



Housing and Hope

Helping homeless families in crisis find housing and stability

WINTER 2015

HOW YOUR GIFT HELPS:

- \$25 buys a new pair of shoes and socks for a child.
- \$30 pays for one GED test for an adult.
- \$50 pays for the gas for a family to get to school, work and job interviews.
- \$75 helps a family pay it's electric bill.
- \$100 helps a family put dinner on the table for a week.

You can help today by sending your donation in the enclosed envelope or by donating online at :

StStephenHousing.org

Please give today!

"You have not lived today until you do something for someone who can never repay you."—

John Bunyan

Seattle Mayor and County Executive declare a state of emergency on homelessness: What does it mean?

You may have heard that Mayor Ed Murray and King County Executive Dow Constantine recently declared that homelessness is in a state of emergency in King County. While this may seem surprising, as we are used to those declarations for things like floods and fire, the move was made in the hopes of securing additional federal funding and to find better ways to combat the problem itself. As of September 2015, 66 homeless people have died

in King County this year alone—a number that is higher than those in many natural disasters. The



emergency declaration will allow the authorities to search for new shelter opportunities and allow

more flexibility in permitting and zoning processes, to make sure homeless families, including those with children, are housed. According to All Home, King County's committee to end homelessness, "our community has rallied to provide shelter and support for others in crisis—from international refugees to local and national disaster victims—and we should also do the same for our neighbors without a permanent place to call home."

#GIVINGTUESDAY™

December 1st is "Giving Tuesday" and it's your chance to wish a Merry Christmas to those in need!

After spending and shopping on Black Friday and Cyber Monday, we invite you to give back on Giving Tuesday. On December 1,

people all over the world will participate in the 4th annual Giving Tuesday, a global day of generosity that celebrates and encourages giving! You can kick off this season of charitable giving by donating to SSHA. Your support goes to help a homeless family feel hope and

find stability. You can make a real difference in the lives of families by making a donation to St. Stephen Housing online at: StStephenHousing.org or mailing your donation in the enclosed envelope. Thank you!

Find us online: [facebook.com/ststephenhousing](https://www.facebook.com/ststephenhousing)

Twitter at [@HopeforHousing_](https://twitter.com/HopeforHousing_)

Website: ststephenhousing.org

Email: office@ststephenhousing.org

EIN #: 94-3125444

Because of YOU, we can live our dreams!



“My boys are so happy and so am I!”
—Cha'Let

My name is Cha'Let Robinson, and I have 2 beautiful boys. My family went through a very hard time not so long ago. I was headed towards a divorce from an 8 year marriage and I wasn't even working at the moment. I was a housewife and that's how my husband wanted it to be until he walked out on us. We ended up homeless and having to surf couches in many different cities. My oldest who is in school switched school at least 3-4 times. We had no vehicle. We had only ambition and

prayer. We ended up in a homeless shelter. I was so excited when I received that phone call from SSHA. Patti, my Housing Case Manager was so awesome and loving. She was always there for me when I needed her. She helped me with anything I needed and was a big encourager. I knew I could become better if I just had a home to be stable for my children. No matter how down I was on myself for not being where I *thought* I should be, Patti always knew how to put a smile on my face and

some strength in my heart. During our year in the program, we had a lot of goals to reach. I'm proud to say that because of St. Stephen Housing I have reached most of those goals. I have my Cosmetology license and I'm now a student in college for my Associates in Business Entrepreneurship. I have a permanent stable home for my family. My boys are happy and so am I! Please remember, what you give to help programs like these, your giving is not in vain!

We couldn't do it without YOUR help!

Your donation will make a difference! Every dollar raised will help a family struggling with homelessness. Together, we can help families return to housing and stability.

MANY, many people and organizations give generously to help our families! We thank them from the bottom of our hearts—we couldn't do it without you!

Every year, our families benefit from the Seattle/King County Coalition on Homelessness' **Project Cool** Program, which gives out backpacks and school supplies for homeless children in King County.

Our dedicated weekly office volunteers, **Barb Brownlow** and **Mary Marler**, are angels in disguise. **Gene and Karen Smith** and **Dar Raftis** keep our donations organized and ready for families to use.

Our Hope for Housing fundraiser auction was put together by **Vicki Kennerud**, **Marge Staszak** and **Reva Lackie**.

Our landscaping and maintenance

volunteers help keep our housing units in good shape: **Charles Mack**, **Dennis Marek**, **Pat Bader**, **John Chromy**, **Tony Morfin**, and **Dan Pretare**.

Brian Ogilvie, **Victor Gomez** and **Ike Tarabi** have provided countless hours of muscle moving furniture to and from families' homes.

Jerry Flagel is our computer and IT guru who has saved our files more than once.

2015 One Night Count finds a 21% increase in the number of people without shelter

On January 23, 2015, volunteers spent the night counting the number of homeless people in King County living outside (on the streets, in their cars, and other places not meant for human habitation) and inside (in shelters and transitional housing). This count found the number of

homeless people living outside had increased from 3,123 in 2014 to 3,772 in 2015. Even those numbers are probably too low. Because the count is conducted in only select areas of King County, not everyone is counted. Including the number of people who are living in

shelters and transitional housing, the total number of people experiencing homelessness on that night was 10,047. This number includes 1,768 children under the age of 18. With numbers like these, it will take a community-wide effort to bring everyone in from the cold.





2015 Hope for Housing Fundraiser Raised \$10,000!



a former tenant, gave an inspiring speech about his journey from felon to becoming a loving Dad of his beautiful daughter Angel. His gratitude and humility was so genuine and we applaud the hard work he has done to get to where he is today. We are so grateful to those who came and gave from their hearts. THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to our fundraiser sponsors!

Mike Scarff Subaru
Lumber Market
Pacific Medical Centers
Joan and Tony Mladineo
Jan and Nelson Davis
A very special thank you to



for their donation to our event!

This year's **Hope for Housing** fundraiser was a wonderful success! With the help of our generous sponsors, donors, volunteers and over 100 guests, we raised more than \$10,000 to help the families in our program get closer to their goal of regaining stability. Steven Garberding,



Your giving makes what we do possible!

As a small non-profit, we could not do this work without the generosity of the many people who give. We need your help too! Below are a few of the ways you can help:

DONATIONS

We accept many donated items, including sheets, towels, blankets, dishes, pots and pans, cleaning supplies, beds, dressers, and other basic household items. We are always in need of food and gas cards for our families.

VOLUNTEERING

We are always looking for good people to join us!

Some of our current needs include:

- Furniture movers
- House cleaners and painters
- Fundraiser helpers
- Website and social media assistance

FINANCIAL

Enclosed is an envelope to use for a check or credit card donation.

You may also donate through:

- Payroll deduction at your place of employment: some employers

even match your gift!

-Donate online: find options to give through our website at Ststephenhousing.org under "Ways to Help".

-Fred Meyer rewards: enroll online at fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and link your rewards card to St. Stephen Housing Association. Our account number 83120. Help families while you shop!

Thank you for your support.

"Those who are happiest are those who do the most for others."—Booker T. Washington

Day of Caring Volunteers Rock!



This September, 9 volunteers from the **Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco-Seattle Branch** participated in the *United Way's Day of Caring* by volunteering an entire day at our housing units in Kent. They completely transformed the landscaping of 8 of the units and repainted the inside of one unit to make it clean and welcoming for the family who moved in. A special thank you to these amazing people! A shout out also goes to the **Lowes on Pacific Highway in Kent** who gave us an amazing deal on the landscaping, plants and painting supplies.





Thank you!

13055 SE 192nd St
Renton, WA 98058

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Thank you to our generous donors, partners and funders!

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Every effort has been made to make this list as complete as possible. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please let us know by calling so that we can correct our records.