

HOMELESS SOLUTIONS STRATEGIES WORKGROUP

"Identify 2-3 alternative solutions to living unsheltered in Whatcom County, with priority given to solutions that can be initiated to prevent people from sleeping outside."

Point in Time Count of Homelessness

742 People Experiencing Homelessness Counted Jan 2017

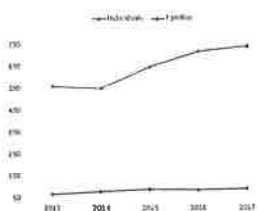
- 272 unsheltered – stayed outdoors, in cars, or other places not meant for habitation
- 470 sheltered – stayed in emergency shelter or transitional housing

Notes:

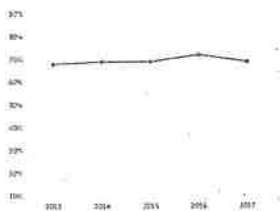
- The Lighthouse Mission added 40 beds in their shelter just 3 months prior to this count – allowing 40 people to be sheltered rather than unsheltered
- This count is widely believed to undercount the numbers

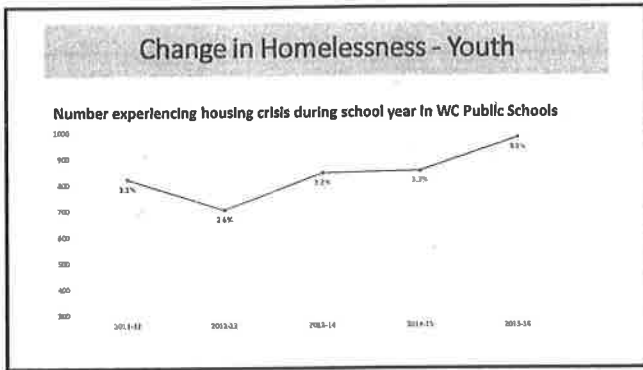
Change in Homelessness – Point in Time Count

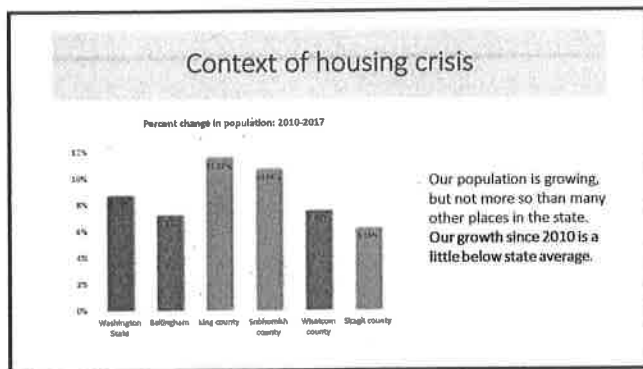
Number Experiencing Homelessness

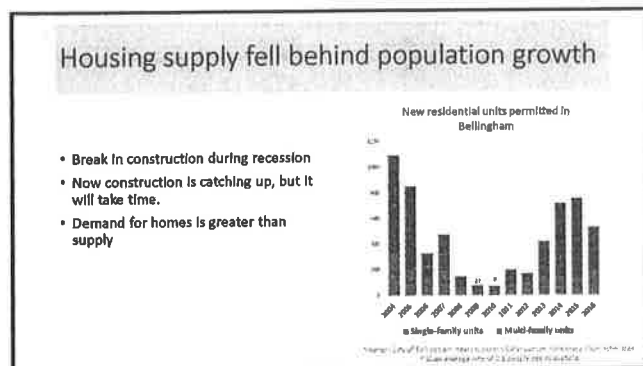


Last Stable Housing In Whatcom County

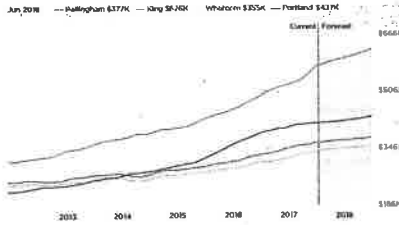








Housing prices are steadily increasing regionally and statewide.



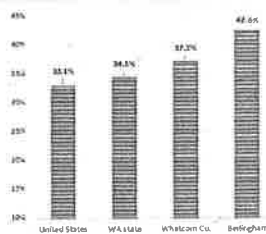
For low income households, there is a substantial gap between the cost of rentals and what they can afford

Bellingham's rent standard for a 2-bedroom apartment is \$1,065 (110% of HUD's fair market rent). At that price, housing would be unaffordable to a family of three earning less than about 85% of the area median income.

Income level for a family of three	Monthly Income	Affordable housing cost (30% of income - \$150 for utilities)	Difference (rent - affordable housing cost)
30% AMI	\$1,476	\$ 293	\$ (772)
50% AMI	\$2,460	\$ 588	\$ (477)
80% AMI	\$3,936	\$ 1,031	\$ (34)
100% AMI	\$4,920	\$ 1,326	\$ 261
Average renter income	\$2,840	\$ 552	\$ (513)

Housing cost burden in Whatcom County and Bellingham is above average

The percentage of households that pay over 30% of their income for housing is above the average in the state, and the US.

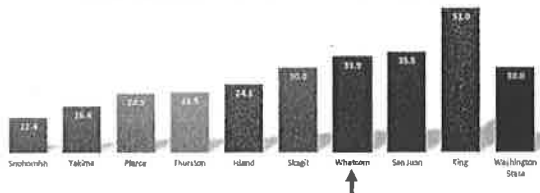


<30% of income going to housing	Not cost burdened
30%-50% of income going to housing	Cost burdened
>50% of income going to housing	Severely cost burdened

Source: HUD, HUD FPL 2015, HUD 2015, HUD 2015

The proportion of people experiencing homelessness in Whatcom county is close to the state average

Number of people homeless per 10,000 residents by county (2016)



Source: U.S. Department of Commerce, U.S. Census Bureau, U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, HUD

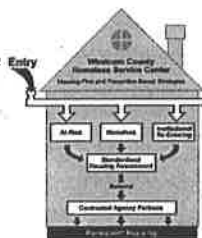
Whatcom County's Role in Homeless Housing Services

Whatcom County Health Department
Administered by Human Services Division

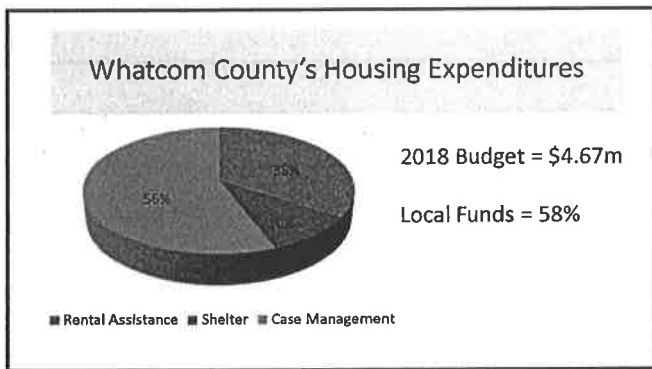
- Responsible for the 10 year plan to end homelessness
 - Homeless Coalition, Point in Time Count, Strategic Planning, Housing Advisory Committee (set by Interlocal)
- Uses local funds to leverage federal funding
- Facilitates community partnership for homeless housing system
- Coordinates with the behavioral health system
- Partnered to establish Homeless Service Center

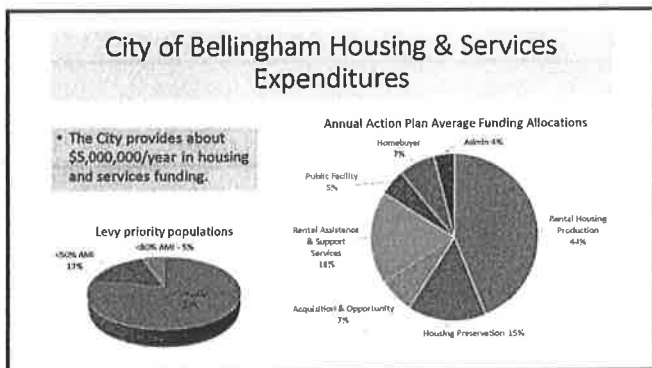
Whatcom County's Coordinated Entry

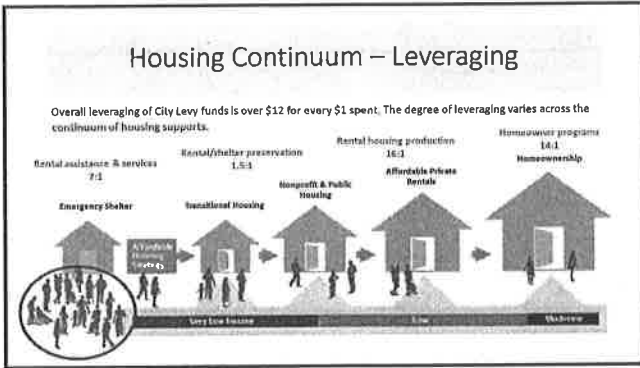
- Coordinated Entry is a best-practice for homeless housing systems
- Opportunity Council's Whatcom Homeless Service Center is our hub for coordinated entry and rental assistance distribution. WCHD supports key staff:
 - HMIS (state-wide database) coordinator
 - Housing retention manager
 - Project manager
 - Leasing Specialist
 - WCHD spends approximately \$331K annually, split almost evenly from local and other sources











The need for shelter, services, and affordable housing is exceeding our current capacity

- 742 people are homeless at a point in time, and about 1,000 people experience homelessness over the course of a year.
- This winter, the number of emergency shelter beds available has risen to 160 with plans to raise it to 190.

Year	Emergency & Transitional Shelter Beds
2012	140
2013	150
2014	160
2015	170
2016	180
2017	190

Estimated Need / Gap

- The 2017 Point-in-Time count was 742 homeless individuals in Whatcom County.
- Of those, 272 were unsheltered.
- 120 sheltered at LMM at the time (interim).
- **Need alternatives to living unsheltered for 300+**

Whatcom County Homeless Housing Funding

Rental Assistance	Local	Federal/ State	TOTAL	Percent (including WHSC)	Percent (w/out WHSC)
Opportunity Council	\$ 426,676	\$ 965,853	\$ 1,392,529		
Pioneer HS (City Gate)	\$ 72,000	\$ -	\$ 72,000		
Sun (I Street)	\$ 30,000	\$ -	\$ 30,000		
TOTAL	\$ 528,676	\$ 965,853	\$ 1,494,529	32.0%	34.5%

Shelter	Local	Federal/ State	TOTAL	Percent (including WHSC)	Percent (w/out WHSC)
DVSAS	\$ 28,000	\$ -	\$ 28,000		
Interfaith	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ 12,000		
NW Youth Services	\$ 65,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 115,000		
Sun House	\$ 147,170	\$ 126,530	\$ 273,700		
TOTAL	\$ 252,170	\$ 176,530	\$ 428,700	9.2%	9.9%

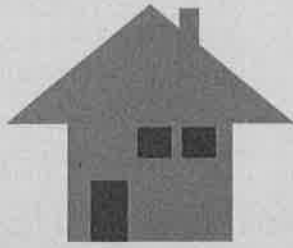
Case Management Svcs	Local	Federal/ State	TOTAL	Percent (including WHSC)	Percent (w/out WHSC)
Catholic Community Svcs	\$ 482,271	\$ -	\$ 482,271		
Lake Whatcom Tx. Ctr.	\$ 34,366	\$ -	\$ 34,366		
Lydia Place	\$ 190,616	\$ -	\$ 190,616		
NW Youth Services	\$ 202,831	\$ -	\$ 202,831		
Opportunity Council	\$ 297,398	\$ 629,944	\$ 927,342		
Pioneer HS (City Gate)	\$ 299,412	\$ -	\$ 299,412		
DVSAS Match	\$ 25,000	\$ -	\$ 25,000		
22 North	\$ 250,000	\$ -	\$ 250,000		
TOTAL	\$ 1,781,894	\$ 629,944	\$ 2,411,838	51.7%	55.6%

Coordinated Entry Operations	Local	Federal/ State	TOTAL
OC Homeless Service Ctr	\$ 159,947	\$ 170,824	\$ 330,771
	\$ 159,947	\$ 170,824	\$ 330,771

Services only \$ 2,562,740 \$ 1,772,327 \$ 4,335,067

Services & WHSC \$ 2,722,687 \$ 1,943,151 \$ 4,665,838

Rental Assistance	\$ 528,676	\$ 965,853	\$ 1,494,529
Shelter	\$ 252,170	\$ 176,530	\$ 428,700
Case Mangement	\$ 1,781,894	\$ 629,944	\$ 2,411,838
Total Services	\$ 2,562,740	\$ 1,772,327	\$ 4,335,067



NO PLACE TO CALL HOME

HOMELESSNESS AND HOUSING

7 in 10

people who are homeless in Whatcom County had their last home here



40%

VISIBLE HOMELESSNESS

Staying outdoors, in tents, cars, etc.



60%

HIDDEN HOMELESSNESS

Staying in emergency shelters, motels, etc.

WHO IS HOMELESS IN WHATCOM COUNTY?



78%
SINGLE ADULTS



18%
FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN

TOP FACTORS LEADING TO LOCAL HOMELESSNESS:

1. Loss of housing
2. Job loss/unemployment
3. Substance abuse or mental health



51%
HAVE A MENTAL HEALTH DISABILITY



12%
VETERANS

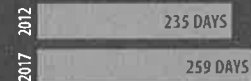


742+ PEOPLE ARE HOMELESS IN WHATCOM COUNTY ON ANY GIVEN NIGHT

INVESTMENTS MATTER: TIME SPENT ON HOUSING WAITING LIST



48% LESS TIME FOR HOMELESS FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN



10% LONGER FOR HOMELESS SINGLE ADULTS

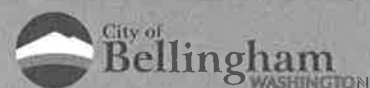
THE BELLINGHAM HOME FUND ALLOWS US TO PARTNER WITH AND SUPPORT THESE HOUSING ORGANIZATIONS:

Bellingham Housing Authority
 Domestic Violence & Sexual Assault Services
 Catholic Community Services
 Catholic Housing Services
 Kulshan Community Land Trust

Lydia Place
 Mercy Housing NW
 Northwest Youth Services
 Opportunity Council
 Pioneer Human Services
 Sun Community Services
 YWCA

WHAT NEXT?

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND DATA SOURCES, VISIT WWW.COB.ORG/STATEOFHOUSING





WORKING HARD, BUT IT'S NOT ENOUGH

INCOME AND HOUSING

AT LEAST

1 in 4

WORKING FAMILIES

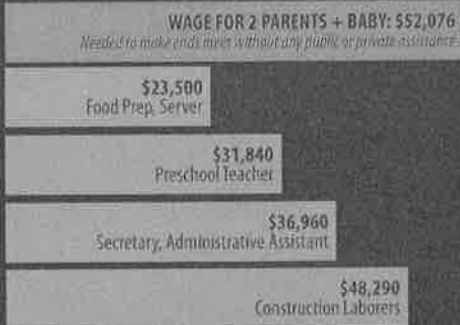
IN BELLINGHAM CAN'T
AFFORD THEIR BASIC NEEDS

"As a single parent with even just one child, I would need to work two jobs to be able to save anything of significance, let alone make ends meet or live with even the smallest amount of comfort."

-Mike, Bellingham Resident

HOUSING AFFORDABILITY AFFECTS EVERYONE

BELLINGHAM WAGES



FAMILIES NEED TO MAKE AT LEAST
\$76,000 PER YEAR TO OWN A
MEDIAN VALUE HOME IN BELLINGHAM

67%

 OF BELLINGHAM HOUSEHOLDS
MAKE LESS THAN THAT

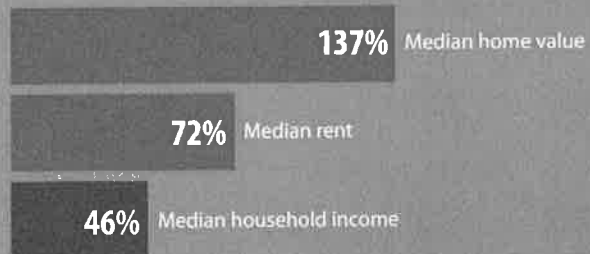
LACK OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING
MAKES IT DIFFICULT FOR
EMPLOYERS TO RECRUIT
WORKERS AT ALL LEVELS



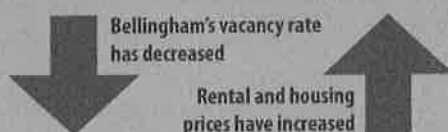
IT HAS BECOME HARDER FOR
PEOPLE TO FIND A HOME
WITHIN THEIR BUDGET:

- Wages haven't increased relative to housing costs
- Low rental vacancy rate
- Housing production slowed during the recession and has not caught up

2000 TO 2016 INCREASES IN BELLINGHAM:

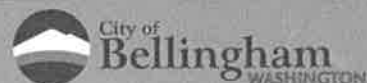


FROM 2000 TO 2016:



WHAT NEXT?

FOR MORE INFORMATION
AND DATA SOURCES, VISIT
WWW.COB.ORG/STATEOFHOUSING





PROGRESS TOWARD SOLUTIONS

CITY OF BELLINGHAM

Through the voter-approved Bellingham Home Fund and local, state, and federal dollars, the City of Bellingham partners with community programs to build and maintain shelter, permanent housing, and supportive services.

\$4.9 MILLION

Provided by the City in a given year for housing and services for low-income and homeless residents

25,000 PEOPLE

Helped by the City in a given year with services, including crisis support, food, and literacy



Through the Bellingham Home Fund and other City sources, our community helps build or fix up 131 homes per year for low-income residents

\$1=\$12.30

For every \$1.00 spent from the Bellingham Home Fund, we bring in \$12.30 from other sources for housing programs and services

HOUSING HELPS COMMUNITIES

CITY OF BELLINGHAM'S NEWEST FUNDED PROJECTS

- Francis Place (42 permanent housing units)
- Eleanor Apartments (80 senior housing units)
- Villa Santa Fe (50 units for farmworker families)
- 22 North (40 units, half for homeless youth)

Housing and supportive services can reduce the need for people to rely on already-stressed emergency services.

911 CALLS

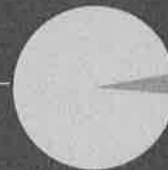
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After moving into permanent housing in Francis Place, 911 calls from each frequent caller decreased from an average of 28 to 6 calls per year.

28

Housing and Services Funding

Permanent Housing, Rent Assistance, and Support Services (92%)



Emergency Shelter (4%)

"I have not driven for over ten years and the convenience of being close to downtown and being at an affordable housing cost is incredible."

-Ana Marie, senior living at Eleanor Apartments

WHAT NEXT?

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND DATA SOURCES, VISIT WWW.COB.ORG/STATEOFHOUSING



Lighthouse Mission Programming Community Partnerships:

1. *Pioneer Human Services* has a Mental Health Counselor on-site at the Mission 15 hours per week
2. *Compass Health*
 - a. CORS Program: Certified peer counselors come on-site to offer case management, recovery and overall support of our guests at both the Drop-in Center and Agape Home
 - b. Fred Pulphus, MA MHP CCTP, with the PATH team supports the case management needs of the men in our Mental Health dorm
3. *Law Advocates* representative supports clients at the Drop-in Center once per week
4. *Sea Mar* does a weekly medical drop-in clinic at the Drop-in Center
5. *Frank Haskell Lions Eye Clinic* offers eye clinic services at the Drop-in Center once per week
6. *Peace Health St. Joseph's Hospital* has two medical respite beds at LMM that they can discharge screened patients to
7. *Lifelong's* Prevention Specialist Daniel Lares does HIV/AIDS testing at the Drop-in Center weekly
8. *Bellingham House Authority Preference Voucher Group* participation
9. *Whatcom Homeless Service Center and Opportunity Council*
 - a. Participation in Coordinated Entry for Single Women and Families
 - b. Monthly EBT sign-ups at the Drop-in Center
 - c. HOT Team
10. *Bellingham Goodwill*
 - a. Facilitates classes at the men's and women's program
11. *Bellingham Public Library* does outreach once or twice a month at the Drop-in Center
12. *Heart to Soul's Foot Clinic*: 1x per year foot and shoe clinic

HOW YOU CAN HELP

\$ Give Financially

Your gifts will transform lives!

- Donate monthly
- Sponsor through your business
- Leave an estate gift

🕒 Volunteer

Make a difference personally. Sign up for an interest meeting on our website.

📍 Come on a Tour

See the Mission up close, learn about homelessness, then spread the word! Sign up online.



Hope begins with a meal.

HOMELESSNESS:

Contributing Factors

- Addiction
- Mental illness
- Loss of job
- Disability
- Family instability
- Domestic violence
- Veteran status
- Medical issues
- Trauma
- Debt
- Limited support

ABOUT US

Lighthouse Mission Ministries seeks to walk alongside people experiencing homelessness to give them dignity, inspire hope, and point them to a new life in Jesus Christ.

Through the generous support of people like you, LMM runs multiple 24-hour shelters as well as recovery programs. At the Mission, grace flows freely, allowing people to feel safe, experience forgiveness and redemption, take personal responsibility, and celebrate their successes!

“The Lighthouse Mission was there for me during my time of greatest need.” - Peter



250

men, women, and children stay here each night



350

nutritious meals every day

For the glory of God, Lighthouse Mission Ministries desires to minister to needy men, women, and children through the provision of compassionate resources and services in the name of Jesus Christ.



@LighthouseMissionMinistries



@BhamMission

@LMMvolunteers

thelighthousemission.org

910 West Holly St | PO Box 548

Bellingham, WA 98227

Tax ID # 91-0659437

360.733.5120




LIGHTHOUSE MISSION MINISTRIES

Restoring People Through Christ



Serving Whatcom County's Homeless Since 1923 - Bellingham, WA



DROP-IN CENTER

A motivational community that encourages life-change by providing 24/7 emergency shelter (up to 150 people overnight), breakfast, lunch, dinner, supportive relationships, and access to local resources.



THE MISSION

Five distinct programs where up to 65 men live in a supportive, clean and sober environment. Includes intensive case management and offers weekly classes.



AGAPE HOME

A stable, nurturing, clean and sober environment for 50 women and children. Includes life skills classes, weekly case management, and a childcare center.



NEW LIFE CENTER

A full-time, year-long discipleship and recovery program for up to 10 men. Transitional housing provides graduates an additional year of support.

What guests have to say:

“Thank you for giving to the Lord. I’m a life that was changed. I’m so glad you give. I’m very grateful for every moment I’m here at LMM.”
 - Robert, Past Mission Guest

“That first night was the first time I had felt 100% safe in over 10 years.”
 - Julie, Past Mission Guest

“Words cannot describe the deep gratitude I feel towards those responsible for making this place available.”
 - Bill, Past Mission Guest

None of this would be possible without the community’s support. Please give!



Yes! I want to help feed and care for the homeless. Here's my gift of: \$ _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Donate by Credit Card:

One Time Gift Make it monthly!

Take out on: 5th 15th

Visa MC Am Ex Discover

Name on Card: _____

Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Signature: _____

Donate Monthly Thru Bank Account:

Take out on: 5th 15th

Please enclose a voided check.

Signature: _____

Do You Want to Get More Involved?

Check all you are interested in:

Scheduling a Tour

Planned Giving, Wills, Estate Giving

Volunteering

Email Updates (write your email above)

910 West Holly | PO Box 548 | Bellingham, WA 98227
 360.733.5120 | thelighthousemission.org

accepted

loved

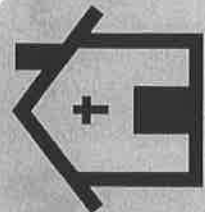
community

accountable

safe

whole

grateful



forgiven

belonging

Through Christ, men, women, and children feel hopeful, secure, and restored. They are prepared to live on their own and eager to give back and encourage others!