa (second from right), Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall (second from left) and Bakersfield City Councilmember Jacquie Sullivan (right) joined SHE Vice President Tom Collishaw in a check presentation ceremony. The event was held in June as part of National NeighborWorks® Week. NeighborWorks® America representative Mary Clark (left) presented a check for \$150,000 to SHE. The funds will be used in the new Chardonnay subdivision in southwest Bakersfield where SHE will help 52 families build their own homes. 

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# SHE NEWS

SELF-HELP ENTERPRISES

Summer 2006

## SHE Returns to Bakersfield with help from Friends and Allies in Public and Private Sectors

Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) celebrated National NeighborWorks® Week and National Homeownership Month on Thursday, June 1, 2006 in the City of Bakersfield. Congressman Jim Costa, Bakersfield Mayor Harvey Hall and City Councilmember Jacquie Sullivan joined Matthews Homes, NeighborWorks® America and SHE

for a groundbreaking ceremony in the new Chardonnay subdivision in southwest Bakersfield.

SHE, the oldest and largest nonprofit developer of self-help housing in the nation, is partnering with Matthews Homes, a for-profit, market-rate homebuilder, to build homes in the subdivision.

The City of Bakersfield has

invested Proposition 46 BEGIN funds as secondary financing for the 52 low-income families that will build their own homes in the development using the self-help "sweat equity" method.

Self-Help Enterprises is a charter member of the national NeighborWorks® network. NeighborWorks® America (NW.org) is a federally

funded national nonprofit housing network established by Congress in 1978 to support the work of the network of charter nonprofits, 240-strong and spread across the country. NeighborWorks® America has also contributed funding of \$150,000 to Self-Help Enterprises for start-up costs for the subdivision.

“This is an opportunity to highlight a unique and innovative partnership among the public, private and nonprofit sectors to create affordable homeownership opportunities for our local workforce,” said Self-Help Enterprises CEO Peter Carey. 



## New Rural Development State Director Higgins Demonstrates Commitment to Self-Help Housing


Soon after being sworn in as the United States Department of Agriculture Rural Development (USDA RD) California State Director, Ben Higgins made a point of traveling to the San Joaquin Valley to visit Self-Help Enterprises and see first-hand self-help single-family subdivisions and multi-family rental communities financed in part by USDA RD. Director Higgins' stops included Del Rey in Fresno County and SHE's office in Visalia.

On Thursday, June 15, 2006, Director Higgins celebrated National Homeownership Month by recognizing families in Earlimart, Tulare County, that built their own homes with Self-Help Enterprises. These hard-working low-income families received completion certificates from USDA and State Assemblywoman Nicole Parra.

During his remarks, Director Hig-




gins said, "We're here today because of leadership: Leadership on the part of these families who invested significant amounts of time and energy, while holding down their day jobs, to build their homes and this neighborhood; and leadership on the part of Peter Carey and his team at Self-Help Enterprises,

who brought these families together and guided them through the homebuilding process. California is the top state in the nation when it comes to self-help housing projects and it's because of organizations like Self-Help Enterprises. SHE is truly an outstanding partner for USDA Rural Development." 

## Under Construction- Building Communities

Two SHE multi-family housing communities are currently under construction in Tulare County. Sand Creek in Orsi will provide 60 units of affordable rental housing while Washington Plaza in Earlimart will offer 44 units for low-income families.

The buildings with two-, three- and four-bedroom apartments will be completed this summer. Both developments feature open space, playgrounds and a community center that contains a computer lab for residents.

Lincoln Plaza, a 40-unit multi-family rental housing community planned for the city of Hanford in Kings County, and Biola Village, a 44-unit community in Fresno County, will also break ground this summer. 



*SHE Do Dooley Academic Scholarship recipients Esperanza Lazcano and Jessica Padilla are congratulated by SHE Board Chair Graciela Martinez. SHE awarded college scholarships totaling \$4,000 to five students this year.*