

News Release

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Tri-City Homeless Coalition Marks 20th Anniversary by Changing Name to Abode Services Agency Unveils New Name at February 11 News Conference

Fremont, California, February 11, 2009—Tri-City Homeless Coalition (TCHC), a leading Alameda County provider of sustainable housing solutions for people at risk for homelessness, announced today that it is changing its name to Abode Services. The announcement was made at a news conference held this afternoon at the agency’s administrative headquarters at 40849 Fremont Blvd. in Fremont, where donors, volunteers, local government officials and business organizations, employees, and members of the board of directors gathered to mark the 20th anniversary of the organization and witness the unveiling of the new name. Alameda County Supervisor Scott Haggerty joined board president Rev. Dr. Greg Roth, who is also senior pastor at Centerville Presbyterian Church, and Abode executive director Louis Chicoine as they removed the cover on the sign in front of the administration building and revealed the agency’s new name. The Fremont Chamber of Commerce was on hand to conduct a ribbon cutting and initiate TCHC’s operation under its new name.

“TCHC—now Abode Services—has grown and matured in the 20 years since it incorporated as a non-profit,” observed Haggerty. “The bad news is that the need for its services has grown as well. The good news is that we have this professional, innovative non-profit working with Alameda County communities to provide long-term housing solutions and supportive services for people at the lowest end of the income scale.”

The selection of the name was the product of many months of work by an ad hoc committee composed of board members and staff, who submitted the recommendation and won approval of the new name from the board of directors.

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“As fond as we were of the historic name, it no longer accurately described the structure of the organization or the region we serve,” Roth pointed out. “We now provide programs and services not only in Fremont, Newark, and Union City but all over Alameda County, including San Leandro, Hayward, Castro Valley, Pleasanton, and Livermore.”

“The name Abode Services focuses on the concept of home rather than homelessness—the solution rather than the problem—and reflects the forward-looking philosophy we have adopted, our supportive services approach, and the concepts of stability and sustainable results,” added Chicoine.

Although the name of the agency is changing, the names of its programs and sites—such as Winter Relief, Project Independence, and Sunrise Village—will not change.

About Abode Services

Abode Services, formerly known as Tri-City Homeless Coalition, is a leading provider of shelter, housing, and supportive services for people in Alameda County communities whose low incomes place them at risk for homelessness. Established in 1989, Abode Services aspires to end homelessness by assisting low-income, un-housed people to secure stable, supportive housing. The agency offers 11 housing programs linked to support services to provide an essential safety net for approximately 2,000 persons annually, including single adults, adults and children in families, emancipated foster youth, and seniors. It collaborates with more than 30 organizations to leverage program resources, including a state-of-the-art mobile health clinic that serves more than 1,000 homeless persons annually. Drawing upon its strategic alliance with Allied Housing, Abode Services has created 325 units of permanent supportive housing since 2005 for previously homeless families and individuals. More than 700 volunteers from 155 organizations contribute up to 15,000 hours of free services to the agency each year. For four consecutive years, the agency has earned Charity Navigator’s four-star rating.

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