In 2017, SACA Development Corporation acquired property on Chesapeake Street with assistance from Community First Fund for $320,000 on the southeast end of Lancaster City. The goal of this development was to provide safe, affordable, and modern housing for purchase for families under 80% of the county’s area median income. An estimated cost of $7.5 million in funding for the project was made possible with the collaboration of public and private partnerships such as grants from DCED, the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency (PHARE), federal Department of Housing and Urban Development Home funding through Lancaster City and State of PA and other community partners. Nine homes were sold in the price range of $155,000-175,000 along with a 15-year deed restriction that restricts an owner selling to other families outside of income limits to keep these unique properties affordable.

PHFA interviewed with CEO of SACA Development Corporation, Jose Lopez to highlight the community impact of the $300,000 and $350,000 grants that were awarded for the project in 2021. When speaking about the best part of the project, he commented that “This project represents so much more than the physical structures. This is a demonstration of our community’s commitment to invest in its people to provide them with safe, comfortable, and affordable places where they can create a life.”

SACA Development Corporation’s goal is to support community revitalization through a collaborative approach while seeking opportunities to address housing affordability and grow community wealth. To keep up with what the organization is doing next, visit their website at https://sacapa.org/saca-development/.

“Access to safe, affordable housing is essential to realizing every other part of the American Dream.”

Jose Lopez, CEO, SACA Development Corporation