The Backyard Homes Project

The Backyard Homes Project is an affordable housing initiative that incentivizes homeowners in the City of LA to build backyard homes and rent them to Section 8 voucher holders for at least 5 years. This is a one-stop-shop that helps average homeowners become providers of affordable housing.

Program participants will receive:
+ Free project management
+ Affordable design and construction services
+ Optional financing in the form of a permanent mortgage product
+ Required landlord training and tenant support services
+ Possible signing bonus for new Section 8 landlords

A Backyard Home – also called an ADU, in-law unit, or granny flat – is a secondary residential unit that can be added to a residential lot with an existing single family home. ADUs are independent rental units that have their own entrances, kitchens, bathrooms, bedrooms, and living rooms. They can be attached or detached from the primary residence and can be a garage conversion.

We are committed to both thoughtful design and affordable construction. Therefore, the ADUs designed and built for the Backyard Homes Project will utilize pre-vetted design models, which include site plans, elevations, materials and finishes.

Homeowners are eligible to apply if they agree to house a Section 8 voucher holder in their new ADU for a minimum of 5 years and if their property is in a single family residential area located within the City of LA. We will support 10 homeowners in the first year to test the program.

Program partners:
- LA-Más — Program Management, Design, Permitting
- Restore Neighborhoods LA (RNLA) — Construction
- Genesis LA Economic Growth Corporation & Self-Help Federal Credit Union — Financing
- LA Family Housing & St. Joseph Center — Tenant Matching and Support
- Housing Rights Center — Landlord Training
- Housing Authority of the City of LA (HACLA) — Section 8 Program Management

For more information, contact Alejandro at LA-Más at alejandro@mas.la or 323-392-7951. You can also visit our website at www.mas.la/affordable-adus and apply online at goo.gl/vYqFJm.