CHISPA
WE BUILD NEIGHBORHOODS

NEIGHBORHOOD VOICE

NEWSLETTER • FALL 2026

ISSUE 46



CHISPA Scholarships:
Celebrating More Than 20 Years of Investing in Education

194 Scholarships • $152,457 Awarded Since 2005

For more than two decades, CHISPA has proudly invested in the educational goals of our residents.

The CHISPA Scholarship Program began with the establishment of an endowed scholarship at California State University, Monterey Bay (CSUMB) in 2005. CHISPA later established an endowment at Hartnell College in 2010 and another through the Community Foundation for Monterey County (CFMC) in 2015.

These scholarships were created to help residents of CHISPA-managed housing pursue higher education and build brighter futures for themselves, their families, and their communities.

A Record Year for CHISPA Scholars!

This fall, CHISPA is proud to award 40 Scholarships:
$20,852 AWARDED

- 11 CHISPA - CSUMB Scholarships
- 6 CHISPA - Hartnell College Scholarships
- 3 CHISPA - CFMC Scholarships
- 20 Norm Kolpin Scholarships

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Featuring our Board Chair, José Chavez Medina

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Mills Ranch Apartments

With this year's awards, CHISPA has reached an exciting milestone: **194 scholarships totaling $152,457 since the scholarship program began.**

We are incredibly proud of our students and honored to play a role in helping them pursue their educational and career goals.

MEET OUR 2026–27 CHISPA SCHOLARS

COMMUNITY FOUNDATION FOR MONTEREY COUNTY

Ashley Florencio
Public Health, Hartnell College

Jennifer Merino Martinez
Civil Engineering, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo

Melanie Gonzales-Fuentes
Mechanical Engineering, Rice University

HARTNELL COLLEGE

Carmen Dominguez-Tapia
Biology

Christopher Castro-Serrano
Administration of Justice

Fernando Chavez
Engineering

Maria Isabel Jimenez Maldonado
Agriculture (Plant Science) & Spanish

Nalleli Bravo
Elementary Education

Porfirio Diaz de Jesus
Electrical Engineering

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY, MONTEREY BAY

Roberto C. Vargas Aguayo
Plant & Soil Science

Christian Hurtado-Valencia
Chemistry

Javier Jimenez-Loya
Psychology

Marisa Paduan
Collaborative Health & Human Services

Marcella Aguilar
Social Work

Cesar M. Munguia Garcia
Liberal Studies

Jesse Lopez
Business Marketing

Galilea Santiago
Business Administration/Marketing

Jennifer Zavala
Humanities & Communication/Psychology

Lesley Reyes Camacho
Collaborative Health & Human Services

NORM KOLPIN SCHOLARSHIP

In 2024, CHISPA established the **Norm Kolpin Scholarship** to create an additional opportunity to support CHISPA residents pursuing higher education.

This year, we are proud to recognize **20 students with Norm Kolpin Scholarships**, allowing CHISPA to extend educational support to even more residents.

Congratulations to all 20 of our 2026 Norm Kolpin Scholarship recipients!



Looking Ahead:
2027 CHISPA Scholarships

Are you a CHISPA resident planning to attend college in Fall 2027?

Visit the CHISPA website for scholarship opportunities, eligibility information, and 2027 application deadlines.

www.chispahousing.org/scholarships

CHISPA Board Spotlight: JOSÉ CHAVEZ MEDINA



Meet CHISPA Board Chair, José Chavez Medina

CHISPA is proud to feature our Board Chair, José Chavez Medina, a dedicated public servant committed to strengthening communities and empowering future leaders.

José serves as Community Engagement Coordinator for the City of Greenfield, where he leads initiatives focused on inclusive community engagement, connection, and civic participation. He also serves as Board President of the Gonzales Unified School District, representing Area 5, where he advocates for student success and accountability.

Throughout his career, José has helped secure and manage community grants that expand opportunities for youth, support families, and strengthen communities.

His commitment to public service and community engagement brings valuable leadership and perspective to CHISPA's Board of Directors.

> ***"CHISPA doesn't just build homes; we build strong communities where residents connect, engage, and are given opportunities to thrive."***

Development:
ADUs in Salinas and Mills Ranch Apartments in King City

ADUS

We are excited to complete three Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) in our Wesley Oaks subdivision in Salinas.

This development includes two garage conversions at 615 and 617 Fremont Street and one ADU constructed above the garage at 138 Carr Avenue.

CHISPA thanks our funding partners: the City of Salinas Permanent Local Housing Allocation Fund (PLHA), the Central California Alliance for Health Housing Fund, Hammond Climate Solutions Solar Moonshot Program, and the Community Foundation for Monterey County.

We will rent these new one-bedroom apartments to clients of Interim, Inc. and the Veterans Transition Center.

MILLS RANCH:

Mills Ranch Apartments is a 40-unit apartment development on five parcels in the Mills Ranch Subdivision in King City.

We are pouring foundations and starting to frame the buildings. To receive monthly updates on construction and leasing, go to the CHISPA website, **https://chispahousing.org/newsletters** and select Mills Ranch newsletter.

or scan here for the website

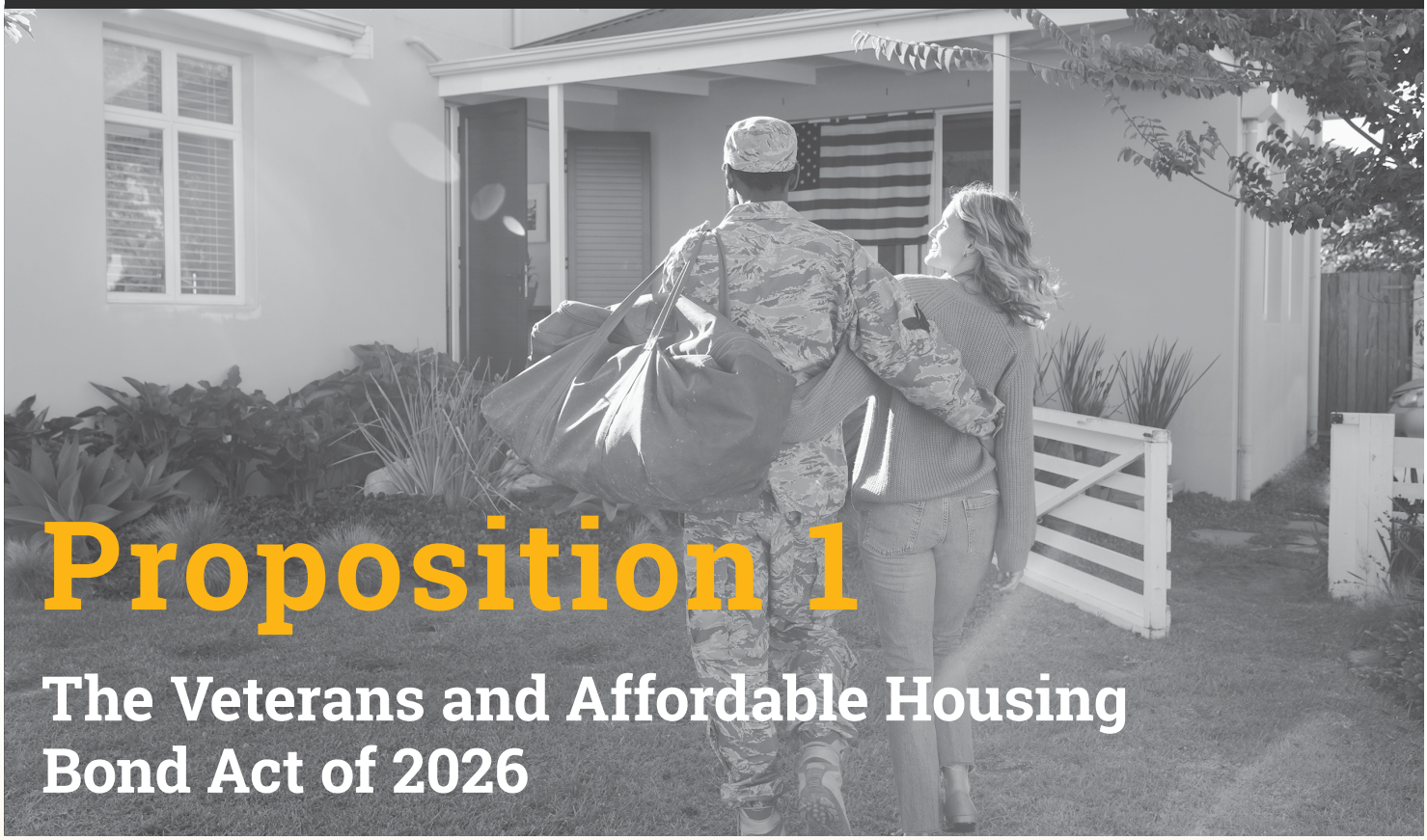






yes ON PROP 1

Proposition 1 authorizes **$11.25 billion** in bond funding to build and preserve affordable homes and expand homeownership opportunities across California. Delivered with **strict accountability**, **transparency**, and with **no taxes**.



Proposition 1

The Veterans and Affordable Housing Bond Act of 2026

CHISPA
WE BUILD NEIGHBORHOODS

Save THE Date

Annual Celebration

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2027
5:30 PM

ONE MAIN STREET
1 MAIN STREET, SALINAS, CA

For more information, contact Patty Orduño at porduno@chispahousing.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Mirco Jonathan Haag
Vice Chair

Sonia Jaramillo
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