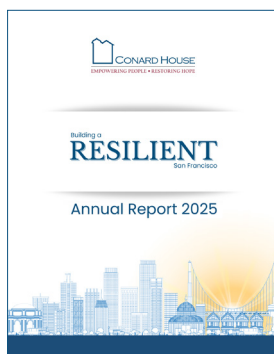


Conard Bulletin

A Newsletter for the Conard House Community



In February 20, 2026, Conard House hosted a Chinese Lunar New Year Celebration at the Jackson Street site, bringing together residents and staff from across multiple programs for a gathering to celebrate community and cultural connection. The Lunar New Year traditions were explained in both English and Chinese, creating an inclusive and welcoming environment for all participants. The celebration reflected Conard House's commitment to fostering community, honoring cultural traditions, and creating meaningful opportunities for residents to connect and celebrate together.



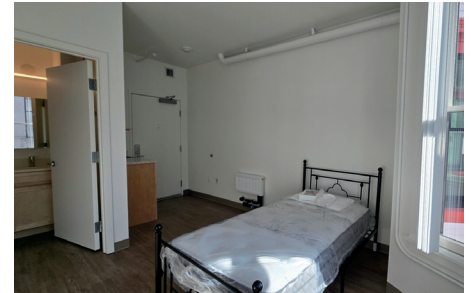
Conard House's 2025 Annual Report is now available!
<https://conardhouse.org/annual-report>

Resident Success Story

John first experienced homelessness in Los Angeles in 1989 after losing his job. That same year, he developed a severe stomach condition that made eating difficult for more than 30 years, and a fall from a ladder left him with chronic back pain. Even through instability, he stayed connected to work and the arts, playing in a band with his friend Mike "T Bass" Boone. When his drug use escalated, Mike gave him a choice, friendship or drugs. John chose friendship, marking a turning point.

His life continued with periods of progress and setbacks. He married, secured housing briefly, and later worked as a cable technician, using methamphetamine to manage the physical strain. Wanting help, he entered a diversion program and completed it, giving himself a chance to start again.

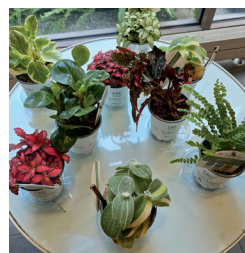
A major breakthrough came when he received an approval for a housing program. He rushed to the location with his guitar and accepted a unit on the spot. That apartment gave him the stability he needed to address his health, and he believes it may have saved his life.



At Conard House, John found community as well as housing. Staff helped him access medical care, nutritious meals, and other long-needed resources. He contributed to the community by participating in events, and volunteering with Food Runners. These routines gave him purpose and connection.

"I had to learn how to want to live," he says. "And now, I want to live."

Though he still lives with chronic pain, COPD, and the loss of close friends, John continues to share his story and advocate for better care. Supportive housing gave him the foundation to rebuild. "I had to learn how to want to live," he says. "And now, I want to live."



Stay tuned for more details on the Houseplant Initiative...

Health Navigation Program

Expanding Access • Empowering Residents • Strengthening Community Health



Health Navigators will connect with residents in one of our meeting spaces.

In 2025, Conard House significantly expanded its Health Navigation Program, which supports residents with moderate to severe mental health challenges and substance use disorders in accessing essential medical, behavioral health, and wellness services. This year marked major growth in the program's reach, staffing, and infrastructure.

Conard House secured an incredibly impactful 2026 Sutter Health Community Investment Award to support the Health Navigation Program with 5 new full-time Health Navigators, trained and certified as Medi-Cal Peer Support Specialists, and

to establish the program's operational base at the Jackson Street site. Funding began in July 2025, with strong expectations for renewal in 2026. This investment aligns with Sutter Health's priorities in healthcare access and delivery, mental health and substance use disorder, and workforce development. It affirms Health Navigation as a key strategy for reducing inequities and strengthening the peer behavioral health workforce. 2025 was also the first full year of implementing a staffing model centered on Peer Health Navigators, which are individuals with lived experience who bring cultural connection, trust, and authentic engagement. Leadership prioritized hiring residents whenever appropriate, emphasizing lived experience, analytic skills, and strong grounding in community values.

Health Navigators connect residents to essential services, including primary care, dental care, optometry, and specialty medical care such as oncology, cardiology, and ophthalmology. Early feedback shows stronger community engagement, improved on-site support, and a more positive resident environment.

With expanded staffing, strengthened partnerships, and a clear pathway toward Medi-Cal certification, Conard House enters 2026 with its most robust Health Navigation Program to date, advancing health access for San Francisco's most vulnerable residents while building a peer workforce that reflects the community it serves.



To join Conard House as a supporter, advocate, or volunteer, please contact us, and follow us on social media to receive updates!

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