



NEWS UPDATE 03-14-2013

→ Washington Legislative Update

Advocacy: Please ask your legislators to support \$175M for the Housing Trust Fund to help create safe, healthy, affordable home opportunities for veterans, seniors, working families, and people with disabilities. Link to find your legislators: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/districtfinder/>

Passed: Foster Care Bills, extending foster care services (such as housing, among other things) to age 21 for people who now cannot continue under foster care at 18. Passed Senate & House.

Passed: Fair Tenant Screening Act, SSB5568, improving tenants' rights in eliminating erroneous information on their credit reports, passed with deep bipartisan support, 46-3. This marks another milestone in our advancement of tenants' rights as critical in preventing and ending homelessness and bringing justice to our homes and communities.

→ Federal Update

March 2013 HUD letter to Governor Inslee:

<http://www.affordablehousingconsortium.org/client/assets/files/03-2013%20HUD%20letter%20to%20Inslee.pdf>

Sequestration Goes into Effect, FY13 Continuing Resolution Passes House: On March 1, [sequestration went into effect](#), meaning federal agencies will impose \$85 billion worth of across-the-board spending cuts in Fiscal Year (FY) 2013.

Housing Impacts: The Office of Management and Budget's report to Congress on sequestration indicates that HOME funding will be cut by \$50 million, public housing by \$293 million, Housing Choice Vouchers by \$938 million, Project Based Rental Assistance by \$470 million, homeless assistance by \$96 million, Section 202 Housing for the Elderly by \$19 million and Section 811 Housing for Persons with Disabilities by \$8 million.

Healthcare Impacts: \$1.6M loss in revenue for Strengthening Families programs: Due to a cut in Title XIX Medicaid Administrative Match reimbursement dollars from the Center for Medicaid and Medicare Services at the federal level, the Tacoma-Pierce County Health Department will experience a \$1.6M loss in revenue. For more detailed information click here: [Budget Impact for TPCHD](#)

→ NOFA [Notice of Funding Availability] HUD FY 2013: Housing Counseling Training Grant

Application deadline 04-19-2013 11:59:59 pm [Eastern Time]

http://portal.hud.gov/hudportal/HUD?src=/program_offices/administration/grants/fundsavail/nofa13/htc

➔ **The National Reentry Resource Center**

2013 grant applications for the Second Chance Act/Adult Mentoring and Transitional Services for Successful Reentry Program. Applications are due by 11:59 p.m. ET on March 21, 2013. To download a PDF of the solicitation, click [here](#).

➔ **Sound Transit hosts open house on Tacoma Link expansion**

Sound Transit will conduct an open house on Tuesday, March 19 3 – 7 pm in the William Phillip Hall Conference Center at the University of Washington in Tacoma, 1918 Pacific Avenue. The event is part of an alternatives analysis to seek public input on the narrowing down of corridor alternatives for a potential project to expand the 1.6-mile Tacoma Link system that now operates between the Tacoma Dome and Theater District stations.

[Read More>>>](#)

Visit <http://www.soundtransit.org/NewsRelease> for complete News Releases.

➔ **Save the Date: 2013 Conference on Ending Homelessness**

May 15 – 16 Hotel Murano in Tacoma [Learn more at our Conference page](#).

➔ **Save the Date: 2013 Housing Washington**

October 7-9 Spokane Convention Center, Spokane Washington

More information: <http://www.wshfc.org/conf/index.htm>

➔ **NHNLA: Housing Counseling Training & Certification Program**

Live & on-line training courses for the housing counseling professional.

List of classes and registration: [Course Calendar](#)

➔ **NWABR.ORG offers Student Research Fellows**

Student Summer Research Fellows, a program funded by the National Institutes of Health, supports 10-12 students (especially those from backgrounds traditionally underrepresented in science) in a 2-week paid summer fellowship. Students visit a broad variety of research institutions throughout the Seattle area and learn how new medical treatments are developed.

Applications Due By April 8, 2013.

To apply or refer students to this program click here:

<http://nwabr.wordpress.com/2013/02/11/2013-nwabr-programs-are-looking-for-motivated-high-school-students/>

➔ **United Way's Off-To-College Campaign**

United Way is working on assisting homeless youth in Pierce County with basic necessities for college. Deadline is May 24, 2013. For more information please visit: uwpc.org

→ February 2013 Pierce County Housing Data

- **Household median income:**

Pierce County \$55,214¹ Tacoma \$47,862²

Note 1: U S Census

Note 2: areavibe.com estimate

- **Median sold house price:**³

Area	Feb 2013	Feb 2012	% change
Pierce County	\$ 199,000	\$ 175,500	13.4
Lakewood	\$ 177,950	\$ 145,000	22.7
North Tacoma	\$ 204,500	\$ 194,500	5.1
Central Tacoma/Hilltop	\$ 140,000	\$ 146,625	-4.3
So Tacoma	\$ 116,000	\$ 93,750	23.7
East Tacoma	\$ 102,500	\$ 100,500	2.0
Brown's Point	\$ 200,000	\$ 140,000	42.8

Note 3: Northwest MLS February 2013

- **Income needed to affordably purchase Median priced house [FHA mortgage 03-2013]**⁴

Pierce County Feb 2013 median price: \$ 199,000

\$ 862 monthly mortgage payment

+ 400 [estimate: taxes, insurance, utilities]

→ \$ 1262 gross monthly housing cost

= \$ 50,480 per year income required

Note 4: 30-year fixed rate mortgage

3.5% Downpayment = \$ 6965

3.5% interest rate 620 credit score

- **Median apartment rent Pierce County [Fair Market Rate 2013]**⁵:

Bedrooms	Rent/month	Salary to afford
Zero	\$ 608	\$ 11.69/hr \$ 24,320/yr
One	740	14.23 29,600
Two	964	18.54 38,560
Three	1421	27.33 56,840
Four	1707	32.83 68,280

Note 5: HUD

- **Minimum wage in Washington:**

\$9.19 per hour = \$19,115 per year

- **Estimated median renter household income:**

\$18.11 per hour = \$37,660⁶ per year in Pierce County

- **Pierce County renters unable to afford 2BR FMR apartment: 49%**⁶

Note 6: Out of Reach 2012