

HOPE SF LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Empowering residents to inspire change

What is it?

“The HOPE SF Leadership Academy is a group of leaders and resident advocates that inspire change by empowering residents with knowledge and understanding of the revitalization process” -
Mission Statement drafted by 2008 Academy Participants

The HOPE SF Leadership Academy (“Academy”) is a 15-week educational and leadership training program that helps residents at HOPE SF sites become familiar with the redevelopment process and build leadership skills. The aim of the Academy is to enhance the depth and impact of resident engagement in the HOPE SF planning and implementation process and to support the development of resident leaders.

Who can join?

Any resident at a HOPE SF public housing site (Alice Griffith, Hunters View, Potrero Terrace, Potrero Annex, Sunnydale, and Westside Courts) is welcome to join. Participants must be over the age of 18 and on-lease.

Why should I join?

- By participating in the Academy, you will gain valuable knowledge about HOPE SF and get your questions about redevelopment, affordable housing finance, and homeownership answered.
- The Academy covers a wide-range of topics, including affordable housing development, HOPE SF redevelopment principles, urban planning, architecture, community building, homeownership, and much more!
- Academy participants will meet with a number of pivotal stakeholders involved in redevelopment in their communities, including SFHA staff, service connectors, developers, architects, and bankers.

Will participating help me to get a job?

- Participants in the Academy will learn valuable skills that can help them to get meaningful employment after graduation.
- Academy students will learn to effectively present their life experiences, facilitate meetings, actively listen, conduct neighborhood outreach, plan and lead community projects, and much more!
- After graduating from the Academy, some participants have found employment with the San Francisco Housing Authority, many HOPE SF Developers, a wide-range of community-based organizations, various contractors, and even architecture firms.

What do alumni say?

Graduates of the Academy are uniform in their praise. Now, many Academy alumni are leading efforts to revitalize their communities. They are participating in community building, running in resident council elections, seeking HOPE SF and SFHA employment opportunities, and building strong relationships with their neighbors and residents of other HOPE SF sites. One graduate of the Academy was even appointed to the SFHA Commission!

“Since enrolling in the Academy I’ve been able to educate my neighbors regarding the revitalization process. I feel more empowered to become involved in the tenants association and other community events, all in the hopes of building a stronger Potrero Hill.” - 2009 Academy Graduate

Applications are available now!

For more information, contact Toni Autry, (autryt@SFHA.ORG)
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