

In November Santa Maria's Housing Access Specialist began working with Sam, who was looking for affordable housing in Price Hill. The client and his wife were facing a period of underemployment after having moved from out of state, and would have been unable to cover their first month's rent and a deposit within the same month. The client was able to secure a unit in East Price Hill and attended Santa Maria's Tenant Education class in December to be eligible for deposit assistance. Using what he learned in the "Tenant and Landlord Rights and Responsibilities" section of the class, the client was able to schedule a walk-through of the unit with his landlord, pointed out any defects to be recorded as preexisting, and noted repairs that would need to be made by the landlord. The client was clearly receptive to the material from the class, confidently working with his landlord to insure that the unit met all appropriate standards. He reported back to Santa Maria's Housing Access Specialist during his monthly follow up that he has told all his friends and neighbors about what to look for when moving into new unit, and how to insure the landlord upholds his responsibilities.