



WEST HOLLYWOOD COMMUNITY HOUSING CORPORATION COMMUNIQUE

FALL 2018

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Welcome, Jesse Slansky New President & CEO

After conducting a national search earlier this year, WHCHC's Board of Directors recently announced that Jesse Slansky, our former Director of Real Estate Development, has taken over the helm of the organization as our new President and CEO.

"Jesse exemplifies the values that WHCHC believes in, and through his energy and vision, he is going to lead the organization in exciting directions. WHCHC has such an important role to play in helping to address the housing crisis, and Jesse is uniquely qualified to steer us through the challenges we will face in building more communities and providing crucial services to our residents," said Karl Lott, WHCHC Board Chair.

Jesse has almost 20 years of experience in real estate development and corporate finance. Jesse joined WHCHC in the fall of 2010 and became the Director of Real Estate Development in 2013. In that role, he had been responsible for overseeing all of the organization's real estate development activities including site identification, acquisition and negotiation, pro forma analysis and modeling, budgeting and budget tracking, financial structuring, public outreach and community support, land use entitlements, architectural design, building permits and construction administration, as well as supervision of the development staff. Our current pipeline has a combined development cost of approximately \$164 million.

"I am honored and thrilled to have been selected as the new CEO," said Jesse.

"This is an amazing organization with a wonderful staff, and I am lucky to be a part of it."

"Our work is so meaningful and impactful on so many people's lives."

"I know I can speak for the entire staff when I say how sad we are to see Robin go. She has steered this ship with such grace, aplomb, integrity and quality, and her vision and leadership have taken us to the successful place we are now. I look forward to working with all of our stakeholders to continue to build on Robin's achievements in our next chapter together."



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Prior to joining WHCHC, Jesse was the principal of a real estate consulting firm focused on securing financing for affordable housing developments. Previously, he was Vice President of GTO Development, a residential real estate development firm focused on the ground-up development of infill, luxury condominium projects throughout Southern California and New York. Additionally, Jesse completed multiple transactions valued at over \$2.4 billion during his time as an Associate Director in the Healthcare Investment Banking group at UBS. He began his career in the Mergers and Acquisitions group at Chase in New York.

Jesse is a member of the Urban Land Institute and the Southern California Association of Nonprofit Housing. He received an M.B.A. from the USC Marshall School of Business and a B.S. from Cornell.



Paul Zimmerman (1988-2006), Robin Conerly (2007-2018) and Jesse Slansky (2018-present)

Currently, WHCHC Operates 17 Apartment Communities with over 800 Residents



Your generosity supports the resident service programs that help our residents live healthy and vibrant lives. Please visit www.WHCHC.org and click **Donate Now!**

Thank You, Robin



In June 2018, Robin Conerly retired as President and CEO after eleven years of exceptional leadership. We will all miss her inspiration, creativity, and perseverance. Since Robin stepped into this position in February 2007, we have grown strategically and thoughtfully, expanding our housing portfolio and the quantity and quality of services we offer to all of our residents. She has encouraged us to plan carefully and to constantly evaluate our activities and programs to guarantee that they are geared towards achieving our mission of building homes and providing services that move people from insecurity to stability.

Robin, what brought you to WHCHC?

I'm a solutions-based person. I had been at the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority for about 10 years when it became clear that there was very little permanent housing as a way to end homelessness. I was intrigued and attracted to being part of a housing creator in a small community and to addressing homeless prevention on a targeted scale, in partnership with a city that was known as progressive and social service oriented. It was very exciting; I knew that we could make a big dent here.

Tell me about WHCHC then.

When I began WHCHC had gone without an Executive Director for over a year. There was a staff of five when I joined. There are now 20 individuals working every day to move our mission forward. Sierra Bonita was the first project that I had the pleasure to work on. The City of West Hollywood had a number of goals for the project: a building that was architecturally significant, sustainable, and on the East Side to help spur development. Sierra Bonita has won design awards and it has helped to stimulate new businesses in the area. It also happens to be a great place to live and work. The City of West Hollywood has been an unbelievable partner.

You've been the biggest champion for Resident Services. Why?

Building managers are not trained for supportive care. As older adults were aging in place, many faced new challenges, such as isolation and additional health issues. In many cases, their families and friends were not able to help. We knew that if we offered social and health-oriented programs, in the building, it would help them be as healthy as possible. These vital services became the glue that held their day-to-day life together and made sure that our residents were getting the support that they needed to keep them housed permanently.

What do you want people to know about WHCHC?

We started as a community-based organization in West Hollywood and carry that philosophy into whatever community that we are in. We are now developing in Koreatown and Pico-Union. We aspire to be more than just housing. We are thoughtful. We provide community space, programs, we link to and partner with other neighborhood organizations to benefit all of the residents in the neighborhood. I'm so proud of the people that I worked with, who are truly mission-driven. I've had the privilege to work with a really fantastic Board. They believe in the mission and provide invaluable time, wisdom, and resources. That has been a joy.

What does your future look like?

A long nap! You reach a certain age and realize the reality that you don't have all of the time left in the world. I'm going to spend more time with my children and grandchildren and more time in my garden!

From Stability to Vibrancy

WHCHC Residents Participate in Healthy Programs and Community Activities

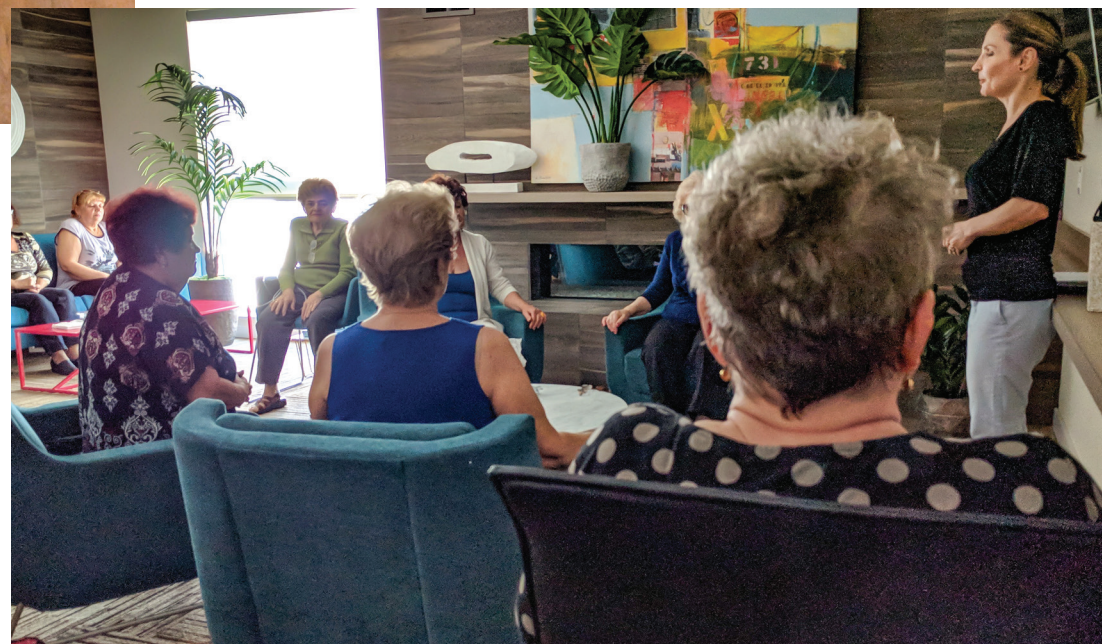


Following a scam and identity theft protection seminar, residents at **Hayworth House** celebrate a birthday dinner together.



Above, following their kids club art activities, this brother-sister team living at **Glen Grove** showed their amazing salsa dance routines.

At right, **Movietown Square** recently held a mindfulness and meditation session for older adults.



Above, Jumpstart visited **Vermont Manzanita** bringing student interns and senior volunteers for intergenerational reading and arts.



Families at **Vermont Manzanita** plant tomatoes, onions, cilantro, carrots, radishes, strawberries, and marigolds.

Residents at **Laurel-Norton** participate in an arthritis exercise program.





With new funding awarded, Westmore Linden and Elden Elms are rockin' and rollin'

WHCHC is thrilled to share that two of our projects in the Koreatown/Pico-Union area of the City of Los Angeles have received critical funding.

Currently under construction, **Westmore Linden** (92 units for seniors), received \$1.4 million in Affordable Housing Program funds from the Federal Home Loan Bank of San Francisco.

Elden Elms (92 units for families) received \$16.6 million in Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities funds from the California Department of Housing and Community Development and the Strategic Growth Council. Elden Elms is scheduled to begin construction in the spring of 2019.



A Gold Nugget for Movietown Square



WHCHC is delighted to announce that **Movietown Square** was a 2018 Gold Nugget Award of Merit Winner for the Best Affordable Senior Housing Community at the Pacific Coast Builders' Conference (PCBC).

Movietown Square opened in 2017 and contains 76 units for low-income seniors. Movietown Square represents the inclusionary portion of AvalonBay's 371-unit mixed-use development on the site of the former Movietown Plaza in West Hollywood. AvalonBay Communities was the builder/developer and MVE + Partners was the architect. PCBC is dedicated to advancing the art, science and business of housing, and is the largest homebuilding trade show representing the west coast region.

We are grateful to have many individual donors, corporate sponsors, and foundations who support the vision and mission of WHCHC.

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OUR VISION

Vibrant, healthy communities that foster opportunity, diversity, inclusion, and equity.

OUR MISSION

Building homes and providing services that move community members from insecurity to stability.

WHCHC does not discriminate based on race, color, religion, disability, familial status, national origin, sexual orientation, or any other arbitrary basis.



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