

## Section 8 Housing Serving Seniors and Persons with Disabilities

The state and local housing trust funds were critical to the renovation and preservation of this property serving Florida's most vulnerable populations. According to Sage President, Debra Koehler, "We pieced together numerous federal, state, and local funding sources; approximately 30% of the funding came from the Sadowski state and local housing trust funds and the Pinellas County Housing Trust Fund dollars. Koehler added, "We could not have preserved this property without our government and private sector partners."

# The Viridian: Sadowski Funds Aid in Preservation of Affordable Housing

### Carl

Pleasantly surprised at how smoothly construction went.  
"The nicest place I've lived in to accommodate the wheelchair"  
Lived at Columbian for 3 years  
Disabled since 1984, on SSI since 1996  
Paraplegic  
Salesman, 5 years with Merrill Lynch



### Richard

"This is my home."  
"This has raised my standard of living."  
Regarding rehab changes - "It's all to the ease of the tenant"  
"You run your business like a family."  
Lived at Columbian for 12 years  
Worked in local manufacturing /carpentry

### Linda

"I love my apartment."  
"Removing the carpeting has made me healthier."  
Regarding no-smoking policy - "Best thing that could have been done."  
"New kitchen is awesome - the big refrigerator and the big stove, that's a big plus."  
Lived at Columbian for 4 years  
Disabled since 1999  
Worked in electronics manufacturing  
Linda suffers from emphysema



### Opal

"I love my new apartment."  
"It's so spacious and easy to keep up."  
"The kitchen is wonderful."  
Lived at Columbian for 10 years  
Varied careers - Telemarketing, sales for Olan Mills, manufacturing