



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Carla Vista Sober Living, LLC, the largest sober living home provider in the East Valley, worked with the Gilbert Town Council to pass Recovery Residence Ordinance #Z13-02 on March 27, 2014. The ordinance addresses the needs of the public, as well as the needs of the recovery community, a protected class under the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Arizona state statutes. The passage of the ordinance resulted after a year-long focus group and set precedent for an Arizona city working with the recovery community to understand how sober living benefits, rather than harms, a community.

Gilbert, AZ--April 4, 2014--After a year-long effort, the Town of Gilbert passed Recovery Residence Ordinance #Z13-02 on March 27, 2014. The ordinance represents a major improvement in the fight against alcohol and drug abuse and is the state's first to specifically address the sober living environment and the recovery community as a protected class under the Fair Housing Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, and Arizona state statutes.

In order to create and pass the ordinance, representatives from Carla Vista Sober Living participated in a focus group with the Town of Gilbert to provide information about recovery from addiction, sober living homes, and how a structured sober living home operates. This included resident requirements and codes of conduct, house manager rules and sober living home experiences.

Gonzalo Ardavin, CEO/President of Carla Vista Sober Living, LLC, the East Valley's largest sober living home provider, praised the Gilbert Town Council for creating a win-win situation.

"We are proud to be in a town that has been willing to not only listen to the needs of the sober living community, but also to work on helping the citizens of their town restore their lives and ultimately add to the town's future success," Ardavin said.

Sober living homes provide a safe and structured living environment based on 12-step recovery programs. Following inpatient treatment for chemical dependency, sober living home residents commit to a 3-9 month stay to help them focus on their recovery. Residents attend daily 12-step meetings, obtain a sponsor and have a community service commitment while they also attend outpatient treatment, weekly house meetings, and receiving ongoing random drug and alcohol testing.

Within the first two weeks of admission, sober living home residents are also required to have full-time employment, go to school full-time, volunteer, or use a combination of these to fulfill a 40-hour work week. Sober living homes are fully furnished in residential communities and are managed by a live-in house manager. Men and women live in separate homes, with two residents per room.

Due to their high degree of structure and accountability, Carla Vista Sober Living Homes are some of the safest homes in their respective neighborhoods. Ardavin reported that Carla Vista has not had any incidents with neighbors of its sober living homes.

"We've created an environment where broken men and women take the needed time to regain their lives by making recovery their priority," Ardavin said. "Imagine the families that have their children back. Imagine the children that have their mothers and fathers back. Imagine the employers that have their best employees, managers, and executives back? That's the power of a sober living home."

About Carla Vista Sober Living, LLC

Carla Vista Sober Living is one of Arizona's largest sober living home providers, with 13 homes and 133 beds in Maricopa County and 99 beds and nine homes in Colorado. Founded in 2007, Carla Vista Sober Living is a proud member of AzRHA, the Arizona Recovery Housing Association, which sets and maintains quality and safety standards for recovery housing.