



Dear Advocate.

No matter what we look like, where we're from, or how much money we make, everyone needs a safe, affordable place to call home.

More than ever before, lawmakers from every part of the state are looking for solutions to the housing challenges in their communities. We know what those solutions are, and today you'll be making sure your legislators know them too.

We developed our policy priorities by talking with people all over Washington. We listened to what people struggling to afford a home said they need to stabilize their families, and what people experiencing homelessness told us they need to find a permanent home. We developed our priorities in collaboration with our member organizations, including housing providers and human services organizations, who know what they need to help folks in their communities.

In your materials, you have the tools you need to talk with your legislators about our shared policy priorities. The most important tool you have though, isn't anything we gave you. It's in your heart and your experience. The most important thing you can tell your legislators is why you're here and why you care. You made a sacrifice to be here today. You may have woken up earlier than you like, taken a day away from work or school, or left a shelter extra early to get here on time. We thank you for that – and your legislators should hear why you made that decision.

More than 600 of us are here today to send a loud and clear message to state lawmakers: It's unacceptable to end this legislative session without making real progress to end homelessness and ensure that we can all live in a safe, affordable home.

Thank you for being here to carry a message of housing justice!

Sincerely,

Liz Trautman Board President

Washington Low Income Housing Alliance

Sheila Babb Anderson Board President

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Washington Housing Alliance Action Fund