

March 2019



House Farm Workers!

Working to promote safe, decent, secure and affordable housing for all
Ventura County farm workers since 2004.



Recent Events

Farm Worker Housing Workshop: co-hosted by the Farm Bureau of Ventura County and *House Farm Workers!*

On March 22nd, the [Farm Bureau of
Ventura County](#) and *House Farm*

Workers! co-hosted a farm worker housing workshop, which addressed the
topic of how to build farm worker housing on agricultural land.



Ventura County's agricultural industry faces many challenges, but one of the most pressing is a persistent shortage of workers. In some of California's growing regions, employers are increasingly developing farm worker housing as a way of stabilizing their work force and gaining an edge in competition over a limited labor pool. And although Ventura County is known as a difficult place to develop housing, provisions in state and county regulations make it easier than ever before for owners of agricultural land to

develop farm worker housing of all types - from single-family homes to apartment complexes - on their property. County senior planner, Ruchita Kadakia, gave a comprehensive presentation on a variety of information, from current county and state policies to standardized plans that could work for farm worker housing. County Environmental Health specialist, Rebecca Lustig, provided more information on water and sewer regulations. Linda Braunschweiger, CEO of the [Ventura County Housing Trust Fund](#), and Karen Flock, Senior Developer at the [Housing Authority of the city of San Buenaventura](#), gave a presentation on financing farm worker housing.

There was a great turn out of about 50 stakeholders including local agricultural land owners, housing developers, farm worker housing advocates, and farm labor contractors.

Links to the presentations are below:

- [County Planning Division PPT](#)
- [Financing Farm Worker Housing PPT](#)

Other links:

- [Employment Verification Declaration for Farmworker/Animal Caretaker Dwelling](#)
- [Farmworker & Animal Caretaker Dwelling Units](#)
- [Farmworker Housing Complexes](#)



Rancho Verde Apartments
10503-10599 Los Gatos Street Ventura, CA 93004
24 UNITS FOR LOW INCOME FARMWORKER HOUSEHOLDS

Rancho Verde is a new construction multi-family rental development located in East Ventura. This development will provide 24 one-, two-, three- and four-bedroom apartments for farmworker households earning between 30-50% Area Median Income. The site will be developed with 11 residential buildings, a stand-alone Community Building, common laundry facilities, and landscaped common area courtyards. Unit amenities include: open kitchens with solid surface countertops, new appliances (dishwasher, range, refrigerator), quality soft-close cabinets, spacious closets, SmartStrand carpet in bedrooms, full bath with tub and shower, quality wood-look flooring throughout the units, windows with wood-look blinds. The Community Building will have a computer learning center, office space, a small kitchen, and a community/recreational room. The project will be designed to LEED for Homes Platinum design standards and will incorporate a greywater system and an energy generation system sized to produce all residential energy needs onsite.

2018 VENTURA COUNTY MAXIMUM INCOME		OCCUPANCY STANDARDS		
# in Household	Maximum Income	Unit Size	Minimum Occupants	Maximum Occupants
1	\$35,500	1-Bedroom	1 person	3 persons
2	\$49,600	2-Bedroom	2 persons	5 persons
3	\$54,800	3-Bedroom	4 persons	7 persons
4	\$59,700	4-Bedroom	7 persons	9 persons
5	\$62,900			
6	\$66,900			
7	\$69,900			
8	\$76,900			

To apply, please visit us at 995 Riverside St Ventura, Ca 93001 or 11132 Snaydragon St Suite 101 Ventura Ca, 93004
To download our application, please visit our website at: www.hacityventura.org
or call us at: (805) 648-5008
TTY/TDD: (805) 648-7351



Rancho Verde farm worker apartments - applications open!

Applications are being accepted for the Rancho Verde Apartments in Ventura. Rancho Verde is a 24-unit, multi-family rental development for farm worker households earning between 30% and 50% area median income. The property is part of the Hansen Trust Specific Plan Area. Years of advocacy and community organizing was involved in getting this development built! Thank you to the [Housing Authority of San Buenaventura](#)

for your commitment to affordable housing for our farm workers! Click the flyer for more information and access the online application [HERE](#).

Things to Know

From Field to Fork

Save the date for our 9th annual fundraiser!



On July 18, 2019 join us for a celebration of food, farms, and farm workers. This event brings together farmers who produce Ventura County's agricultural bounty, chefs who celebrate that bounty on their menus, and the farm workers whose labor makes it all possible.

Date: Thursday, July 18

Time: 4:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Place: The Walnut Grove at Tierra Rejada Ranch,
3370 Sunset Valley Road, Moorpark



Tickets will go on sale May 17th. Click [HERE](#) to purchase.



If you would like to sponsor the event, email us at info@housefarmworkers.org for more information.



Ellen Brokaw *House Farm Workers!* Scholarship

Our online scholarship application is [open](#) and due on May 3rd! We will award three \$2,000 awards each to children of farm workers going on to college.



Along with access to safe housing, we believe that all members of our community can benefit from opportunities for greater education. This scholarship reflects our commitment to making sure our farm worker families can thrive.

The scholarship is named in honor of Ellen Brokaw, founding chairwoman of *House Farm Workers!* A prominent member of Ventura County's agricultural community, involved in production of lemons, avocados and nursery stock, she has been an inspirational leader in the long campaign to improve the lives of farm workers and their families.

Requirements:

- You must be a child of a farm worker



(seasonal, retired, or injured from farm work is OK).

- You must be a senior graduating from high school who has maintained a minimum 2.3 GPA average and be accepted by a two- or four-year college, **OR** be a current college student with a minimum 2.5 GPA average.

Start by submitting the online application [HERE](#).

Donor Spotlight

Sending out a heartfelt **thank you** to all who supported our annual campaign.

You helped us raise over **\$25,000** in our direct mail, annual appeal! Your donations will support our ongoing efforts to promote safe, decent, and affordable housing for farm workers. Those efforts include local farm worker housing advocacy at the city and county levels, informing our community about the need and ways to advocate, and cultivating the next generation of farm worker housing advocate leaders through our farm worker immersion program.



THANK YOU

TO OUR DONORS

Thank you donors!

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Volunteer Appreciation



Feeling called to support
farm workers?

VOLUNTEER WITH US

We can't do it without you

other grassroots organizations to ensure affordable housing for farm workers.

We love our volunteers.

Are you excited to get
involved? Many hands
make light work.

House Farm Workers! has
established committees
in Ventura County. These
volunteer-driven
committees are the heart
of the organization and
have played a critical role
in advocating on behalf of
the farm worker
community for the past
10 years. The city groups
mobilize public support,
engage public officials,
and collaborate with

Interested? Click below for more information.

[Volunteer](#)



Donations to *House Farm Workers!* are always welcome
and are tax-deductible. To
donate and support our
ongoing work, click below.

[Donate](#)

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