Housing Hope & HopeWorks

Dwellings

Summer 2023
MADRONA HIGHLANDS

The Edmonds Lutheran Church congregation decided several years ago that they wanted to be part of the housing solution for community members in need in South Snohomish County. When Pastor Tim Oleson and the church leadership met with Housing Hope to discuss this idea, their dream started to become a reality.

“Housing Hope has a proven track record of planning, building, funding, and managing affordable housing and we decided that a partnership with them was the best way to develop our large-size property to create housing.”

Pastor Tim credits the concept for developing affordable housing at Edmonds Lutheran Church to the late, long-time member Bill Anderson. “Bill Anderson was a passionate force in our church and community to make sure that people had affordable housing. He gave so much energy to help with housing for all, not just next to the church, but also in the county and state.”

May 23rd, 2023, was the groundbreaking for this 52-unit housing community that will welcome area families. Half of the units will be for families with low income who earn less than 50% of Area Median Income, which equals $57,850 for a family of four. The remaining half of the units will be dedicated to families coming directly from homelessness, who will receive an intensive level of services, which will be reduced as families stabilize.

We are very thankful to be doing this important work with such a great partner in Edmonds Lutheran Church. While the groundbreaking was one of the most joyous occasions we have had in our development history because of this spirited and caring congregation, we know the ribbon cutting, anticipated in late 2024, will be an even bigger celebration.

UPCOMING EVENTS!

An Evening at Emory’s | October 24th
Save the date for an Evening at Emory’s! Proceeds will go to Tomorrow’s Hope Child Development Center, a HopeWorks Social Enterprise. More information coming soon at housinghope.org

Renew Holiday Party | December 7th
Join us December 7th from 5pm - 7pm and enjoy a festive holiday sale with appetizers and refreshments at Renew Home & Decor, a HopeWorks social enterprise.

A NEW TOMORROW’S HOPE

We’re thrilled to share the latest developments in the planning of our new Tomorrow’s Hope Child Development Center. You may have seen recent news stories in the Herald, on Q13 news or other news outlets celebrating some significant capital awards of public funds for a new child development center.

Tomorrow’s Hope’s current space is a former restaurant that we renovated into a childcare center over 20 years ago. During those two decades, this space has served thousands of children in our community, but it has greatly outlived its useful life. For years, our Board and leadership have longed to give the children we serve a better space to heal and thrive, and to give our dedicated staff a more supportive setting to deliver services from.

With all these plans in place, and with these public awards, we are finally positioned to move forward with creating a brand new, thoughtfully designed and expanded Tomorrow’s Hope in Everett that will serve an additional 100 kids daily. Stay tuned for more exciting updates and ways to be involved in the months to come!
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MADRona Highlands

Groundbreaking Ceremony

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When you’re homeless, life looks dull and hopeless. Housing Hope gave me my hope back.
STONE SOUP

Stone Soup, Housing Hope’s premier annual fundraising event was once again held at the Tulalip Resort on May 18th. This event brought together friends and supporters to enjoy good food, hear inspiring stories and celebrate our collective community spirit.

Guided by Rev. Erik Samuelson, our new CEO, Donna Moulton, COO, Renata Maybruck, and John Olsen, our Emcee, we reflected on the humble beginnings of Housing Hope in a church basement as well as the story behind the Stone Soup name: Sharing resources makes us all stronger.

We welcomed Vaneshia Scott, a Housing Hope resident and HopeWorks graduate, to the stage who shared her story of strength and resilience as she created a better life for her and her young daughter.

Via video, we saw and heard Dennis’ journey from job loss and homelessness to graduating HopeWorks’ training resulting in a new career and a new home.

A resounding Thank You to our generous donors and sponsors. Stone Soup 2023 raised a record-breaking $425K net!

Due to the enduring generosity of our loyal donors, we can continue to provide homes, services, and most importantly hope for more Snohomish County families who are moving beyond homelessness and poverty.

Over $425,000 raised for Housing Hope & HopeWorks! Thank You!

“When it came time to sign his lease, he was told he would not be able to bring his cat with him. Sprick had been by his side through some of the hardest time in Dennis’ life, “I’d rather be homeless than leave my cat behind” he told Housing Hope. With compassion and understanding, Housing Hope’s property management team was able to help quickly certify Sprick as a companion animal and the lease was signed.”

- Dennis, Housing Hope Resident & HopeWorks Graduate

Watch Dennis’ story online at bit.ly/dennis23, or scan the QR Code!
The Culinary Training Academy

Are you interested in continuously supporting our households in a small but significant way? Pathbuilders provide necessary foundational support for our programs across Housing Hope and HopeWorks.

A current Pathbuilder shared why they give, saying “I was very impressed when I saw what Housing Hope was doing for those without stable housing in Snohomish County. I decided I needed to take part in that with my continual giving helping to establish an ongoing (small) base of support. Cathy and I have responded in times of need even when our monthly small support continues month after month. Thanks for all you do to give people a decent life!”

Your support, big or small, makes a huge impact. Go online to bit.ly/pathbuilders and help build a brighter future.

Founder Feature

Todd Morrow

As we approach the 36th anniversary of Housing Hope, I am grateful that Housing Hope has helped so many of our neighbors. During the 1980’s when we were started, homelessness became visible as affordable housing was lost and the social safety net was changed. In Everett there was no emergency housing where the whole family could stay together.

In the early days, the Board made a very important decision: we would never warehouse homeless individuals and families. Instead, we would provide housing that would make anyone proud along with the supportive services they needed. This comprehensive approach distinguishes Housing Hope. We also decided to serve those with the greatest need. My hope is that Housing Hope never departs from those choices. Our community has been well served by them.

Housing Hope was fortunate to have Ed Petersen as the founding Executive Director. Ed brought together community volunteers, grants, donations and expertise like no one else. All of us engaged in this mission have been enriched by the opportunity to serve and be in community with one another—a marvelous thing.

Become a Pathbuilder | Monthly Giving

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COLLEGE OF HOPE BECOMES HOPE RISING!

After 24 years operating under the name College of Hope, Housing Hope’s life skills program is undergoing an update. Now called Hope Rising, the program is shifting into a wellness collective. A closed, onsite support group that offers connection and learning of appropriate tools for when life has unexpected challenges. The group will be rooted in a mutual learning model, incorporate key recovery concepts, and explore wellness tools used in daily living.

Hope Rising holds hope for individuals who could be feeling a social disconnect, experiencing stigma from society, in recovery, or facing loss such as unstable housing or unhealthy relationships. Hope Rising is based on the idea that we are the experts in our lives and is deeply focused on equity, equality, diversity, and inclusion. With no requirements other than self-determination and voluntary participation, this group will provide community and support for participants.

Stay tuned for more information!

THE CULINARY TRAINING ACADEMY

We’re excited to have construction begin this summer on the next two phases of the build out of our new Culinary Training Academy, with the final phase of completion of the Employee Community Fund of Boeing Event Space coming in 2025. Across all four HopeWorks Social Enterprises, we served 101 trainees this past year, which was a dramatic surge of over 100% compared with the previous year.

This 5,000 square foot commercial kitchen will alleviate the space limitations we currently have working solely out of Kindred Kitchen’s food prep area. That will enable us to greatly increase the number of trainees we can serve at a given time - trainees like Jennifer who recently shared at her graduation, “The comradery and relationships you make here are unforgettable. People here know that where you come from is not who you are. It’s about where you are going.”

SCRIBER PLACE

Progress continues on Scriber Place! This community (2.20 acres) is a collaboration between Edmonds School District and Housing Hope. Currently, in the Edmonds Schools District, there are over 700 students experiencing homelessness, and Scriber Place will provide housing for 52 families.

To the best of our knowledge, we’re the first community in the state to attempt to build affordable housing for homeless students on surplus school district property. Once this model is proven successful, it can be replicated in other communities as an innovative solution to solving student homelessness. We’re thrilled to continue work on this site, and are grateful to the community partners who help make it happen. Learn more at housinghope.org/south-county
William was born in Brooklyn, New York. At home, he was sheltered and pushed toward education and art. His home life was very strict with a lot of pressure on him to succeed, and as William got older he started to crave more independence. He had earned a scholarship to Kent State University and was heavily involved in the arts, however, before William fully enrolled into Kent State he got injured, which caused him to lose his scholarship. Still at home with an enormous amount of pressure, William decided he wanted something different, and jumped into the Marine Corps. He dealt with some culture shock in the Marine Corps, but his newfound independence made the whole experience worth it. After he was out of the Marine Corps William fell into homelessness, but within a few years, he was back on his feet with housing and a career in maintenance. During this time William had a son and became a single father, his life felt stable, and he was content with his growing family.

Then in 2001 his son unexpectedly passed away. He spent the next few years deep in grieving. In 2003 he went back to school to earn a degree in counseling. He started his career in counseling that same year and made it his career until 2017. During his career as a counselor, William fell in love and got married. They moved to Florida but separated soon after due to her violent behavior towards him. Not long after separating he moved to Washington State, where William found resources through the Homeless Veterans Program and got in touch with the HopeWorks Training Academy.

William met with Jerron, the Academy Supervisor at HopeWorks, and decided he could learn something new and valuable from the program. From the first day, he felt “embraced and welcomed to the program.” William went on to be the first male in the Tomorrow’s Hope training program, and he set the bar incredibly high for future trainees. He was able to balance being a respected caretaker and a friend to the children with ease. At his Graduation, he was met with praise and accolades from all of the trainers who worked with him, including one trainer who told him “You’ve been here 8 weeks and every time you enter the classroom it erupts into excited screams.” William took a holistic approach to taking care of his class, and his other trainer Amanda recognized that, saying “You not only want to make the kids happy and comfortable, you want the next critical thinkers of the world to come out of your classroom.” After everyone got the chance to sing his praises, William spoke about the impact that the program had on him. “This program allowed me to love myself in many different ways and I am so thankful for that. I absolutely tell everyone about the program, no reservations.” Since his graduation William has accepted a position at Tomorrow’s Hope as an assistant teacher.
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VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHTS
Civic and Corporate Groups

Every year, corporate and civic teams come together to support the mission of Housing Hope by volunteering in a variety of creative ways! This year, Mortenson Construction & Real Estate Development, paid for and remodeled an office space in the Housing Hope Admin building on Evergreen, providing a more usable and beautiful space for staff members to meet in.

In addition, several groups, including Boeing, ATS Inc., Crane, Fluke, and Marysville Rotary Club beautified and cleaned up residential garden beds and community spaces across Snohomish County. Some groups even donated some of the soil, gravel, and supplies needed to complete the volunteer project. Thank you to all for helping bring new energy to the resident’s respite garden spaces!

Stone Soup Event Volunteers

We’d love to give a special shout out to all of our amazing Stone Soup Volunteers! They provided hours of help before, during, and after the event with things such as stuffing envelopes, inserting flyers into acrylic stands, setting up the welcome tables and guest tables, greeting and checking in guests, sanitizing name tags and flyer stands, and much more.

Thank you to these individuals; Dianne Blevins, Pam Suter, Glen Moritz, Sally West, Mary Scanes, Kendal Greenpalm, Sharenzia Baldeh, Adam Grampp, Diana Lynn, and Carl King! Your enthusiasm and positive during that time were greatly appreciated!

Special shout out to Kohl’s for providing support right before the event and Pacific Premier Bank for support just after the event!

Do you have skills that you’d like to share with us? Join our volunteers! Apply at housinghope.org/volunteer

SOCIETY OF HOPE | LEGACY GIVING

“What you leave behind is not what is engraved in stone monuments, but what is woven into the lives of others.” - Pericles

If you value the impact Housing Hope and HopeWorks are making, please consider making us part of your extended family by including us as a small part of your will.

Email societyofhope@housinghope.org to let us know your kind intentions.
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I am honored to address you through this newsletter and share the progress we have made in our mission to address and alleviate the impacts of poverty and homelessness in Snohomish County. Your continued support and dedication have been instrumental in our efforts to create lasting change in the lives of individuals and communities in need.

At Housing Hope, our focus remains on providing safe and affordable housing solutions. We understand that having a stable home is not just about having a roof over one’s head—creation and maintenance of an environment where families can flourish is equally important. We have been working tirelessly to develop, construct, and maintain affordable housing units, ensuring that they are not only comfortable but also offer a supportive and nurturing atmosphere. Our community is transforming lives and empowering our residents to build a brighter future for themselves and their families.

Through our HopeWorks programs, we are opening doors of opportunity for individuals facing adversity. Our comprehensive job training programs have equipped over 100 individuals in the past year with the skills and confidence they need to secure and maintain sustainable employment. We believe that every person deserves a chance to thrive, regardless of their past challenges. We continue, with increasing momentum, to break down barriers, address systemic inequalities, and empower individuals to create a better life for themselves and their families.

However, all our efforts to provide housing and a trauma-informed Training Academy are not enough to achieve our mission. We understand that poverty and homelessness stem from a combination of complex factors that require holistic solutions. That’s why we are committed to providing comprehensive support services to address the wide and diverse needs of our participants. We acknowledge the need for access to holistic systemic supports including access to healthcare and mental health counseling to addiction recovery support and financial literacy training. In addition to our own services, we are committed to creating a network of resources with partners with whom we collaborate in the community that will uplift and empower individuals on their journey towards stability and self-sufficiency. We know that availability of and access to a diverse offering of holistic services is essential for families to customize the supports needed for their unique household to thrive.

Addressing these expansive issues requires a collective effort. We actively engage with local communities, businesses, and government agencies to create partnerships that promote social change. By collaborating with other nonprofits, advocacy groups, and policymakers, we work towards systemic solutions and advocate for policies that address the root causes of poverty and homelessness.

We are committed to measuring the impact of our programs and services. By collecting data, analyzing outcomes, and conducting rigorous evaluations, we ensure that our efforts are effective and responsive to the needs of those we serve. We also strive to share our best practices with other organizations, encouraging replication and scaling of successful models to maximize our collective impact.

Stay tuned over the next several months for exciting updates at the agency including progress on two new affordable housing developments in the southern part of Snohomish County, a new Culinary Training Academy, and emerging plans for a new Tomorrow's Hope Child Development Center.

None of this would be possible without the partnership with and support of our incredible community. We are deeply grateful for your unwavering commitment to address and alleviate poverty and homelessness. Your support has been instrumental in fueling our programs and services. Together, we are making a tangible impact and giving not only needed and useful resources, but also hope and a chance to those who need it the most.