BREAKING NEWS AND INFORMATION

If you have an item of interest for the CEHKC community, please contact Ayesha Kelly at ayesha.kelly@kingcounty.gov

LOCAL NEWS & ACTION

7th Annual CEH Legislative Breakfast – Strong Leadership/Strong Message

CEH hosted the seventh annual legislative breakfast on January 9, with turnout of nearly 30 state and local elected officials or their aides – our best attendance yet. At the breakfast, Governing Board Co-Chair Dow Constantine shared our many successes in 2012, highlights shared below:

- As of December 31, 2012 we had funded 5,130 new units of housing - more, per capita, than any other Ten Year Plan in the nation. And we have funded and linked to that housing the supportive services needed to maintain stability.
- Recognizing that the recession was placing many in danger of homelessness, we increased our prevention efforts and have prevented homelessness for more than 5,000 households.
- Our innovative Landlord Liaison Project is opening doors to housing previously closed to people with a history of homelessness – and in 2012, we celebrated the 1,000th placement in private market housing. We had hoped to engage 75 landlords – we already have 165 in the program.
- We established coordinated entry into housing. Our Client Care Coordination system prioritizes for housing those who are most at risk and the most involved in emergency and criminal justice systems. In evaluation after evaluation, we are documenting reductions in sobering services, incarcerations, emergency rooms use and psychiatric hospital use.
- In 2012, we launched the Family Housing Connection - coordinated entry into housing and supportive services for families with children. Now it is possible for families to make one call to one agency and tell their story just one time to be enrolled into our homeless housing services.
- We are implementing a new plan to address the needs of homeless youth and young adults and give them a chance to move into adulthood with stable lives and hopeful futures.
- We coordinated our funding rounds to make the best and most efficient use of all our available regional resources and to bring construction to completion as quickly as possible, typically a full year sooner than before implementation of the Ten Year Plan.
- Our Funders Group was recognized by the Kennedy School of Government as one of the Top 25 Innovations in Government.

We thank our many partners and their steadfast leadership of the Ten Year Plan!

As we head into the 2013 legislative session, future efforts will build upon these past successes.

Register for Housing & Homelessness Advocacy Day: February 11, 2013 in Olympia (Note Date Change)

2-11: Hear the Call for Housing and an End to Homelessness. Register [here](#)

The day includes:

- Inside information and timely updates on affordable housing and homelessness legislation.
- Workshops on how to talk to your elected officials and be the most effective advocate possible.
- Meetings with lawmakers, armed with key messages, supporting documents and facts to help share your story.
- And an opportunity to feel the power of a strong and growing movement for affordable housing and an end to homelessness.

You’re Invited to the Opening Celebration of Aurora House!

Friday, February 22nd 2:30 – 4pm, 10507 Aurora Ave N. (formerly Cyndy’s House of Pancakes)

Join DESC for self-guided tours, light refreshments and a 3:00pm welcome ceremony with Mayor Mike McGinn. Aurora House contains 87 studio apartments with 24-hour on-site staff support for men and women who have been chronically homeless, disabled, and highly vulnerable. Public transportation is encouraged as street parking is limited. [RSVP via e-mail](#) by February 20 and include your name and contact information.
Results from SKCCCH’s 2013 One Night Count
On Friday, January 25th, Volunteers through SKCCCH conducted the annual One Night Count, our community’s point-in-time census of people without shelter. Volunteers counted a total of 2,736 individuals, an increase of 5% over last year’s total count, and a 2% increase when comparing same-area to same-area. While the overall count is still below the high water mark of 2,827 that were counted in 2009, when our investments in permanent supportive housing were beginning to gain traction, is also true that this is the second year that our region has seen an 2% increase year to year. The recession continues to have an effect on the number of people facing housing instability, and we have faced significant and persistent cuts in basic human needs and safety net services for the past four years. The continuing level of need re-emphasizes the importance of our working with local, state and federal partners to coordinate approaches and preserve the resources necessary to end homelessness. A summary of the 2013 One Night Count can be found here.

Youth Education, Career, & Resource Fair
Friday, February 15 – 10am – 2pm
Rainier Community Center, 4600 – 38th Ave. S, Seattle
This resource fair will give youth ages 14-21 the chance to meet with employers and college representatives and learn more about jobs and other community resources. For more information, please visit the Seattle Human Services website.

New Vehicle Residence Site Has Opened
A new vehicle residence site has opened at University Congregational United Church of Christ 4515 16th Ave. N.E., Seattle, on the north side of the University of Washington Campus. This is a new model with optional case management. For more information, contact 425-442-5418.

Youth & Young Adult Plan to Prevent & End Homelessness
The Y/YA Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness was launched by the Committee to End Homelessness’ YYA Task Force and local philanthropy in 2011. “Priority Action Steps to Prevent and End YYA Homelessness” emerged from that effort, and defines the initial priorities to improve how our system addresses the needs of homeless YYA. Megan Gibbard, Planner to the Initiative is hosting monthly Homeless YYA Stakeholder Forums. These will be an opportunity to hear about changes planned for our homeless youth and young adult system in King County. All are welcome. Megan’s contact information is: megan.gibbard@kingcounty.gov or 206-263-2974. In other Y/YA news:
The February Y/YA Stakeholder Forum will be held:
Tuesday February 26th from 2 – 3:30, at Renton YouthSource, 500 SW 7th St, STE 100, Renton
Tuesday March 26th, from 2-3:30, at the King County Library System Admin (960 Newport Way NW Issaquah 98027)

Where to Find Winter Shelter in Seattle and Surrounding King County Areas
A complete list of winter and severe weather shelters is now posted on the Committee to End Homelessness’ (CEH) website. Many thanks to 2-1-1 and others for compiling all this information in one place. If any information changes or something is missing, please let CEH staff know right away.
The list can be found by clicking on the "Where to find shelter in your area" link on the CEHKC.org homepage: http://cehkc.org/scope/shelters.aspx
TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

NAEH Family & YYA Conference in Seattle, February 21-22
The National Conference on Ending Family and Youth Homelessness will be held in Seattle, February 21 - 22, 2013 at the Sheraton Seattle Hotel. Registration is now closed. For those already registered, see details on the tentative agenda at the NAEH website.

Homeless to Housed Forum 2.0:
On Tuesday, February 19, there will be homelessness workgroup titled Homeless to Housed 2.0. Please join faith based communities and homeless services providers from across the County to learn more about how your faith community can provide homeless services in North King County.
When:  Tuesday, February 19
Time:  6:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Place:  Shoreline City Hall, Council Chambers, 17500 Midvale Avenue N, Shoreline

Social Media 101 for Housing Advocates – Wednesday, February 6
Learn how to use social media tools like Twitter and Facebook at a this free "Social Media 101 for Housing Advocates," training session, Wednesday February 6. Watch this videoconference from your office, or come to a live extended training session at Seattle University's Pigott building #103. This training is targeted to people who want to learn social media basics and advocate online for affordable housing. For more information, contact Catherine Hinrichsen at hinrich@seattleu.edu.

See more details, including the times for the sessions and registration information, at Social Media 101 for Housing Advocates.

Two Community Forums – Friday, February 1, and Saturday, February 2
“The Stages of Homelessness,” Looking at How Barriers to Re-Housing Increase by Stages
- Friday, February 1, 6pm – St. John’s the Baptist Episcopal Church, 3050 California Avenue SW
  Alison Eisinger, Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness, will speak about what the 2013 One Night Count numbers tell us locally. Watch short videos, eat a hot meal, and enjoy a brief presentation on a program serving vehicle residents. Announcements of other efforts, and a panel discussion including questions from the audience will round out the evening. Child care is available at no charge. Non-perishable food donations will be accepted.

- Saturday, February 2, 6pm – Ballard Odd Fellows Lodge, 1706 NW Market Street
  James Bible, Seattle King County NAACP will speak about poverty and the law. Watch short videos, eat a hot meal, and enjoy a brief presentation on a program serving vehicle residents. Announcements of other efforts and a panel discussion including questions from the audience will round out the evening. This free venue is not handicap accessible. Non-perishable food donations will be accepted.

NATIONAL NEWS

Senator Patty Murray to Keynote NAEH Conference in Seattle
The Alliance is honored to welcome U.S. Senator Patty Murray of Washington State as the keynote speaker for the lunch plenary of the 2013 National Conference on Ending Family and Youth Homelessness on Friday, February 22. Senator Murray has been a longtime leader in the homelessness field at the national level, and attendees can look forward to hearing her perspective on support in Congress for the work by the Alliance and its partner to work end homelessness. See details on the tentative agenda at the NAEH website.
CEH COMMITTEE UPDATES

Governing Board
Co-Chairs: Dan Brettler and Dow Constantine. Staff: Gretchen Bruce (gretchen.bruce@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.

Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, April 24th 8:30 – 10:30 am Seattle City Hall, Bertha Landes Conference Room

Recent Meeting: Wednesday, January 23

Agenda Topics
Y/YA Plan to Prevent & End Homelessness, Single Adult Shelter Task Force Report & Recommendations, 2013 Legislative Session

Interagency Council (IAC)
Co-Chairs: Stephen Norman & Sue Sherbrooke. Staff: Gretchen Bruce (gretchen.bruce@kingcounty.gov) and Anna Markee (anna.markee@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

Upcoming Meeting: Monday, February 4, 2 – 4 pm, St. Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral - Seattle

Agenda Topics
HUD coordination with Federal Government, McKinney application updates, Recent Funding Awards, Legislative updates

Recent Meeting: Monday, January 7

Discussed
Single Adult Shelter Task Force – emerging recommendations, Alternative Housing Models

Consumer Advisory Council (CAC)
Co-Chair: Rotating members; Staff: Gretchen Bruce (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

Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, February 20 6:00 – 7:30 pm, Plymouth Congregational

Agenda Topics
Hear Governing Boards response from SATF recommendations, One Night Count updates, Legislative updates

Recent Meeting: Wednesday, January 16

Discussed
Single Adult Shelter Task Force – emerging recommendations, Recruitment

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

Upcoming Meeting: TBD

Agenda Topics
Public Relations Committee on hiatus until notice. Committee members will be notified of next meeting.

Legislative Advocacy
Co-Chairs: Marilyn Mason-Plunkett and Barbara Langdon. Staff: Gretchen Bruce (gretchen.bruce@kingcounty.gov) Typical Meeting Schedule: Every Other Tuesday during session, from 8:30–9:30, in person or via conference call.

Upcoming Meeting: Tuesday, Feb 12 – Chinook 116 8:30 am – 9:30 am, and Conference Line 205-1111
Tuesday, Feb 26 – Chinook 116 8:30 am – 9:30 am, and Conference Line 205-1111

Agenda Topics

Population Affinity Groups

Family Homelessness Initiative Information Sessions:
Debbi Knowles and Triina Tennelo host open sessions to talk with local stakeholders (providers and funders) about the Initiative. Reoccurring: 3rd Wednesdays each month 9:30 – 11:00am at the 2100 Building (unless otherwise noted)
Next meeting: February 20th, 2013 9:30-11 at 2100 Building 2100 24th Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98144
Contact Triina Tennelo for more information: 206.263.9110 or triina.tennelo@kingcounty.gov. Also visit the Initiative website for more information! http://www.kingcounty.gov/socialservices/Housing/ServicesAndPrograms/Programs/Homeless/HomelessFamilies.aspx

Family Housing Connection: FHC staff hold a series of feedback sessions to talk with family housing providers on how to make the coordinated entry system for families most effective.
Next meeting: February 25th, 2013 10:30am – Noon at CCS – 100 23rd Ave S, Seattle WA 98144
Family Housing Connection website: www.ccsfhc.org
Youth & Young Adult (Y/YA): Megan Gibbard has begun holding monthly Y/YA Stakeholder Forums. This forum provides a monthly opportunity to hear about the changes planned for our homeless youth and young adult system in King County. The February Y/YA Stakeholder Forum will be held Tuesday February 26th from 2 – 3:30, at Renton YouthSource, 500 SW 7th St, STE 100, Renton. Contact Megan at megan.gibbard@kingcounty.gov

RELATED COMMUNITY MEETING UPDATES

South King County Forum on Homelessness
Contact: Jason Johnson, City of Kent jaljohnson@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

Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, February 6, 2013, 9-10:30
Agenda Topics: Seattle Housing Authority Housing Lottery, SATF Recommendations, Share news on resources and/or updates

NOTE: NEW LOCATION Kent Commons, 525 – 4th Ave N, Kent

North King County Housing Stakeholders Meeting
Contact: Kelly Ryder 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 Schedule: Every other month, 2nd Wednesday, 11 am – 1 pm, (brown bag) Shoreline City Hall

Upcoming Meeting: Wednesday, February 13, 2013, 11:30 am – 1:30 pm	Shoreline City Hall, Room 301

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: Thursday, February 14, 2013, 2 – 4 pm	First Presbyterian Church of Bellevue, 1717 Bellevue Way NE

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. Contact: Bill Kirlin-Hackett at itfh@comcast.net or (425) 442-5418.

Upcoming Meeting: NO ITFH MEETING IN FEBRUARY

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: NO UNIVERSITY MEETING

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: Wednesday, February 13, 2013, 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: Thursday, February 21, 2013, 9–11am E Cherry YWCA 2820 E Cherry Street, Seattle
Agenda Topics: Report on Single Adult Shelter Task Force and debrief of the One Night Count

SKCCH Population & Advocacy Committee Meetings
SKCCH has lively committee and general membership meetings happening in January as well as our annual One Night Count. Join us!

SKCCH Youth and Young Adults Committee: Tuesday, February 12, 10-11:30am Capitol Hill Library, 425 Harvard Ave E, Seattle, WA 98102.

SKCCH Single Adults Advocacy Committee meeting: Thursday, February 14, 12-1:30 pm Plymouth’s Simons Seniors Apartments, 2119 3rd Ave, Seattle, WA 98121.

SKCCH Families with Children Committee meeting: Wednesday, February 27, 9:30-11.00 am E. Cherry YWCA, 2820 E. Cherry St., Seattle, WA 98122.
Single Adult Shelter
Task Force Findings & Recommendations and Next Steps

Following the Mid Plan Review in 2011, a Single Adult Shelter Task Force was convened to explore how to transform the single adult shelter system towards one that emphasizes placement in permanent housing. Over the course of the work, the effort led to a short-term goal: to add new shelter beds this winter, and in mid-December, CEH, King County and United Way of King County announced that 135 new beds were added this winter – with 50 beds in Seattle, 25 in South King County, and the balance in East King County. Longer term, the Task Force explored:

A. **Role of Shelter** – Articulate the role of shelter under the Ten Year Plan.
B. **Data** - How can we better use data to inform policy and investments in order to transform our shelter system?
C. **Resource Needs** – What resources/investments are needed to support this transformation?

Below are key findings and recommendations of the Task Force.

A. **Role of Shelter**: The Task Force identified Four Key Roles of Shelter, used as a framework to guide the report:

1. Shelter as part of a safe, healthy, and civil community and society.
2. Shelters provide basic services to increase safety and help people survive.
3. Shelters provide a place for engagement, access to services and connections with community.
4. Shelters provide pathways to housing.

B. **Data**: The Task Force conducted a landscape assessment of shelter options and data to better understand shelter residents and their usage patterns. Highlights of their findings:

**Shelter Inventory:**

“Emergency Shelter” according to a federal definition, means “any facility with overnight sleeping accommodations, the primary purpose of which is to provide temporary shelter for the homeless in general or for specific populations of the homeless.”

- In 2011, more than 7,000 accessed shelter (Safe Harbors HMIS).
- Our system can shelter 1,704 individual adults each night in year-round programs.
- Shelter capacity expands during the winter (adding between 450 to 700 beds).
- The vast majority (91%) of these beds are in the City of Seattle.
- At this time there is no single access point into single adult shelters.

**Shelter Residents**

- From October 2010 to September 2011, 6,953 individuals accessed shelter in Seattle shelters and 760 individuals were served in King County shelters (outside of Seattle).
- The majority of shelter residents stay only briefly. Fifty percent stayed 60 days or less. Seventy-four percent stay 180 days or less (based on a separate cohort analysis of shelter residents over a two year period.)
- A much smaller group (less than 10%) appears to be stuck – what the task force called long-term stayers. These individuals tended to be older with higher rates of disability.
- While only 26% of the individuals were long-term stayers, they occupied 74% of the beds during the time study.

C. **Resource Needs**: The Task Force recommends an investment approach to 1) Open the front door to and build shelter capacity in order that shelter can act as a point of engagement; 2) Open the back door to housing - target resources to assist long-term stayers, thereby freeing up beds and increasing capacity within the existing shelter system; and 3) Increase investment in affordable and homeless housing appropriate to this population. Highlights of the recommendations:

1. **Open the Front Door** - Increase resources and build shelter system capacity.
   - Increase shelter capacity outside of Seattle.
   - Increase nightly Winter Weather Shelter and enhance and increase Severe Weather Shelter.
   - Increase resources to extend hours of shelter operation.
   - Align and enhance services to serve as a point for engagement, access to services and housing.

2. **Open the Back Door** - Focus outreach and resources to individuals with long-term stays of more than 180 days.
   - Assess, and prioritize long-term stayers for housing assistance.
   - Target Rapid Re-housing investments.
   - Create flexible funding pools for client assistance to obtain housing.

3. **Increase investment in affordable housing**:
   - Increase housing production particularly for single individuals with low-and moderate service needs.
   - Explore and create alternative housing models.
   - Expand graduation housing models.

**Overarching Recommendation**: The Single Adult Shelter Task Force established an overarching recommendation that CEH align single adult shelter strategies with the broader homeless housing system, acknowledging shelter as an essential component of the continuum of homeless housing resources available in our community, with links to appropriate services to help people exit homelessness as rapidly as possible. The Task Force further requested that the body of work be transitioned to become an accepted Investment Priority of the Committee to End Homelessness. Both of these overarching recommendations were approved by the Governing Board at their recent meeting on April 23, 2013.

Stay tuned for next steps in this initiative!