

# Housing Trust Fund

Building safe, healthy and affordable homes while creating the jobs our communities need.



## Fighting to End Homelessness

The vast majority of people living in homes built or preserved by the Housing Trust Fund are extremely lowincome, earning less than \$19,000 per year for a family of three.

### Leverage

The Housing Trust Fund currently leverages other sources of private and public sector support at a ratio of \$5.50 in additional funds for every \$1.00 in state funds.

Since its inception, the Trust Fund has secured more than \$3 billion in additional investments for our communities.

### **Driving Economic Development**

Each \$50 million invested in the Housing Trust Fund will create:

- 1,250 homes;
- 1,525 jobs in the first year and 400 jobs in subsequent years;
- \$98,608,750 in local income; and
- \$10,335,000 in local taxes.

#### Investing for the Future

Rental housing produced by the Housing Trust Fund is guaranteed to remain affordable for at least 40 years. Everyone should be able to afford housing and still have enough money for the basics like groceries, childcare and other essential needs. But more than 132,000 extremely low-income families across the state are paying more than 50% of their income towards rent, putting them at high risk of homelessness.

The Housing Trust Fund is Washington's best tool for ensuring access to safe, healthy and affordable housing. The Trust Fund has a strong track record of providing quality homes that allow people to stabilize and improve their lives, strengthening our communities and improving outcomes for youth, seniors and more.

Since 1989, the Housing Trust Fund has successfully built, rehabilitated and preserved more than 36,000 healthy and affordable homes across the state.

These investments have created thousands of jobs and have generated millions in state and local tax revenues.

In the first half of the 2011-2013 biennium, the Governor and the Legislature awarded the Housing Trust Fund \$50 million. In the previous biennium, the allocation was \$130 million. These investments are helping to build homes and stimulate Washington's local economies—helping them to meet critical benchmarks in alleviating and preventing homelessness. Each dollar invested by the state currently yields \$5.50 more from other sources, leveraging the investment to bring even more resources into our communities.

A new investment in 2012 through a supplemental Capital Budget or by another means, such as a Capital Bonds Package, will allow our state to keep pace with the growing need for both affordable homes and good jobs.

For more information, contact Michele Thomas, Director of Policy and Advocacy, at 206.442.9455 x 205 or at michele@wliha.org. Washington Low Income Housing Alliance I 1411 Fourth Ave., Suite 850 I Seattle WA 98101 I www.wliha.org