Casa del Maestro, Phase II, is a 30 unit final phase of a 70 unit rental development which provides apartments that are affordable to the teachers of the Santa Clara Unified School District. Recognizing that a high rate of teacher turnover was directly due to the area’s high housing costs, the school district partnered with the developer to construct employer assisted housing on 3.5 acres of school district owned land.

Using certificates of participation, the school district was able to finance the development, and still retains ownership through a foundation. Since its completion, Casa del Maestro has remained fully leased and has maintained a long waiting list. Apartments are available only to school district teachers who have been in the district fewer than three years. In order to encourage turnover and home-ownership, teachers can live at Casa del Maestro for up to 5 years, at which time they can access the school district’s mortgage assistance program.