



PRESS RELEASE

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Partnership to Offset Housing Costs for New SFUSD Teachers

San Francisco – A cohort of San Francisco teachers may apply for as many as 3 years of assistance to overcome one of the most significant hurdles to teaching in the Bay Area: housing. A generous commitment from the nonprofit Teachers Housing Cooperative (THC) will help subsidize housing by providing annual grants of \$4800 to qualified teachers who participate in the San Francisco Teacher Residency’s rigorous teacher preparation program. The housing grants provided by the THC will help the San Francisco Teacher Residency (SFTR) retain excellent teachers who make at least a 3-year commitment to teach in high-needs schools and subject areas in the San Francisco Unified School District (SFUSD).

The cost of living in San Francisco has often been the deciding factor for SFUSD teachers who have left the city and school district. Attracting new teachers to fill these positions remains a challenge with the citywide median monthly rent now eclipsing \$3,400, far beyond what a new teacher’s salary can cover. But with support from the Teachers Housing Cooperative, SFTR believes it will now be able to double the number of teachers it prepares to teach in San Francisco.

"We believe that it’s in the best interest of students in San Francisco when their teachers can afford to live in the city," said Jonathan Osler, Executive Director of SFTR. "Graduates from our program are highly prepared to boost student achievement from day one, and this partnership will help them afford to remain committed to our schools."

Since 2000, the Teachers Housing Cooperative has been providing grants to many qualified SFUSD teachers renting in San Francisco. Traditionally, grant-funded teachers are able to receive up to 2 years of financial support through the THC. Under the new partnership with SFTR, the THC is adding a third year of funding to qualified SFTR graduates to support their retention.

"We chose to partner with SFTR because their mission is aligned with our commitment to support SFUSD teachers," said Sarah Anderson of the Teachers Housing Cooperative. "SFTR graduates enter their classrooms with over 1700 hours of student teaching experience and a masters degree – clearly they are ready to help our young people thrive."

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About SFTR

The San Francisco Teacher Residency (SFTR) is a non-profit organization that aims to improve academic and social emotional outcomes for students by recruiting, preparing, and retaining teachers for high-needs schools and subject areas in SF public schools. SFTR coordinates an innovative public-private partnership between the San Francisco Unified School District, Stanford University, the University of San Francisco, and the United Educators of San Francisco. Since its launch in 2010, SFTR has prepared nearly 150 new teachers, all of whom have participated in year-long teaching apprenticeships in SFUSD classrooms while earning a teaching credential and a masters degree. In exchange for tuition discounts, an AmeriCorps stipend, and 3 years of 1:1 coaching, SFTR residents commit to teaching in SFUSD for at least three years upon completion of the program.

To learn more about SFTR, please visit: www.SFTeacherResidency.org