



The 12th district is represented by Senator Brad Hawkins, Representative Keith Goehner, and Representative Mike Steele, and is located in North Central Washington. Data below are combined for Chelan and Douglas Counties, and the Eastmont and Wenatchee School Districts.

MIKE AND MARIE'S STORY

In 2013, Mike and Marie were laid off from their traffic control jobs. Mike had severe medical issues and Marie had severe back pain. Mike received a small pension and Marie received unemployment for a short time, but it was not enough rent a home, and they spent the winter living in their car.

Mike and Marie struggled to find an affordable place to live, so they reached out to the Housing Authority of Grant County, and applied for HAGC's homeless transitional housing which offers services such as case management, utility payments, emergency rental assistance, transitional housing, and emergency shelter.

HAGC helped place Mike and Marie in a new home in January 2014. Wanting to connect with their community, and seeing a need, they took it upon themselves to act as "unofficial managers" by keeping an eye on the property and the families who lived there. Five months later, Marie's unemployment ran out and suddenly, they couldn't afford the rent. As luck would have it, HAGC had a managerial position open at a different property, so Mike and Marie applied based on their volunteer experience, and got the job. They took pride in their new line of work, and their support and involvement managing the project helped other formerly homeless families live successfully as part of the community.

Marie continues to live in her home and manage the property. Sadly, Mike passed away in 2015. Because they had access to a safe, healthy, affordable home they were able to plan for their future and collect a modest savings. And while Marie misses Mike dearly, she is self-sufficient and thriving.

