

PERMANENT HOUSING CASE STUDY



Title: Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, Towaoc, Colorado, Supportive Housing for At-Risk of and/or Homeless Ute Tribal members

Property Name: South Towaoc Supportive Housing Project

Basic Description: New construction, multifamily property with 11 one-bedroom units

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Developer: Ute Mountain Housing Authority with consultation from LeBeau Development, LLC

Property Management: Ute Mountain Housing Authority (UMHA)

Service Provider: Ute Mountain Department of Social Services, Ute Mountain Ute Counseling & Treatment Department, Recreations Department and other local entities

Tenant Profile: Extremely low-income, homeless tribal members

Service Approach: A multitude of service providers partner together to provide culturally appropriate supportive services and onsite case management to Tribal members. Both Housing First and Harm Reduction models are integrated into program and service delivery for Tribal members. In addition, Tribal members have access to several critical services to address their mental health and/or substance use disorder(s), including, but not limited to counseling, case management, substance abuse treatment and relapse prevention, and vocational rehabilitation.

Project Background:

The Ute Mountain reservation expands across Southwest Colorado, Southeast Utah, and Northern New Mexico and covers 1,000 square miles. The population of the area is 1,087. Tribal headquarters are in Towaoc, Colorado, which is also the location of the supportive housing program. High rates of poverty, alcoholism, substance abuse, and a lack of affordable housing have led to high rates of homelessness among the Tribe. According to the 2015 Census, nearly 50% of Tribal members lived in poverty with a median household income of \$24,500. At the time of the feasibility study, there were 130 Tribal members on the Tribal housing authority waitlist.

In 2015, the Ute Mountain Housing Authority (UMHA) began to explore the need for supportive housing development for Tribal members who were homeless and had mental health and/or substance use disorders. UMHA received Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing dollars through Enterprise Community Partners to consult with a supportive housing expert – LeBeau Development LLC – for effective project planning. The South Towaoc Supportive Housing Project became the first supportive housing project ever developed on Colorado Tribal Lands.

Key Features and Impact:

- First supportive housing project on Tribal lands in Colorado
- Historic, first-time partnership between the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and the State of Colorado
- Utilized Section 4 Capacity Building for Community Development and Affordable Housing dollars to consult with a supportive housing expert for planning
- Modular building was constructed in Texas and transported to Southwest Colorado
- Housing Choice Vouchers provided for all units
- Onsite laundry facility
- Onsite office for service delivery
- · Basic home furnishings in each unit

FINANCING INFORMATION

Development Budget

Funding Source	Amount Received
Colorado Housing and Finance Authority	\$250,000
State of Colorado	\$871,014
Enterprise Community Partners	\$25,000
Total	\$1,146,014

Annual Operations/Services Budget

Funding Source	Number of Vouchers
HUD: Housing Choice Vouchers	11 Vouchers

DEVELOPER PROFILE

Established in 1973 and based in Towaoc, Colorado, the Ute Mountain Housing Authority's mission is to provide affordable housing for local Tribal families.

The development of each case study featured was made possible by the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's Rural Capacity Building Program.