

# **ONWARD** 2020-2021

A look back. A look ahead.

# health

If you asked 100 people for one word that describes 2020, you would probably hear the word "challenging" more than a few times.

UNKROWN

NOT



There is no denying that the global pandemic has impacted every aspect of this world.

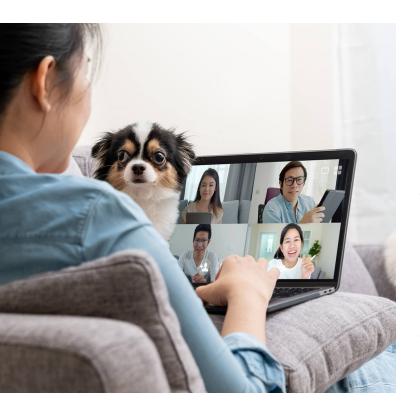
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From how and where we conduct our daily work; to the ways in which we stay connected to our families, friends, customers and other social networks, a willingness to embrace change has been essential to surviving this year. Although some of these changes will fade away as an international vaccination initiative moves forward, others are here to stay.

During the early stages of this pandemic when local governments were asking residents to work from home and schools moved to online non-traditional instructions, the inequities that millions in our country

### face each day were on full display.

Whether it is the huge digital divide that prevents millions of children from receiving a quality education because they lack access to a computer or internet; or the inadequate housing conditions many people are forced to call home, the events of this year have shined a light on the fact that there are areas where we need to find a new normal and address some of the inequities COVID- 19 has helped to expose.



# We founded LDG Development more than 25 years ago based on our shared belief that everyone deserves a quality place to live.

While you would think that such a simple sentiment would be easy to embrace, because of our work in developing more than 15,000 units across the country, we understand better than most that this simply is not true. In fact, on any given development, we spend countless hours responding to concerns from groups who believe their neighborhoods "just are not right for an affordable housing development." And while the objections are often disguised as concerns regarding traffic; lack of public transportation and other services, we understand that more often than not, these concerns are based on a narrow and biased view of working families and the poor that is rooted in racism and xenophobia.

If this country is going to truly move forward and implement many of the changes that have been called for during this past year, then working to make sure everyone has access to quality housing must be a part of the plan. After all, the place someone calls home is the foundation on which all other dreams and hopes are built.









## At LDG, we have tried to do our part to bring about some of the changes needed in communities across the country.

Highlights of the year include:

- Closing on 13 new communities that will produce more than 2,500 units of affordable housing for families across the country.
- Donating \$1.2 million in scholarship funding to organizations focused on supporting college bound students living in Section 8 housing and helping to remove some of the systemic barriers that prevent students from pursuing a postsecondary degree.
- Creating a new property management and residential services organization—Solidago that is focused on providing our residents with access to a variety of services that can help to improve and enrich their lives.
- Assisted hundreds of families who experienced a loss in income due to the pandemic remain in their homes.

While we are proud of these accomplishments, we know that it does not begin to address the estimated seven million units that are needed to address this nation's affordable housing crisis. At LDG we are in this for the long haul; and have committed ourselves to developing even more communities that families are proud to call home and a workforce that is as diverse as the populations served.



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