

MEDINA CREATIVE PET PLAY

16th Congressional District

Medina Creative Pet Play Fetches New Opportunity

A new Medina Creative Pet Play facility, built with the help of a \$100,000 economic development grant for the purchase of construction materials from Finance Fund, provides training and employment for 12 Medina Creative Housing (MCH) residents with disabilities and 1 experienced dog care administrator. MCH residents not only staff the doggy day care center, MCH vocational training program graduates also helped build it alongside skilled construction professionals.

The 5,000 sq. ft. dog facility opened its doors in September 2012 and provides quality space for recreation, bathing, grooming and feeding. MCH provided the remaining resources consisting of land, cash equity and donated labor via local contractors and their own job training program.

"We are extremely grateful for Finance Fund's ongoing support of our mission," said Michael Carlson, MCH board president.

Finance Fund provided MCH with pre-development and economic development grants to build a commercial hydroponic greenhouse, which provides training and jobs for 30 people with disabilities and professional staff

"The doggy day care is an exciting social enterprise that provides employment opportunities traditionally closed to people with disabilities," Carlson said. *"It's the area's first pet care services facility, and could potentially generate additional revenue to enhance MCH services to our special needs clients."*

MCH and its affiliate organizations provide housing, services and life skills training, vocational training and employment opportunities to help hundreds of students and adults with disabilities live independently.



FINANCE FUND INVESTMENT IMPACT:

- A \$100,000 economic development grant
- On the job training for Medina Accessibility clients
- Creation of 13 doggy day care jobs



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