

Thursday, October 20, 2005

(Serving Westminster, Midway City, Portions of Garden Grove & Huntington Beach)

Project Access Mix of Senior and Young Families



Cut the Ribbon- Julia Bidwell-Manager, OC Housing & Community Services Department; Eric Lam-Project Access Service Coordinator for the new intergenerational Westminster facility; Bill Witte-President, The Related Companies of California; Lou Correa-Orange County Supervisor; Jon Webb-President, AffordableHousing Access; Lane Macy-Executive Director of Project Access.

NEWPORT BEACH- Project Access, a nonprofit organization that supports low-income families and seniors living in affordable housing, and The Related Companies of California, a developer of multi-family housing, announce the Grand Opening of a unique collaboration in the civic center area of Westminster, Windsor Court, 58 affordable one and two-bedroom senior citizen apartments, and Stratford Place, 28 affordable three-bedroom large family apartments make up an intergenerational affordable housing property, the first of its kind in Orange County.

Grand Opening festivities took place from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., Tuesday October 11, in the courtyard of Windsor Court at 8140 13th Street. Supervisor Lou Correa attended the event, and many city and county dignitaries were in attendance to celebrate this distinctive addition to the city.

The development started with a Request for Proposals for a vacant County-owned 3-acre parcel, coordinated by the County of Orange and the City of Westminster. Both the City of Westminster and the County of Orange have provided financing

for the development.

Completed in June 2005, the property provides both families and seniors with an attractive, affordable and safe place to live. The property features an intergenerational community building which houses the Project Access Family Resource Center, complete with a computer lab, school readiness and after-school tutoring rooms and kitchen facilities.

In addition to the intergenerational facility, the senior citizen building provides those residents with their own fully-equipped computer area, a fitness room and a media room. Windsor Court and Stratford Place were developed by The Related Companies of California (TRCC) and Affordable Housing Access. TRCC was formed in 1989 to focus on the development of multi-family housing in California. TRCC projects run the gamut from award-winning apartments for low and moderate-income seniors to a 487-unit high-rise apartment development in downtown San Francisco that is the tallest residential building in the city. Project Access was founded in 1999 to provide health, education and social services to residents of low-income housing developments across southern California. The affordable-housing residents of all ages benefit from Project Access core services including, but not limited to, prenatal health, family health and nutrition, pre-k school readiness, after school tutoring for youth, English as a Second Language (ESL), adult literacy, parenting, computer skills and job training. These programs help residents to improve their quality of life and their prospects for a healthier and more stable future.