



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **GREATER SACRAMENTO URBAN LEAGUE, SACRAMENTO HOUSING AND REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY AND SETA-SACRAMENTO WORKS JOIN FORCES TO LAUNCH NEW PILOT PROGRAM LINKING EMPLOYERS WITH HOUSING PROGRAM RESIDENTS FOR TRAINING AND JOB OPPORTUNITIES**

**Sacramento, CA** | The Greater Sacramento Urban League (GSUL), Sacramento Housing and Redevelopment Agency (SHRA), and Sacramento Employment and Training Agency (SETA) today announced a new job training and hiring program called First Source Sacramento designed to help low income housing residents compete successfully in the job market.

“Greater Sacramento Urban League is proud to participate in the First Source program as the first of its kind in the nation, and to serve as the front door that opens up a new world of priority employment opportunities for low income residents through case management, skills assessment, job training and placement,” said GSUL President & CEO James Shelby.

The First Source program is a robust tool to enhance economic opportunities for individuals in Sacramento Housing Authority’s public housing and housing choice voucher programs.

“The First Source Sacramento program is a win-win system to serve our housing program residents who too often miss out on job opportunities because they don’t quite make the grade with their current skills, and for employers who need a pool of applicants that are trained, certified, and available to work,” said Council Member Allen Warren.

“This is a perfect time to launch the First Source Program because Sacramento has some great opportunities coming forward under the Twin Rivers Choice Neighborhoods transformation plan that will help put residents on a path toward employment and self-sustainability,” said Council Member Steve Cohn.

Under the First Source partnership, residents will take the first step by using a new website to register in the program. GSUL and SETA-Sacramento Works will provide assistance by developing a structured path for employment which includes skills assessment, training, and

## First Source Sacramento Program Launch

certifying that a resident qualifies for employment which will allow applicants to see job postings and apply for positions. Contractors will also be able to post job openings and review lists of qualified applicants to employ.

“The First Source program is a great partnership opportunity for SETA-Sacramento Works to expand its reach in the community and to guide residents in a direction that leads to a job they are qualified to do, and, hopefully, to a successful future in the local workforce,” said SETA Executive Director Kathy Kossick.

The program has been designed as a component of the federal Section 3 program. This means any project that receives Agency funds will be required to offer job opportunities first to qualified low income residents, especially those who receive housing assistance as residents living in public housing or receiving a housing voucher.

“The First Source program is consistent with what the Agency is already doing,” said SHRA Executive Director La Shelle Dozier. “But it also allows us to expand outreach to ensure that every eligible resident gets connected with First Source at the start in order to get everything they need to be successful.”

The website will be available March 10, 2014 at [www.firstsourcesacramento.org](http://www.firstsourcesacramento.org).

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