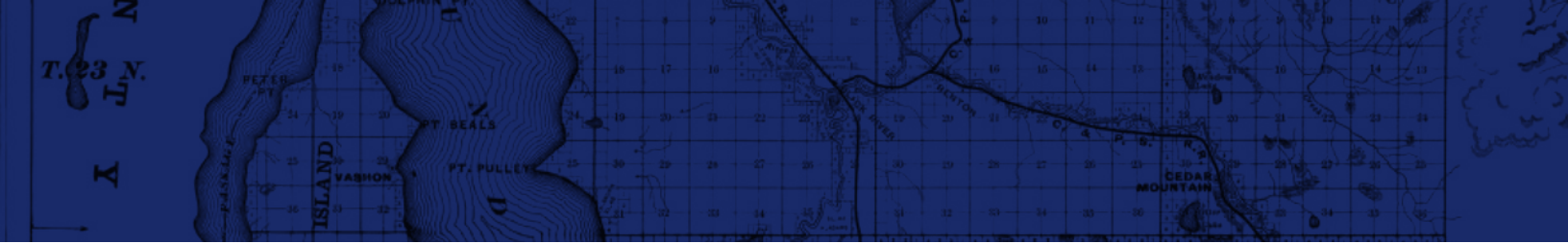




King County Regional Homelessness Authority UPDATE

Following is an update on the King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA) and our 5-Year Plan to dramatically reduce unsheltered homelessness.



We Are Facing A Great Need

We know that more than 53,000 people experienced homelessness in 2022. Without a significant change to our community response, modeling indicates this number will grow to nearly 62,000 people by 2028.

We need to treat this emergency, like an emergency. We need to create 18,200 additional temporary housing units by 2027.

That's our agency's job. And we have a lot of work to do.

How Did We Get Here?

Despite the work of government, providers and advocates, and our track record of innovation in King County, our homelessness crisis has grown over the course of decades. Unfortunately, this trend is true for communities across the country.

Here are the barriers we face:

- **National & regional economic impacts** from decades of an underfunded social safety net, rising rents, and wage inequities.
- **COVID-19, which exacerbated root causes** like economic and health insecurity.
- **Underinvestment in affordable housing.**
- And the **legacy of decades of historic discrimination in housing and health care.**

One of the greatest challenges we face in bringing unsheltered people inside is that our homelessness response system has been fragmented instead of coordinated, at three levels:



Providers are strapped for resources and front-line workers are doing skilled and difficult work at low wages.



Our system's outdated technology means our **Network of Homelessness Services**—shelter, outreach, and supportive services—hasn't been able to share information and coordinate.



And we've not made **System-to-System Connections**, working across healthcare, education, employment and carceral systems, to prevent homelessness before it occurs.

All of this led to a reevaluation of homelessness response, with government, business, providers and advocates, and philanthropy sitting down together to figure out a better way.

The King County Regional Homelessness Authority is the result of that reevaluation.

KCRHA's Role

The King County Regional Homelessness Authority was established by King County, the City of Seattle, business, and philanthropy to solve our systems challenges, and unify and coordinate this work moving forward.

Our job is to bring individuals, couples, young people, and families currently experiencing unsheltered homelessness inside, by meeting their needs as soon as possible. And one of the most important roles KCRHA will play going forward is to unify and coordinate funding, policies, and programs of 39 cities and King County into a single, efficient, successful system.

Progress to Date

KCRHA, working alongside governments, providers, philanthropy, and the private sector has made progress in its first year but we still have a long way to go:

13 The number of encampment sites we've resolved, including long-standing sites at Dearborn and in the Chinatown-International District.

1480+

The number of households we've seen receive long term leases through new federally funded Emergency Housing Vouchers.

292+

The number of individuals, couples, and families who have moved inside to temporary or permanent housing, through partnership on the State Right of Way Safety Initiative.

170

The number of individuals who have moved to permanent housing in part because of a new program called Partnership for Zero, a collaboration with the City, King County, We Are In, and business and philanthropic partners.

**More than
5600**

Individuals, couples, and families have moved from homelessness into permanent housing over the course of 2022.

Our partners across King County are making progress:

5 Crisis care centers

Voters approved a King County levy to create a network of five crisis care centers, including one exclusively for youth.

2023 Ballot

Voters have the opportunity to expand the Seattle Housing Levy in 2023.

\$400 **Million**

State investment in the Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing.

280

Housing units will open at the Together Center in Redmond, with more than 20 service providers onsite.

1,778 units

of Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) were opened by the City of Seattle and King County since January 2022, with an additional 1,550 units in the pipeline, thanks in part to King County's Health Through Housing program.

\$150 **Million**

State investment for encampment resolution.



The Path Forward: Our 5-Year Plan to Dramatically Reduce Unsheltered Homelessness

If we are to create 18,200 additional temporary housing units by 2027, we must make changes to the system, optimize existing resources, and invest new resources where they can have the greatest impact.

Our 5-Year Plan outlines a three-part approach, bringing solutions to systems challenges we've faced at all three levels:



PROVIDERS: Ensure every provider has the staff, tools, and support to implement best practices, so outcomes can be improved at individual service providers, like outreach and shelter.

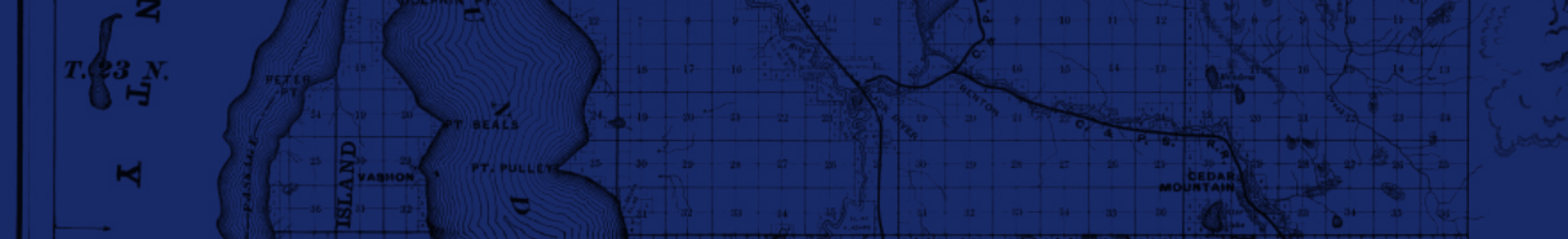


NETWORK OF HOMELESSNESS SERVICES: Coordinate our network of service providers through shared data and accountability, ensuring that services are available across King County and that the needs of disproportionately impacted populations are met.



SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM CONNECTIONS: Collaborate across systems—healthcare, housing, public safety, employment, education, and more—to prevent homelessness.

The activities listed in the full Plan provide a roadmap and set of action steps to achieve progress on each of those three levels, unifying and coordinating the homeless response system so that it is more transparent, accountable, and effective.



Years One and Two

Here are a few of our top priorities for years one and two.

- **Increasing temporary housing, sheltering, and outreach services.**
- Developing a **real-time bed availability tool** inclusive of all types of shelter and housing.
- Partnering with King County Behavioral Health and Recovery Division and Public Health and Healthcare for the Homeless Network **to improve our homelessness response system for people with significant medical needs.**
- **Improving severe weather response** across all sub-regions.
- **Increasing capacity-building support for BIPOC organizations** that are staffed by and serving disproportionately impacted communities and **developing more funding for “By and For” organizations.**
- **Developing programs in partnership with Youth and Young Adults** to cultivate a strong sense of self-efficacy and belonging.
- **Expanding capacity to support population-specific services,** particularly emergency housing for Trans and gender non-conforming individuals.
- **Improving data collection and system-wide performance outcomes.**
- And **working to ensure use of all available Federal funding.**

Much of the above, and more, is achievable within our agency’s existing budget.

A full list of action steps for years one and two, and years three through five can be found in the full 5-Year Plan.



Measuring Success

We'll measure our success by:

- Number of households accessing the homelessness response system.
- Number of households entering the homelessness response system.
- Number of households existing the homelessness response system to permanent housing.
- Number of households returning to homelessness after 6, 12, and 24 months from a permanent housing exit.
- Number of temporary and permanent housing units in the system.
- Throughput of temporary and permanent housing units in the system.

When possible, we will measure by household type, race and ethnicity, and program type.

It Takes All of Us Working Together

We are making progress. But we have a long way to go.

We can only be successful if our whole community—government, businesses, philanthropy, providers, individuals—comes together around one shared vision and plan to dramatically reduce unsheltered homelessness.

We can do this. We are asking you to join us.