

→ Register for Conference on Ending Homelessness – Here in Tacoma – no excuses!



Don't miss this important deadline: [Early bird registration rates](#) for the Conference on Ending Homelessness expire next Tuesday, April 25th at 11:59 PM!

This year's conference is not to be missed, particularly for those who need Continuing Education Credits! Of our 52 scheduled sessions, 33 are certified for continuing education credits by the National Association of Social Workers, Washington. Our conference program committee worked hard to create a program that is full of learning opportunities for everyone - from community advocates to direct service providers.

Our CEU certified programming aims to equip direct service providers with insight into new evidence based practices to help them play their part in solving homelessness. CEU sessions include:

- [Youth Coordinated Entry](#)
- [Survivors Need You: How You Can Help!](#)
- [Prioritization Pays Off!](#)
- [Serving Transgender Clients](#)



Early bird rates expire April 25!

REGISTER NOW for the Conference on Ending Homelessness
May 10-11, 2017
Tacoma, Washington

Check out our [conference website](#) to view all of the CEU certified sessions offered at the conference, along with sessions about policy and advocacy, youth and young adults, and more! Be sure to [register](#) before April 25th at 11:59 PM to receive the best rate!

I look forward to seeing you in Tacoma!

→ Legislative update from WLIHA:

<http://wliha.org/advocacy/overview>

→ Advocacy News & Resources 04-19

Here are great resources from the Budget & Policy Center: An informative “schmudget” post on the house revenue package and a page containing a lot more resources on the capital gains proposal including why it is not an income tax and a very helpful Q&A that is perfect to share with friends, family and colleagues! → [here is the link to HB 2186](#).

Q: What is the best way to engage with lawmakers? Email, letters, phone calls, or in person?

Answer: All of the above. Also add social media. If your lawmakers are supportive, back them up and let them know that you have their back. We [House Democrats] are getting attacked by the other side on this.

Q: What are the most effective ways to advocate for this bill? To whom should we be targeting our advocacy?

Answer: Share your personal story and explain the real world impact. Target your own lawmaker, but also target your community. We need our friends and families around the state. People don't understand state government and anything you can do to help people understand government and how it works is extremely helpful.

Q: Why is there so much discrepancy in the way the Rs and Ds talk about the capital gains tax... one says it really is an income tax and the other says it's not... it's an excise tax.

Answer: The discrepancy is philosophical. “Camel’s nose under the tent”, but it doesn’t address what the tax is at all. We have a solid case that this is an excise tax and not an income tax. This really isn’t an income tax by any ordinary sense of the term. This will almost exclusively impact the very rich, but even their annual tax rate won’t even be raised that high.

Thanks again everyone. Stay tuned for announcements soon from the Housing Alliance on more calls and webinars focusing on special session advocacy!

→ Housing Trust Fund Application Workshops

Attached please find details about five upcoming HTF application workshops to be held in Olympia, Everett, Spokane, Seattle and Yakima. These workshops are intended to provide applicants seeking capital funding for new affordable housing projects with information about the application and evaluation process, as well as an opportunity to ask questions, obtain clarifications, and provide feedback to the HTF staff. The workshops will also include a short presentation on the workout application process for modifying existing HTF funded projects.

We highly encourage your participation. Please see the attached information and use the Event Brite link to RSVP if you plan to attend any of these workshops. If you have questions, please contact me by email or phone with the information below.



2017 Housing Trust
Fund Application Work

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→ **March Housing Data** – Elliot Eisenberg

March housing data were good. While starts were down 6.8% compared to February's outstanding weather-induced number, starts were up 9.2% compared to March 2016. Moreover, starts are up 8.1% year-to-date and were up about 8% each month this year compared to last. Single-family starts are up almost 6% YTD; multifamily starts, a surprisingly strong 15% versus a weak 16Q1. Starts should rise 6% this year. Solid.

→ **Youth Mental Health First Aid – Free – May 6, July 29, October 14**

The Jordan Binion Project, HopeSparks, and CHI Franciscan Health's PAR Initiative are very pleased to announce **free Youth Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) trainings for Pierce County parents and family members of youth with mental health challenges** (youth aged 12-17 years).

This is a great opportunity for folks you may know. Please feel free to share with others. This is a great opportunity for parents and family members.



Youth Mental Health
First Aid Training for F

→ **Associated Ministries Annual Gala – Saturday, April 29**

Big Auction Item: Napa Valley Wine Tour with a Two Night Stay

Register: <https://interland3.donorperfect.net/weblink/weblink.aspx?name=assocmin&id=38>

→ **THIS SATURDAY!!**



Celebrate Earth Day

50% off

all donated items

Saturday, April 22
Tacoma | Lakewood | Puyallup



Store

Shop the Habitat Stores this Earth Day to

GO GREEN AND SAVE GREEN

We're proud to keep items from going to the landfill every day and give them new life.

For one day only, get 50% OFF all donated items at all three of our stores:

Tacoma -- 4824 South Tacoma Way, Tacoma, WA 98409
Lakewood -- 6030 Main St SW, Suite A Lakewood, WA 98499
Puyallup -- 1329 E Main St, Puyallup WA 98372

Find discounted appliances, furniture, building materials, home repair supplies, and much more!

→ Pierce County Point-in-Time count results released

According to those individuals experiencing homelessness who were surveyed in Pierce County, the three most frequently identified causes of their situation are the loss of a job, eviction or family break-up. These responses are included in this year's [Point-in-Time Count results](#).

"This year, volunteers counted 1,321 people who were experiencing homelessness," said Tess Colby, the County's manager of Housing, Homelessness and Community Development. Colby noted that while the overall number of people experiencing homelessness was down since the previous year's count (1,762), many factors can contribute to fluctuations in count totals from year to year, including the number of volunteers participating, the weather on the day of the count and the time of day the volunteers are out in the community.

Mental illness is the most common disability reported by people surveyed. "Just over 30 percent of those who responded to the question about disabilities cited mental health-related issues," Colby said.

While County residents may assume people experiencing homelessness are sleeping outdoors, only 22 percent of those surveyed spent the night in tents. The vast majority of people without permanent housing are residing in an emergency shelter, transitional housing, a car or an abandoned building.

Only 7 percent of people identifying a prior residence lived outside of the state of Washington, while nearly 80 percent were originally residents in Pierce County.

The Point-in-Time count occurs annually in January and relies on volunteers to count people experiencing homelessness throughout the County. The results of the survey from Jan. 27, 2017, are not scientific but do provide a snapshot into the lives of those experiencing homelessness on that day.

The full set of data is available [here](#).

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→ HUD Announces Area INCOME Limits for Fiscal Year 2017

HUD (Dept. of Housing and Urban Development) released income limits for fiscal year 2017 (FY 2017). The limits are used to determine income eligibility for HUD-assisted housing programs, including Section 8, Section

202 and Section 811 and public housing.

HUD stated that the U.S. median income increased 3.5% to \$68,000 in 2017. **That means the cap for increases in income limits and rent limits for multifamily tax-subsidized properties will be 7%.** The income limits used to determine qualification levels and maximum rent for low-income housing tax credit (LIHTC) or tax-exempt bond properties are calculated separately from the Section 8 income limits. HUD is not involved in the compliance of LIHTC properties unless HUD subsidies are present.

Multifamily Tax Subsidy Projects (MTSP) Income Limits were developed to meet the requirements established by the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008 (Public Law 110-289) that allows 2007 and 2008 projects to increase over time. The MTSP income Limits are used to determine.....

[Click HERE for the rest of the article](#)
[View HMFA Income Limits by clicking HERE](#)

→ City of Tacoma

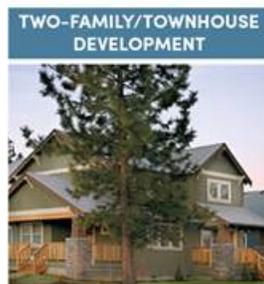
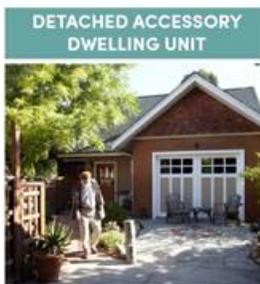
REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING NOTIFICATION

Tacoma's Planning and Development Services Department launched a Residential Infill Pilot Program in the fall of 2016. Several exciting projects have been proposed.

On Thursday, **April 27th, 2017**, an advisory committee comprised of staff and citizen volunteers will meet at **1 PM** (until completion) in Tacoma Municipal Building North, Room # 16 to recommend up to 3 projects of each type (Detached Accessory Dwelling Units, Cottage Housing, and Two-family Development on Corner Lots) to move forward to the permitting process. We invite the public to observe the deliberations, but all comments must be submitted via email or in writing prior to the meeting. The final decision resides with the Director of the Planning and Development Services Department, Peter Huffman.

For more information on the application process and project submissions, please visit www.cityoftacoma.org/infill.

If you would like to submit comments, *please do so by April 25th*.



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The purpose of the Residential Infill Pilot Program is to promote innovative residential infill development types and housing choice, while ensuring that such development demonstrates high quality building and site design that is responsive to and harmonious with neighborhood patterns and character. In addition, the Pilot Program is intended to develop a body of successful, well-regarded examples of innovative residential infill in order to inform a future Council decision on development regulations and design standards for some or all of these infill housing types.

