**LOCAL NEWS & ACTION**

**Skid Road***: An exhibit on poverty & homelessness – opens 1\textsuperscript{st} Thursday August 2\textsuperscript{nd}

Art Walk Exhibit at 406 Occidental, sponsored by Olson Kundig

**Olson Kundig Architects** will sponsor a temporary exhibit, Skid Road, to highlight the work of innovative groups or individuals who are working to eradicate homelessness. The exhibit will be located in the Olson Kundig Storefront at 406 Occidental located in Pioneer Square, where Olson Kundig has turned an empty storefront into a space where community comes together on a variety of issues.

Participating organizations include DESC, SHARE/WHEEL, Compass Housing, Real Change, Chief Seattle Club, Bread of Life Mission, SKCCH, CEH and artist Mary Larson who by day is a nurse at the Pioneer Square Clinic and in the evening paints portraits of her patients in exchange for goods and services serving the homeless. You can see previous Olson Kundig installations on their Facebook page at: [https://www.facebook.com/storefrontOlsonKundigArchitects](https://www.facebook.com/storefrontOlsonKundigArchitects) or watch a video at Vimeo [http://vimeo.com/43199296](http://vimeo.com/43199296)

* The phrase ‘Skid Road’ originated in Seattle, and refers to the historic Skid Road district (now better known as Pioneer Square) [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skid_row](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skid_row)

**Steady Steps Forward: CEH 2011 Annual Report Available**


This year’s report celebrates strong partnerships under the Ten Year. As noted in the Highlights Section - **A Roof Over Every Bed** has always been the goal: housing for people in our community who lack that most basic element of stability. We have accomplishments to celebrate because across our region individuals and organizations have rallied behind this common goal and unifying purpose. Here are highlights from our efforts over the past year:

**Creating housing**

> **679** Number of homeless housing units opened  
> **5,046** Total number of homeless housing units funded through 2011 (53% of our goal of 9,500 units)

**Preventing homelessness and moving people rapidly into housing**

> **3,072** People moved to permanent housing from emergency shelter or transitional housing  
> **930** People moved to permanent housing from service only programs  
> **66%** Percent reduction in jail days for “high utilizers” of jail or emergency services after placement in supportive housing

**People served in 2011 by program (from Safe Harbors) Number**

- Emergency Shelter: 11,999  
- Homelessness Prevention & Rapid Re-Housing: 7,881  
- Transitional Housing: 6,507  
- Permanent Housing/ Permanent Supportive Housing: 5,275  
- Service Only (SSO) Programs: 6,113

**Increasing the efficiency of existing systems**

- 2011 Combined Notice of Funding Availability allocated $55.6 million from seven funders and 17 different fund sources  
- Funders Group was named one of the “Top 25 Innovations in American Government” by Harvard University’s prestigious Kennedy School of Government  
- An evaluation of coordinated entry and placement into housing for the highest users of jail and emergency medical services showed major reductions in jail days, sobering center use, and psychiatric hospitalizations  
- Planning completed for 2012 implementation of coordinated entry and a single access point for shelter and housing resources for homeless families

**CEH is hiring a new Project Director**

Bill Block has announced his retirement effective mid-September ([Thank You Bill](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skid_row) for seven years of outstanding leadership!) and CEH is recruiting. The job announcement can be found [here](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Skid_row), and the position closes August 10\textsuperscript{th}.
Mark Your Calendars: SKCCH 2012 Youth & Young Adult Advocacy Summit September 10 & 11
SKCCH’s Youth and Young Adults Committee (YYAC) is working hard to pull together another successful 2-day Youth Summit for homeless and at-risk youth in King County. Participating youth will get the chance to discuss and present desired policy changes to city and county legislators.

YYAC is looking for Peer Leaders and Participants, age 13-24, for the two day summit. This is a paid opportunity. Contact YYAC Co-chairs Melissa King, Friends of Youth, or Kathleen Murphy, ROOTS Young Adult Shelter, to learn more and find out how to get your young clients involved!

Free summer meals for kids
City of Seattle HSD’s Summer Food Service Program is under way for the summer. Thousands of Seattle children ages 1 through 18 can enjoy free, nutritious breakfasts, lunches and snacks at approximately 100 sites across the city through Friday, Aug. 24. For more information and to find a site in your neighborhood, visit this link.

WASHINGTON – Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric K. Shinseki announced the award of nearly $100 million in grants that will help approximately 42,000 homeless and at-risk Veterans and their families. Locally, YWCA and Catholic Community Services received $431,958 and $780,956 respectively. YWCA of Seattle plans to serve approximately 120 participant households in Puget Sound in Washington State and King County, while CCS plans to serve approximately 400 participant households in Pierce, Thurston, Snohomish, and King Counties.

Mary’s Place at newly opened Hope Center
Gethsemane Lutheran Church: 9th & Stewart downtown Seattle

On July 4th Mary’s Place moved into their new home at the Hope Center at Gethsemane Lutheran Church at 9th and Stewart Street – see photos and posting on their facebook page and join the House Warming celebration on Wednesday, September 12th from 4-6pm

Here I Am: Creating the Political Will to End Homelessness, Wednesday, September 19, 2012!
The Interfaith Task Force invites you to their annual conference, Here I Am: Creating Political Will to End Homelessness
The conference will take place at St. Mark’s Cathedral, 1245 Tenth Ave. E., Seattle, Noon-4 pm, registration begins at 11:30 am. For more information, please contact Bill Kirlin-Hackett at 425-442-5418 or e-mail itfh@comcast.net.

2012 Count Us In Update
The United Way of King County released its official 2012 Count Us In report, with initial analysis indicating 685 unstably housed youth in the King County Area. Read the United Way of King County’s full Count Us In report here.

TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES
Protect Your Bottom Line by Filling Vacancies and Preventing Turnover

A workshop for Landlords and Property Managers, Thursday September 13, 6 – 8pm at Shoreline City Hall. Sponsored by North Urban Human Services Alliance, Housing Development Consortium of Seattle-King County, and the North King County Housing and Homelessness Work Group. RSVP to Kelly Rider, kelly@housingconsortium.org
### National News

**Hard Times Generation – 60 Minutes Feature of Homeless Families**

CBS 60 Minutes ran a feature Sunday, July 29th on homeless families living in their cars. This segment was a follow-up to a feature segment they ran in November 2011 on families becoming homeless due to the Recession – particularly families in Florida hit hard by the housing collapse and subsequent job losses in the construction industry. See segments [here](#) and [here](#).

### CEH COMMITTEE UPDATES

#### Governing Board

Co-Chairs: Dan Brettler and Dow Constantine. Staff: Bill Block ([bill.block@kingcounty.gov](mailto:bill.block@kingcounty.gov)) Typical Meeting Schedule, 4th Wednesday of the Quarter, 8:30–10:30am at YWCA Opportunity Place. Meeting Summaries of previous Governing Board meetings are available at [www.cehkc.org](http://www.cehkc.org).

**Upcoming Meeting:** Wednesday, October 24, 8:30 – 10:30 am  
**Agenda Topics:** TBD  
**YWCA Opportunity Place (confirm)**

**Recent Meeting:** Wednesday, July 25  
**Agenda Topics:** Healthcare reform and implications for homeless populations; update on Coordinated Entry for Families – emerging lessons and future planning; Best practices for coordinating rental assistance; Update on the Single Adult Shelter Task Force and workplan components.

#### Interagency Council (IAC)

Co-Chairs: Stephen Norman & Sue Sherbrooke. Staff: Bill Block ([bill.block@kingcounty.gov](mailto:bill.block@kingcounty.gov)) and Gretchen Bruce ([gretchen.bruce@kingcounty.gov](mailto:gretchen.bruce@kingcounty.gov)). Typical Schedule: 1st Monday of the month, 2–4pm, rotating locations (Seattle, Bellevue, Renton). Meeting summaries of IAC meetings available at [www.cehkc.org](http://www.cehkc.org).

**Upcoming Meeting:** Monday, August 6, 2 – 4 pm, St. Mark’s Cathedral  
**Agenda Topics:** Healthcare Reform, Rental Assistance Workgroup recommendations, Family Housing Connections, HDC Legislative Forums and tax credits

**Recent Meeting:** Monday, July 9  
**Discussed:** Coordinated Entry across populations; Cost Modeling for PSH for Single Adults; CEH Project Director Recruitment, emerging funding considerations regarding tax credits for capital development.

#### Consumer Advisory Council (CAC)

Co-Chair: Rotating members; Staff: Gretchen Bruce ([gretchen.bruce@kingcounty.gov](mailto:gretchen.bruce@kingcounty.gov)). Typical Schedule: 3rd Wed of the month, 6-7:30pm at Plymouth Congregational Church in Seattle. Meeting summaries of previous CAC meetings available at [www.cehkc.org](http://www.cehkc.org).

**Upcoming Meeting:** Wednesday, August 15, 6:00–7:00 pm  
**Agenda Topics:** CAC Annual Picnic  
**Judkins Park**

**Recent Meeting:** Wednesday, July 18, 6:00–7:00 pm  
**Discussed:** Review of IAC and Funders Group meeting summaries; Focus group discussion among people who are homeless and working; Planning for August CAC picnic; CAC member recruitment

#### Public Relations

Chair: Sherry Hamilton ([sherry.hamilton@kingcounty.gov](mailto:sherry.hamilton@kingcounty.gov)). Typical Schedule: 4th Wed of month, 3:30–4:30pm at Chinook Building 401 – 5th Ave, Room 526.

**Upcoming Meeting:** No Meeting in August  
**Agenda Topics:** Email to confirm

#### Legislative Advocacy

Co-Chairs: Marilyn Mason-Plunkett and Barbara Langdon. Staff: Bill Block ([bill.block@kingcounty.gov](mailto:bill.block@kingcounty.gov)). Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Tuesday of the month from 8:30–10, via conference call. During legislative sessions, calls will be held every other week, though members are advised to call to confirm.

**Upcoming Meeting:** Legislative Advocacy Committee on Hiatus
### Population Affinity Groups

**Single Adults:** Single Adults committee has been sunset. Meeting(s) may be convened as needed to seek feedback on the Homeless and Essential Needs or Single Adult Task Force as those bodies of work move forward.

**Families:** Family Homelessness Initiative Information Sessions. Each 3rd Wednesday of the month, Debbi Knowles and Triina Tennelo will host an open session to talk with local stakeholders (providers and funders) about the work of the Family Homelessness Initiative. Information sessions are the 3rd Wednesday of Each Month from 9:30am – 11:00am. A consistent location is in the works (likely the 2100 Building – contact Triina to confirm.) Contact Triina Tennelo for information: 206.263.9110 or triina.tennelo@kingcounty.gov. Also visit the Families Initiative [website](#) for more information!

**YYA:** The King County Homeless Youth and Young Adult Leadership Council – The KC HYYALC is an open meeting whose mission is to: Provide a forum for connecting leaders on issues pertaining to homeless youth and young adults. Meetings will be held quarterly. Next meeting tentative scheduled for October 17th, 9 am – 11 am location to be determined (likely 2100 Bldg.)

### RELATED COMMUNITY MEETING UPDATES

#### South King County Forum on Homelessness
Contact: Jason Johnson, City of Kent jajohnson@ci.kent.wa.us. The SKC Forum on Homelessness meets the 1st Wed. of every month at 9-10:30am at the Kent Senior Activity Center to 1) keep South county service providers in touch with one-another; 2) share resources with / for SKC service providers; 3) receive updates and announcements of new or future projects; 4) to help bridge the disconnect between the homeless and services. Most attendees are planners or providers, though anyone is welcome to attend. SKC Forum on Homelessness web address: [http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/content.aspx?id=2728](http://www.ci.kent.wa.us/content.aspx?id=2728)

| Upcoming Meeting: | August 1, 2012, 9-10:30 am | Kent Senior Activity Center, 600 E Smith St |
| Agenda Topics: | New leadership/direction of SKC Forum. |

#### North King County Housing Stakeholders Meeting
Contact: Kelly Rider at kelly@housingconsortium.org. The NKC Stakeholders group coordinates homeless housing & service activities in North King County. Most attendees are planners or providers; though anyone is welcome. Typical Meeting Schedule: Every other month, 2nd Wednesday, 11 am – 1 pm, (brown bag) Shoreline City Hall, 17500 Midvale Ave N.

| Upcoming Meeting: | NO MEETING IN AUGUST |
| Agenda Topics: |

#### Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee (EHAC)
Contact: Arthur Sullivan ASullivan@bellevuewa.gov or Sharon Anderson sanderson@ci.kirkland.wa.us. EHAC coordinates homeless housing & service activities in East King County. Most attendees are planners or providers; though anyone is welcome. Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Thursday of the month, 2:00pm – 4:00pm, First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, 1717 Bellevue Way NE (just south of 520)

| Upcoming Meeting: | August 9, 2012, 2–4pm | First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, 1717 Bellevue Way NE |
| Agenda Topics: |

#### Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness (ITFH)
The ITFH works among, between, and within the faith community and seeks to create the political will to end homelessness using targeted education, outreach and advocacy. Typical Meeting Schedule: 3rd Wednesday of the month, noon-1:30pm at St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral. Contact: Bill Kirlin-Hackett at itfh@comcast.net or call at (425) 442-5418.

| Upcoming Meeting: | AUGUST MEETING CANCELLED. September Event scheduled -- Here I Am: Creating the Political Will |

#### University District Conversation on Homelessness
Contact: Nathalie Gerhke Monthly Gathering share thoughts and strategies on local and regional concerns around homelessness. Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Monday of the month, 9 – 11:30 am. Meetings rotate throughout the U District, and frequently at University Congregational Church though location may change.

| Upcoming Meeting: | August 13, 2012, 9am–11:30 am | University Christian Church, 4731 15th Ave NE |
| Agenda Topics: | Conversation with Pastor Rick Reynolds on client trends in Operation Nightwatch |

#### University District Service Provider’s Alliance Service Provider Team
Contact: udsp.spt@gmail.com U-District Service Provider’s Alliance share information relevant to working with homeless youth and young adults, program updates, and neighborhood updates. A service provider debrief follows each meeting. Typical Meeting Schedule: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 11am-12:30pm

| Upcoming Meeting: | August 8, 2012, 11am–12:30pm | Street Youth Ministries, 4540 – 15th Ave NE, Seattle |
Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness (SKCCH)

The General meeting is the 3rd Thurs of each month, 9-11am at E Cherry YWCA. Most attendees are providers or homeless community members and other concerned folks are welcome. Several standing committees also meet regularly (families with children; youth & young adults, single adults; advocacy). Learn more and sign up for meeting reminders at www.homelessinfo.org

**General Meeting:** August 16, 2012, 9–11am  
**E Cherry YWCA 2820 E Cherry Street, Seattle**

**Agenda Topics:** Overview of recent changes to the McKinney Vento and HEARTH Acts, review changes to the definitions of homelessness

**SKCCH Population & Advocacy Committee Meetings**
- Single Adults, August 9, 12:00-1:30 pm at Plymouth’s Simons Seniors Apartments: 2119 3rd Ave.
- Youth & Young Adults, August 14, 9:00-10:30 am check with co-chairs for August meeting location and time
- Families with Children, August 22nd, 9:00 - 11:00 am, location TBD. Agenda: McKinney Vento 101 training

The Mid Plan Review: Renewed Areas of Focus 2012 - 2015

The May All Things CEH includes short updates on each of the Task Forces & Investment Priorities under the Ten Year Plan Mid Plan Review. See May All Things CEH here for these short updates. More lengthy updates were provided for the Youth & Young Adult Plan in the June edition of All Things CEH, with an update on the Immigrants & Refugees Task Force recommendations in July. This month’s issue focuses on the Family Homelessness Initiative and emerging data around Rapid Rehousing for Families.

In-Depth Update: Family Homelessness Initiative and CEH Rental Assistance Workgroup

**Katharine Gale** on Rapid Re-Housing, Transitional Housing Conversion

In July, the Family Homelessness Initiative invited Katherine Gale to King County to present and discuss various homeless/housing strategies that have been demonstrated to effectively address homelessness in other parts of the country. During her first presentation, Ms. Gale demonstrated how communities were able to successfully implement rapid re-housing for families experiencing homelessness. The following day, Ms. Gale focused her conversation on how local communities and programs are retooling their transitional housing projects to implement more rapid re-housing strategies. Finally, Ms. Gale's visit concluded with a description of effective short and long term rental assistance strategies, to include how communities are more effectively targeting prevention to those who are most at-risk of becoming homeless and how progressive engagement is demonstrating to be a promising practice in addressing homelessness. Please see below for her materials from the Families Initiative [website](#).

- July 9 - Rapid Re-Housing  
- July 10 (morning) - Transitional Housing Conversion  
- July 10 (afternoon) - Rental Assistance

[WA State Conference on Ending Homelessness - Prevention Presentation](#)

### Highlights from Katharine Gale’s presentation

**Rapid Re-Housing & Time Limited Rental Assistance**

National data indicates that Rapid Rehousing (RR), through the use of move in assistance and time limited rental supports and case management, is highly effective at helping people regain housing stability, avoid lengthy periods of homelessness and avoid return to homelessness.

*(Note these slides reflect national aggregated data, not local numbers)*

Helping families bypass emergency shelter (ES) and transitional housing (TH) means they avoid the ‘shelter shuffle’ that sometimes occurs or getting stuck waiting for housing to open up further along in the system.

See chart to the right for a comparison of Successful Exits to Permanent Housing after Homelessness

- Percent families exiting ES to permanent housing = 32%
- Percent families exiting TH to permanent housing = 55%
- Percent families exiting to permanent housing thru RR = 85%

The emerging national picture

- Rapid Rehousing under HPRP has been extremely successful, consistent with communities doing this longer
  - Year One HPRP Summary by HUD reported 84% permanent housing exits for rapid rehousing
  - Most households received two months or less assistance and the vast majority (93%) received less than 6 months of assistance
  - Communities able to report return rates on the NAEH map report rates of return between 2% and 10%

### Average Rate of Exits to Permanent Housing - Families

Source: Data from 54 Continuums in seven states that prepared Evaluators for NAEH Performance Improvement Clinics in 2013-2015
Furthermore, it appears that families that exit homelessness through Rapid Rehousing tend to avoid repeat episodes of homelessness when compared to those entering then exiting emergency shelter and transitional housing. See chart to the right.

Average Rates of Return to Homelessness within 12 months after gaining Permanent Housing (Households with Children)*

- Return to Homelessness after ES = 13%
- Return to Homelessness after TH = 9%
- Return to Homelessness after RR = 4%

*This trend holds true even in communities that have a Right to Shelter

Finally, the cost per successful exit to Permanent Housing (PH) is significantly less from Rapid Rehousing than from either emergency shelter or transitional housing. Higher costs for ES and TH are due partly to the longer stays and reduced rates of successful exits. See the second grouping in the chart to the right: PH exits (as opposed to all exits)

Average cost per PH exit.

- Cost per exit to PH from ES = $10,067
- Cost per exit to PH from TH = $22,214
- Cost per exit to PH from RR = $4,111

Conclusions:

The Potential is Great: Based on typical costs, there is the potential to successfully rehouse five times as many people with rapid rehousing as with transitional housing, with equal or better outcomes.

Questions / Concerns:

- Are other communities serving the same kinds of people as we see in King County? Are they serving households with high needs? Response: While some places enrolled those ‘most likely to succeed’, others targeted highest needs households. Communities saw the same success rates whether they served those most likely succeed or high barrier households (ex. Sacramento, Hennepin)

- Do other communities have high housing costs comparable to King County? Response: Communities demonstrating success with Rapid Rehousing have housing costs very similar to King County. KC Average 2BR = $1,098.
  - Alameda’s Avg 2BR = $1,402. Avg assistance was $4K, exit to PH was 94% and return to homelessness 2%
  - Sacramento’s Avg 2BR = $1,021. Avg assistance just over $5K, exit to PH was 88%, return to homelessness 2%
  - Orange County Avg 2BR = $1,652. Avg assistance $4K, exit to PH 89%, return to homelessness 6%

What’s essential to Rapid Rehousing:

- The focus is on PERMANENT HOUSING
- Flexible resources
- Relationships with landlords
- Links to other services in the community
- Skill managing a flexible program
- Strengths-Based: Partnership with clients to make realistic plan
- Ability to engage family/friends if appropriate

Join the Conversation!

Monthly Informational Sessions with the Family Initiative Staff
Wednesday, August 15th 9:30am-11:00am
(every 3rd Wednesday of the month)
Likely 2100 Building in Seattle (2100 24th Ave S) email Triina to confirm

Come talk with Debbi Knowles & Triina Tennelo about the work of the Family Homelessness Initiative. These monthly informational sessions are an opportunity to talk about the efforts of the Initiative, hear about next steps, and ask questions. It is open to anyone who would like to come.

Contact Triina for more information triina.tennelo@kingcounty.gov

* Katharine Gale is a consultant from Berkeley, CA with 20 years’ in the fields of homelessness and special needs housing. She provides services to public and non-profit agencies including community-wide planning, new program development, training and curriculum development; data analysis, research and evaluation. Ms. Gale is an associate of the National Alliance to End Homelessness’ Capacity Building Network, and helped design and delivers the Alliance’s Performance Improvement Clinics.