In a region plagued by a lack of affordable housing, Century Housing has worked to make a difference for more than 25 years. The mission of Century Housing is to invest in homes, education, and job training programs for low-income individuals and families, including veterans and the homeless, so that they may have a dignified living environment and achieve economic independence. Created in 1982, the organization focuses primarily on providing early-term financing to develop high-quality, affordable homes throughout greater Los Angeles. But recognizing that a home is not always enough, Century also offers an array of essential social services through its More Than Shelter program, runs two charter middle schools, and owns the nation’s largest campus serving formerly homeless veterans. Century’s other products and services include site acquisition and predevelopment loans, construction financing, and structural financial products.

Financial and Social Impact, July 2009

- Loans made: 375, totaling $580.9 million
- Affordable homes created or preserved: More than 16,000
- Children educated: More than 3,500
- Homeless people served: More than 4,000 every year
- Tradesmen (and women) trained and placed: More than 10,500
- Loan loss rate: 0.41%

Success Story: Witmer Heights Apartments, Los Angeles, CA

In 2005, Century Housing provided a $1.9 million loan to jump-start the development of Witmer Heights Apartments, which replaced 13 run-down homes and apartments with 49 sustainable apartments for low-income families. The new development provides residents with attractive, affordable housing, as well as job training services, financial literacy classes, computer skills training, and other social services.