

2008 EXCELLENCE AWARDS
Commitment to Special Needs Housing - Small Developments

David's House



David's House is a new facility in Roseburg that provides victims of traumatic brain injury (TBI) and medically infirm developmentally disabled individuals with housing.

Planning for a facility such as David's House began as far back as 2002 between social service and mental health professionals in Douglas County. An advisory group was formed with the goal of providing residential services to individuals afflicted with traumatic brain injury.

Bob Jacobson of Umpqua Homes for the Handicapped approached Umpqua CDC with the idea of developing housing for autistic adults. Umpqua Homes entered into an agreement with Umpqua CDC to create a safe community that would meet the needs of TBI victims.

Unexpected problems and losses occurred throughout the development of the project. Neighbors close to the original site express dissatisfaction with the facility being located in Roseburg's historic Mill Pine District resulting in another location being selected. The project architect passed away. Then, if matters were not already bad enough, Umpqua CDC's chief financial officer, David Coombs, was killed from a head injury as a result of an automobile accident.

Named after David Coombs, the end result is an attractive facility providing 24-hour care and specialized services supporting behavioral, physical and speech rehabilitation, as well as promoting a healthy life-style, skills development, a routine and other activities to encourage the relearning of skills for eventual independent living.