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CEDC Helps Families Become Stronger and Healthier

In Summer 2011, the Cabrillo Economic Development Corporation (CEDC) mailed surveys to all of its 646 affordable rental households. The purpose of the survey was to assess the impact of the organization on the social and financial condition of individuals and families living in CEDC rental homes. Of the 646 surveys distributed, 293 were returned, garnering a 45% response rate.

The survey results demonstrated that...

- **Of those households with school-age children, the majority of respondents (54%) say their children's school grades have improved since moving into their CEDC home.** Reasons given for this positive change are the child having his or her own room in which to do homework, meeting other children around the neighborhood, and having convenient access to schools.
- **Residents at CEDC properties have high educational aspirations for their children.** Seventy percent (70%) of respondents with school-age children say they hope their children will obtain a Master's or other graduate degree.
- **Living in a CEDC property helps build financial confidence.** Many Cabrillo residents say they have clearly defined financial goals (47%), as well as confidence in their ability to reach these goals (40%).
- **CEDC properties are overwhelmingly safe.** Eighty-five percent (85%) of respondents feel safe in their neighborhood, and the majority (59%) feel safer in their Cabrillo home than in their previous one.
- **Families are able to access amenities.** Almost all (87%) residents feel they have convenient access to a supermarket; 80% of those with children feel they have convenient access to schools. Nearly half (47%) say their access to a supermarket has improved, and 42% say access to schools has improved compared to when they lived in their previous homes.
- **CEDC renters have strong social connections.** More than three-quarters of respondents (79%) say that they feel connected to their neighbors and community. Almost half (44%) say their connection to their neighborhood and their level of involvement in their children's schooling has increased since living in a CEDC home.

CEDC is a private non-profit affordable home and community development corporation that provides comprehensive housing services, through a community building approach, in Ventura and Santa Barbara Counties. CEDC is a chartered member of NeighborWorks® America, a national network of more than 230 community development and affordable home developers.

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