



→ **WA Legislative Budget Summary**

WLIHA IMMEDIATE RELEASE - WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30, 2016

Legislature Misses Opportunity to Address Statewide Homelessness Crisis Disappointing Budget Results for Affordable Housing & Homelessness

Olympia – Investments in affordable housing & homelessness in the compromise operating & capital budgets are a small step forward in recognizing the crisis afflicting tens of thousands of families & individuals in communities across Washington. However, these investments fail to expand the proven solutions we need to address homelessness.

The supplemental budgets fall far short of addressing the existing need on the streets & in communities across our state. The original House Operating Budget proposal (HB 2376) was passed by the Democratic-majority House of Representatives & included an additional \$37.5 million for affordable housing & supportive services for those in need. The Bring Washington Home Act, (SB 6647) proposed by Senate Democratic Leader Sharon Nelson (D-34, Maury Island) would have invested an additional \$186.8 million in a range of affordable housing solutions, homelessness outreach & intervention, & supportive services. Either of these earlier proposals would have made a significant positive impact in the lives of the families & individuals across Washington who are homeless or at risk of becoming so – but the Republican-controlled State Senate refused to give either proposal serious consideration beyond a cursory public hearing.

The final compromise Capital & Operating Budgets passed by the Legislature does total approximately \$15 Million for affordable housing & homelessness services. Some of the investments & re-appropriation of funds support important youth homelessness programs, including: \$2 Million for the Homeless Student Stability Act (HB 1682), \$1.028 Million for HOPE Beds for homeless youth, & \$800,000 for Street Youth Services. Unfortunately, the vast majority of this is from existing program funding & does not actually invest new resources in proven solutions to homelessness.

The final compromise Capital Budget (HB 2380) provides an additional \$8 million for affordable housing, including for the Housing Trust Fund, which will fund affordable homes through a competitive grant process & will also fund four specific projects including two youth shelters. Additionally a new program is created, modeled from a similar program in Oregon, which provides incentives for landlords to rent to tenants relying on federal Housing Choice (section 8) vouchers by funding reimbursement for damages to units that exceed normal wear & tear. This new program seeks to help break down unnecessary & unfair barriers to housing by addressing the unfounded fears of landlords that low-income renters cause more damage to units.

Overall, these budgets do not keep pace with the growing need in Washington State. Recent data from the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction shows that 35,511 public school children were homeless at some point in the last school year. During the recent point in time count in January, 4,505 people were counted outside in the middle of the night, after the shelters were full in King County. That represented a 19% increase over 2015. Snohomish County saw a 54% increase in unsheltered homelessness in that same period. Kitsap County saw a 30% increase, including a doubling of people living unsheltered. Pierce County results are not yet known.

Significantly greater investment is needed to address this crisis. The Washington Low Income Housing Alliance will continue to work with elected officials toward meaningful, comprehensive solutions.

→ **Senior housing group agrees to better accommodate disabled residents**

http://www.thenewstribune.com/news/local/article69501162.html#eml=Afternoon_Newsletter

➔ **Foreclosures, late payments higher in Tacoma area than state, nation**

http://www.thenewtribune.com/news/business/real-estate-news/article69277122.html#emlnl=Afternoon_Newsletter

➔ **2016 income limits for Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) for Tacoma/Pierce County**

CDBG Program Income Limits

Effective: March 28, 2016 (CDBG)

Family Size	Median Income	30% of Median Income Limit	50% of Median Income Limit	60% of Median Income Limit	65% of Median Income Limit	80% of Median Income Limit
1	\$50,700	\$15,200	\$25,350	\$30,420	\$32,955	\$40,500
2	57,900	17,400	28,950	34,740	37,635	46,300
3	65,100	20,160	32,550	39,060	42,315	52,100
4	72,300	24,300	36,150	43,380	46,995	57,850
5	78,100	28,440	39,050	46,860	50,765	62,500
6	83,900	32,580	41,950	50,340	54,535	67,150
7	89,700	36,730	44,850	53,820	58,305	71,750
8	95,500	40,890	47,750	57,300	62,075	76,400

➔ **(Not) Hating Growth**

If done right, growth will let this region grow gracefully

With the help of a pollster, the regional sustainability organization Forterra recently surveyed Puget Sound residents about attitudes toward growth. Hear the results, which may surprise you. Plus learn what values we hold most dear in the face of continuing — or even intensifying — expansion. Forterra president Gene Duvernoy also discusses his organization's innovative efforts to protect the spots that are foundational to keeping this place we live, a place we love.

- Date: Thursday, April 7, 2016
- Time: 5:30 - 7 p.m.
- Location: William W. Philip Hall 1918 Pacific Ave., Tacoma

RSVP NOW



➔ **From our friends at the National WIC Association**

National Organizations: Please join the National WIC Association (NWA) in asking Congress to fund the WIC Program adequately in FY 2017!

The National WIC Association has asked for \$6.366 billion for WIC in the FY 2017 Agriculture Appropriations bill to: Assure that no eligible applicants be turned away; maintain current and anticipated WIC participation levels; assure adequate nutrition services and administration (NSA) funding; respond adequately to forecasts of food cost inflation; and provide funds for nutrition services to maintain clinic staffing and assure competitive salaries. In light of the critical role WIC plays in building a better future for America’s women and children, we urge you and your organization to join us in making this request of Congress. ➔ To read the letter & sign your national organization on, please fill out the [google form](#). The deadline to sign-on is COB Friday, April 8, 2016.

Live Webinar on

Texting and E-mail with Patients - Meeting Patient Requests within the HIPAA Rules

Date: Tuesday, June 28, 2016

Time: 10:00 AM PDT | 01:00 PM EDT

[Register Now](#)

Duration: 90 Minutes

Location: **Online**

Instructor: Jim Sheldon Dean

Overview: This session will focus on the rights of individuals to communicate in the manner they desire, and how a medical office can decide what is an acceptable process for communications with individuals. The session will explain how to discuss communications options with individuals so that you can best meet their needs and desires, while preserving their rights under the rules.

Areas covered in the session:

- Find out the ways that patients want to use their e-mail and texting to communicate with providers, and the ways providers want to use e-mail and texting to enable better patient care
- Learn what are the risks of using e-mail and texting, what can go wrong, and what can result when it does
- Find out about HIPAA requirements for access and patient preferences, as well as the requirements to protect PHI
- Learn how to use an information security management process to evaluate risks and make decisions about how best to protect PHI and meet patient needs and desires
- Find out what policies and procedures you should have in place for dealing with e-mail and texting, as well as any new technology
- Learn about the training and education that must take place to ensure your staff uses e-mail and texting properly and does not risk exposure of PHI
- Find out the steps that must be followed in the event of a breach of PHI
- Learn about how the HIPAA audit and enforcement activities are now being increased and what you need to do to survive a HIPAA audit

Who Will Benefit:

- Compliance Director
- CEO
- CFO
- Privacy Officer
- Security Officer
- Information Systems Manager
- HIPAA Officer
- Chief Information Officer
- Health Information Manager
- Healthcare Counsel/lawyer

About Speaker

Jim Sheldon Dean

Director of Compliance Services, Lewis Creek Systems, LLC

Jim Sheldon Dean is the founder and director of compliance services at Lewis Creek Systems, LLC, a Vermont-based consulting firm founded in 1982, providing information privacy and security regulatory compliance services to a variety of health care providers, businesses, universities, small and large hospitals, urban and rural mental health and social service agencies, health insurance plans, and health care business associates. Sheldon-Dean serves on the HIMSS Information Systems Security Workgroup, has co-chaired the Workgroup for Electronic Data Interchange Privacy and Security Workgroup...[more](#)

- Office Manager

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It would be really nice if you can circulate this mail to all your deserving colleagues who can immensely benefit from this program.

For more information, please contact the [event coordinator](#). We look forward to seeing you at the webinar.

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