

The 1st district is represented by Senator Guy Palumbo, Representative Shelley Kloba, and Representative Derek Stanford, and is located across the King/Snohomish County line. Data below are for Snohomish County and the Northshore School District.



AUDRA'S STORY

Audra first experienced housing instability when her father ran into a serious health problem. She and her two sons were living in his home, but he needed to downsize so Audra and her sons had to move. Rising rents in Kenmore left Audra with a difficult choice - disrupt her childrens' education by uprooting them from their schools, or figure out how to stay in their neighborhood by any means necessary - she even considered renting a storage unit to live in.

Luckily, it didn't come to that. Audra was connected with a resident cooperative called Northlake Grove, an apartment community for families living on low incomes. As part of her application process, the residents conducted a group interview and right away, they were very welcoming of Audra and her sons. Plugging into that community, where she was accountable to other people, was really important to her. She says, "It feels like an extended family." As a parent, she is comforted in knowing that if she's running late getting home from work or otherwise can't get home to her sons, she has a whole community of neighbors she can rely on to step in.

Audra and her sons have now lived in a safe, healthy, affordable home for 4 years. She works part-time in a doctor's office, and volunteers with her sons' football team. The stability of her home allows her economic security and supports her healthy state of mind: "I know what I have here. Between the support of the community and the safety of being here I don't have that fear of being dropped all of a sudden, like I have been from other programs." Audra plans to stay in her home until both her sons graduate high school, and hopefully longer. Audra values the investment she's made in her community, and the investments they have made in her in return.

