

SF COMMUNITY SERVICE AGENCY finds A NEW HOME

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Urban Realty, Commonfund Realty team up to relocate valued community asset

by Alexis Ward

On October 26th, 75 San Franciscans turned out to celebrate the new home of **Citywide Case Management and Community Focus Center** at 982 Mission Street, near Sixth. Just before construction started, community leaders, neighbors, and folks who care about the joint San Francisco General Hospital/UC San Francisco Department of Psychiatry program visited the new home to examine site plans, hear speeches about the future of the facility, and have a bite to eat.

The program currently serves 600 low-income San Francisco residents who suffer from severe and persistent mental illnesses. Their current home on



San Francisco Supervisor Chris Daly does the honors!

Market Street is slated for new development by building owners Urban Realty and Commonfund Realty. Unlike so many other San Francisco stories that involve landlords and tenants, the path that took the Center to their new home was a win-win situation.

David Rhoades of Urban Realty, and his business partner Martin Sawa, were effusive about what had transpired. “They were our tenants at 939 Market Street, an older, multi-tenant office building that did not suit their needs,” said Rhoades. “We knew they needed a new home.” Rhoades immediately started searching for a new location near the existing facility that could be remodeled to suit the Center’s needs. “When we found 982 Mission, we seized the opportunity to help Citywide and Community Focus



San Francisco Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting talks with David Rhoades and Martin Sawa of Urban Realty.



Supervisor Daly speaks passionately about the Center.



Community members celebrate the groundbreaking of the Center.



Jim Keary of Commonfund Realty speaks with Legislative Aide John Avalos.

“When we found 982 Mission, we seized the opportunity to help Citywide and Community Focus enter a new era in effective caregiving.”

- David Rhoades, Urban Realty

enter a new era in effective caregiving,” said Rhoades. Jim Keary, Managing Director of Commonfund Realty noted, “We knew that the Center’s legacy of important

community work merited a significant upgrade to their facilities. We are proud to commit resources to such a worthwhile cause.”



UCSF's David Fariello in front of the Center's new plans.

The Urban Realty team, together with their partner Commonfund Realty, showed the site to the Center’s leadership, who shared their enthusiasm.

“The location was great,

the floorplate showed promise, and we saw ways of making things even better than they were,” said Joanne Wile, former director of UCSF’s Community Services Division. “We were floored when our landlord came to us and said they’d pay for a renovation of a new location that was better than the one in which we

resided. It was nothing short of miraculous.” According to David Fariello, current director of the program, this new facility will provide new opportunities, resources, and space to better serve the Center’s clientele.


Joined by District Six Supervisor Chris Daly and City Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting, representatives of the Center, Urban Realty, and Commonfund Realty took turns breaking through ceremonial sheetrock to commemorate the launch of construction, while their guests nibbled on snacks.

The new facility is slated to be complete in the summer of 2007. Urban Realty and Commonfund Realty look forward to welcoming the community at the Center’s ribbon-cutting at that time.

For more information, please visit www.urbanrealtyco.com, www.commonfund.org, or <http://psych.ucsf.edu/sfgh.aspx?id=466>.

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