

FAQ: The Lodge of La Mesa

What is the Lodge of La Mesa?

The Lodge of La Mesa is a 60-unit former hotel located at 7911 University Avenue in La Mesa. Local non-profits [Home Start Inc.](#), [Urban Street Angels \(USA\)](#) and [San Diego Youth Services \(SDYS\)](#) are collaborating to provide three transitional housing programs to Transitional Aged Youth (TAY), San Diego State University (SDSU) students, and victims of domestic violence (DV).

What is transitional housing?

Transitional housing is generally described as a type of supportive housing used to facilitate the movement of people experiencing homelessness into permanent housing and independent living.

What are the three Lodge housing programs?

- San Diego Youth Services (SDYS) offers Transitional Housing and Rapid Rehousing to eligible participants.
- Home Start offers student housing for their participants connected to SDSU and victims of their DV program.
- Urban Street Angels (USA) offers Transitional Housing and Hotel Voucher/Emergency Shelter services to eligible participants.

When did the Lodge housing programs begin?

Participants started moving in and receiving services in November 2021.

Why this location?

The new property owner renovates old hotels with nonprofit housing providers to offer housing to those in need.

What is Rapid Rehousing?

Rapid Re-housing (RRH) provides short-term rental assistance and services. The goals are to help people obtain housing quickly, increase self-sufficiency and stay housed. It is offered without preconditions (such as employment, income, absence of a criminal record, or sobriety), and the resources and services provided are tailored to the person's needs.

What are hotel vouchers/emergency shelters?

An emergency hotel voucher is considered a prepaid hotel room booking coupon. This coupon or voucher is generally provided by a government agency, non-profit organization, and other organizations to ensure emergency shelter for homeless people.

What are the eligibility requirements for housing support?

- SDYS and USA Transitional Housing participants must be 18-24 and referred through the Coordinated Entry System (CES). The CES "works with households in order understand their strengths and needs, and to connect them with appropriate resources."¹
- USA's Hotel Voucher/Emergency Shelter participants can be referred through the County's Coordinated Shelter Intake process.
- Home Start participants must be connected to SDSU's Housing Support Services or their DV program.

¹ [Regional Task Force on Homelessness Coordinated Entry System \(CES\) Policies & Procedures](#)

What supportive services are offered at the Lodge?

- Case Planning and Case Management for all participants.
- Educational, Employment, and Entrepreneurial support.
- Life Skills support.
- Access to mental health services.
- Access to Transportation.
- Access to Food.
- Help with accessing entitlements.
- Educational, process, and support groups.
- Systems Navigations Services.

How will these housing programs support our community's homeless Transitional Aged Youth (TAY) population?

All three programs have staff available to provide advocacy and connect youth to the appropriate resources. Youth Systems Navigators conduct outreach and assist in getting TAY connected to the County's Emergency Housing System, including completing the Triage Tool and placing them on CES' Community Queue. Program staff also collaborate with the community's existing homeless service providers.

How do I get more information about the Lodge of La Mesa?

You can reach out the service providers at the numbers below:

- San Diego Youth Services: Wil Lybarger – (619) 840-0711
- Urban Street Angels: Mark Bartlett – (619) 510-9000
- Home Start: Geoffery Lippert – (858) 744-8245