

→ WASHINGTON STATE SENATE BUDGET PROPOSAL

Makes significant cuts to human services: "The Senate proposal to address our basic education obligations is funded in large part through cuts to vital services for children, families and vulnerable adults - exactly what I have said we must not do," Governor Inslee said.

Senate Minority Leader Ed Murray: "We can't solve our K-12 problems without new revenue."

Read more here: http://www.thenewstribune.com/2013/04/03/2541466/wash-senate-releases-budget-plan.html#emlnl=Local_News

The Senate released their budget yesterday at noon, a plan that would increase homelessness & ensure that fewer people than ever have an opportunity to live in a safe, healthy, affordable home.

- Eliminates the Aged, Blind, Disabled cash grants for Washington's most vulnerable, starting in July
- Appears to also significantly cut HEN, possibly as much as 50%
- Housing Trust Fund is at risk of receiving no allocation

We are also hearing that the House is under extreme pressure to **not** include **any** allocation for the Housing Trust Fund in their budget next week either. **The Housing Trust Fund is at more risk right now that it ever has been.**

→ Please call your Pierce County Legislators

This is an all-hands-on-deck moment where your advocacy is all that is standing between us and having no new investment in the Housing Trust Fund whatsoever.

Click on this link for talking points and finding your legislators → [Please take action now!](#)

Link to 04-03-2013 Senate Budget:

<http://leap.leg.wa.gov/leap/Budget/Detail/2013/SOAgencyDetail0403.pdf>

Department of Commerce: page 37

Mental Health: page 90

DCFS Children & Families: page 87

DD Developmental Disabilities: page 100

→ **Please call your Pierce County Legislators** and ask them to add Revenue into the budget. Close the tax loop holes and extend current taxes that are about to expire. Local charities and non-profit agencies are stretched to the max and we and our vulnerable clients cannot shoulder these budget cuts.

→ 04-02 Housing Press Conference in Olympia

Joshua, a formerly homeless vet who is a compelling speaker, gave amazing testimony on the need for funding the HTF and how affordable housing has helped him and his family. Check out the article here: <http://www.theolympian.com/2013/04/03/v-print/2488921/low-income-families-worry-state.html>

"This winter, our school buses have been routed to camp grounds, shopping mall parking lots, and homeless shelters." -Debbie Gaffney, a social worker in the North Thurston County Public School District

→ Washington D C News & Advocacy Alert

Mortgage Interest Deduction (MID) Reform Legislation Introduced

On March 15, Representative Keith Ellison (D-MN-5th) introduced the [Common Sense Housing Investment Act of 2013](#) (H.R. 1213), which would repeal the mortgage interest deduction and replace it with a 15 percent flat-rate tax credit. Converting the mortgage interest deduction into a credit is estimated to provide a tax benefit to 16 million additional homeowners.

- Lower the cap on the amount of mortgage for which interest can be deducted from \$1 million to \$500,000; allow home equity loans and second homes under the \$500,000 cap.
- Convert the mortgage interest deduction to a 15% non-refundable mortgage interest tax credit.
- Phase in the two changes above over five years.
- **Direct \$109 billion in savings to the [National Housing Trust Fund](#) over 10 years.**

→ Please contact your Representative and urge him or her to co-sponsor H.R. 1213 today.

→ Call the Congressional switchboard at 877-210-5351 & ask to be connected to your Representative's office. Or visit [NLIHC's website](#) and enter your zip code on the right side to find your Representative's number.

→ AHC EVENT:

AHC Member & Public Meeting: **Opening Doors: Housing + Jobs** Also Networking, Light Lunch
Presenters: Tess Colby, Pierce County Community Connections

Linda Nguwen, CEO, Workforce Central Tacoma

Wednesday, May 3 noon – 1:30 ← note date change

1323 South Yakima Av, Tacoma Invite your staff, colleagues, friends

RSVP: connie@tpcahc.org

→ 2013 Conference on Ending Homelessness

Early registration for our 23rd Annual Conference on Ending Homelessness ends Monday 04-08!

If you'd like to pay the cheapest rate, you'll need to register by then. Check it out here:

<http://wliha.org/conference>

May 15 & 16

Hotel Murano

Tacoma

Scholarship assistance is available for those who qualify. **Deadline for applications is Monday, April 8, 2013.**

➔ **AHC Training:** Integrated Pest Management for Multi-Family Housing & Indoor
Environmental Quality May 28, 29 [1.5 day] 1323 S Yakima Av, Tacoma \$50 per participant