

HOUSING AND HOPE

Helping families experiencing homelessness or a housing crisis find stability

2023: Celebrating a Year of Housing Focused Service

St. Stephen Housing continued its partnership with United Way and King County this past year, working with households at risk of homelessness through the Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance Program, **helping over 1750 households remain housed.**

In 2023, our own transitional housing program housed and supported 143 people (36 families), including 100 children. Our mission is to help families move into permanent housing, and this past year SSHA helped 14 families move from our temporary units into their own stable housing! Behind each of these statistics are real people, real men and women, real children, real seniors, who are in a more stable place because of the assistance to keep them housed. Despite the many sad stories of homelessness in the media, this is why we believe in housing first. We know people who are housed are in a much better place to take advantage of resources and make



progress on goals for stability: looking for a job, working on their mental health and recovery, getting regular healthcare and sending their kids to the same school every day. Without the foundation of a stable home, thriving in these areas of life becomes much harder. We invite you to join us in this critical work of serving vulnerable families. Thank you for your support of SSHA and the families we serve.

KEEPING PEOPLE HOUSED



After helping with the federally funded Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance program from 2020-2023, we continued to see a great need for rental assistance in South King County. In 2023, with the partnership of the cities of Covington, Des Moines, Renton, and SeaTac, we launched the Housing Stability program. This rent and utility program assists households who are at risk of losing their housing or having their electricity shut off. During 2023, we assisted 95 households with rent or utilities, keeping them housed and warm during the year. This program continues in 2024 as the need for assistance remains. For more information, please call our office at 253-638-9798 or visit our website at ststephenhousing.org.

ONE FAMILY'S STORY OF PERSEVERANCE

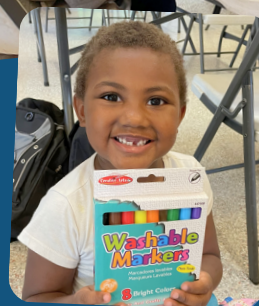
In the face of adversity, the resilience of the Bodden family stands out. After immigrating to the US from the Dominican Republic in search of a better life for their children, the family struggled to make ends meet. With four energetic boys in tow, they came to the Seattle area following the promise of a job. Mom found work while Dad attended citizenship classes, got his driver's license and became certified for traffic flagging. But despite their hard work, they still struggled to keep their heads above water and eventually lost their housing. In addition, their car was stolen, and they sought refuge at an emergency shelter. Soon after, they entered our housing program in Kent. As they gained stability, the family learned the children's grandmother had died. This was devastating news, but sometimes tragedies have silver linings. When the father traveled to Florida to take care of his mother's affairs, a compassionate family friend learned of the family's struggles and offered him a job in the roofing industry that included housing!



This was the lifeline the family needed, providing not just employment but a place to call home. SSHA helped with shipping clothing and shoes, gathering documents needed for travel, and helping the family arrange their transportation before they embarked to the Florida. Though we were sad to see this hardworking family leave, we were thrilled at the prospect of security for them. We are happy to have known this family and offer them a stable foundation during their time of transition.

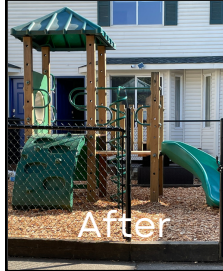
COMMUNITY CAFE!

Every other month families join in community to eat, chat and have fun! Sometimes we watch movies, other times we play games or do arts and crafts! And sometimes we get haircuts for the first day of school! These gatherings are a fantastic way to foster a sense of community, support, and camaraderie among families and staff.



MAINVUE DAY

We were honored last September to be chosen as the recipient of Mainvue Day, an event put on every year by the generous owners and employees of Mainvue Homes. These hardworking folks came together to provide over \$28,000 worth of improvements and repairs to our Auburn units. Their team completed various projects, including installing a new fence and bark around the playground, painting, sprucing up our community garden beds, general landscaping repair and clean-up, building a new paved location for a BBQ, constructing a new deck for the units, and more! We are so grateful for the hard work of this generous and amazing company!



THANK YOU TO OUR MANY FUNDING PARTNERS, CORPORATE SUPPORTERS AND INDIVIDUAL DONORS IN 2023. THIS WORK COULD NOT BE DONE WITHOUT YOU!

St. Stephen the Martyr Parish



HOPE FOR HOUSING 2023

What a fantastic night! The 2023 Hope for Housing event was a smashing success. Despite it being the first year back after the pandemic hiatus, supporters made this night one to remember! Thank you to one and all who made this night possible: sponsors, donors, volunteers and attendees! You showed once again how much you care and together raised over \$30,000 to help those in need!





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To make a one-time donation or to sign up for monthly giving, scan the code above, use the enclosed envelope, or visit our website at ststephenhousing.org. Thank you for considering a gift!



THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

YOU make this work possible!

Our programs rely on donors and supporters like you to continue the critical work of helping families experiencing or at risk of homelessness find stability and a safe place to live. Every single contribution makes a tangible difference in the lives of families in our programs.

Please consider a monthly contribution to our housing programs.

Your ongoing support enables us to continue offering vital resources, assistance, and a safe haven for families in need. By signing up for monthly giving, you ensure that families are stably supported by our program for this month and many months to come.

Together, we can make a lasting difference and create brighter futures for those facing homelessness. Thank you for your compassion and commitment to helping us build a stronger, more compassionate community!

