



PARTNERSHIP TO END HOMELESSNESS BOARD

DATE: December 12, 2022
TIME: 2:00-4:30 PM
LOCATION: <https://zoom.us/j/91815087344>

Welcome	Name of Person	Time
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions/Housekeeping • Approve 9/12/22* PEH minutes as written (Action) 	Candy Banker Candy	2:00 - 2:10 2:10 - 2:15
Committee Report Updates / Actions		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications & Engagement (CEC) • Data & Analysis Committee (DAC) • Public Policy Committee (PPC) (Report-out at Action Items) • Strategic Planning Committee (SPC) • Racial Equity Advisory Board (REAB) 	(<i>Committee Chairs</i>) John Hull Jodie Halsne Mary Anne Dillon Angela Davis	2:15 - 2:20 2:20 - 2:30 2:30 - 2:35 2:35 - 2:40
Updates and Discussion		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - FY2022 CoC Competition Updates - 2023 Point in Time (PIT) Count - Update: State Audit on Homeless Performance • 2023 Schedule: PEH Board Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Currently 2nd Mondays monthly, 2-4:30p 	Sam Debbi MJ Candy	2:40 - 2:45 2:45 - 2:50 2:50 - 3:10 3:10 - 3:15
Action		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Policy Committee <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2023 PEH Legislative Priorities* (Action) - 2023 PEH Legislative Advocacy • Annual updates to the Governance Charter (Action) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PEH Governance Charter* - Board Composition-Attach. A* - CE Policies & Procedures-Attach. H* 	Mark/Vicci Mark/Vicci Candy Sam Sam Sam	3:15 - 3:25 3:25 - 3:35 3:35 - 4:00
Wrap Up		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Meeting: TBD Location: Zoom 	Candy	4:05 - 4:10
Adjourn		
<p><i>*Note: Attachments sent or posted in advance with agenda.</i></p>		



Partnership to End Homelessness of Snohomish County 2023 State Legislative Priorities

The Partnership to End Homelessness is a collaboration of over 30 community stakeholder groups, nonprofit service providers and local public agencies committed to ending homelessness in Snohomish County. Our core guiding principle is that we are all better off when everyone is housed and no one is homeless: Adults build better lives, children do better in school and communities thrive. We strive to work with our state lawmakers on policies and funding that will help us achieve our mission.

1. Priority items to decrease existing and prevent new homelessness

Increase the supply of affordable housing and emergency shelter beds

- Invest \$400M in the Housing Trust Fund for new construction and preservation of emergency shelter beds, permanent supportive housing and income-restricted affordable housing. A safe, affordable and healthy place to live is the foundation upon which people build better lives. The Housing Trust Fund is a critical source of funding for addressing homelessness and poverty in our communities.

Legal Aid

- Increase funding to stabilize and expand pre-eviction civil legal aid and tenants Right to Counsel. Snohomish County Legal Services provides legal services from pre-eviction to eviction to post-eviction and other housing issues. Preventative work includes early intervention and education to assert and defend tenants' legal rights, protect against unlawful and defective eviction filings, and early resolution through the Eviction Resolution Pilot Program (which will sunset in June 2023). The Housing Justice Project also operates multiple clinics throughout the county with remote and in-person access and triage cases before reaching to the level of Tenants' Right to Counsel.
- Increase funding to allow the Eviction Defense Screening Line to assist tenants who are not yet eligible for right to counsel. The Eviction Defense Screening Line is operated by Northwest Justice Project and serves as a hub and statewide portal for tenants to call in and be screened for services. Cases are then routed to each county Right to Counsel service provider. This hotline is meant to be the first contact and also a triage point for eviction issues. This often requires staffing and attorneys to give brief advice and to spot the legal issue to properly direct the caller. Having a known point of contact, with the capacity to handle the volume of calls, removes barriers to access for tenants facing a crisis.

Rental Assistance

- End the Housing & Essential Needs (HEN) "benefits cliff" by extending the Social Security Income (SSI) pilot statewide to make it permanent. This would allow tenants to get continued rental assistance once qualifying for SSI or Social Security Disability Income (SSDI).
- Increase funding for the Tenancy Preservation Program (TPP) and the Landlord Mitigation Fund. There is currently a backlog of requests from landlords and the TPP program is a critical strategy to prevent evictions. The Department of Commerce anticipates that an appropriation of approximately \$10 million would address the backlog and prevent many tenants from experiencing eviction and homelessness.

2. Support Items

- Change the Aged, Blind and Disabled program to end the requirement that extremely low-income, disabled people pay back the benefit. This is an onerous requirement on households that are in poverty and already struggling just to survive.
- Increase funding for operations, maintenance, and services in affordable housing. The chronically homeless and other challenging-to-serve populations need intensive, wrap-around services in order to maintain their housing and avoid a return to homelessness. It is not enough to just put them in a shelter without the support they need to stabilize and begin building a better life.

Home Ownership/Foreclosure Counseling

- Funding for homeownership and foreclosure counseling
- Funding for first-time homeownership opportunities that will help close the BIPOC homeownership gap

<https://snohomishcountywa.gov/2191/PEH-CoC-Board>