



News from  
**Councilmember Todd Gloria**

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City of San Diego ▪ District Three

**NEWS RELEASE**

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**Construction Begins on San Diego's First Permanent Homeless Center**

*Comprehensive Services and Shelter Expected to Open December 2012*

SAN DIEGO, CA (January 26, 2012) – San Diego City Councilmember Todd Gloria today participated in the construction kickoff for Connections Housing, the first permanent homeless services and housing facility in San Diego. The World Trade Center building on the corner of Sixth Avenue and A Street is being retrofitted for the new use and is expected to welcome its first clients by the end of 2012.

“Connections Housing will be a civic project of great benefit for the people who will be served there, and for the City of San Diego,” said Councilmember Gloria. “By providing supportive services on site as well as housing, Connections will help move people from the streets to self-sufficiency.”

The project is similar to a Los Angeles facility operated by People Assisting the Homeless (PATH), which Councilmember Gloria visited in 2011. Several local organizations, including Affirmed Housing, Family Health Centers of San Diego, United Health Group, and the San Diego Housing Commission, will offer services including assistance securing permanent housing, job training, medical and mental health care at Connections, and approximately 220 individuals will be sheltered there nightly.

“The start of construction on Connections is the start of a new day for our homeless neighbors in San Diego, but it is not a single solution,” said Councilmember Gloria. “We must persist with our efforts with the Emergency Winter Shelter program, services like the Neil Good Day Center, and provide more affordable housing if we are to continue our progress on this challenging issue.”

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