



HELPING HANDS PROJECT ORGANIZATION

OUR MISSION IS TO EMPOWER, ELEVATE AND ENSURE
EQUITABLE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SUCCESS

Press Release

Friday, November 4th, 2022

Helping Hands Project Organization announces the Right of Way Initiative in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, WA State Department of Transportation, WA State Patrol, Everett PD and City of Everett Homeless Response Team

Helping Hands Project Organization today announced the launch of the Right of Way Initiative which will deliver homeless outreach, rapid re-housing, and permanent supportive housing services for households residing in or removed from the state Right of Way in Snohomish County, specifically areas of Everett, WA. Initial assessment of these areas gave us a count of around 90 folks in scattered encampments. We are however dealing with the concerns, one encampment at a time.

Our goal is to assess the needs of people living in identified rights of way and make good faith offers of shelter or housing to them. We will coordinate placements with temporary housing providers, or rapid re-housing staff. Once a client is rapidly rehoused, with their consent, staff will immediately provide other essential services that would help them secure and/or maintain permanent housing. Our Case managers and discharge planners will work with the client to develop a care plan focused on securing and maintain permanent housing. The care plan will name specific interventions that to support housing success.

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Under this program provided by Helping Hands Project Organization, our clients are viewed and treated as the experts in knowing what is best for them and what will help the most. We will provide a complete wraparound service and utilizing our staff of full time Program Supervisor, Case Managers/Substance Abuse Counselor, Case Manager/Mental Health Counselor, Nurse Educator and Outreach coordinator.

We have a unique focus dedicated to families, couples and individuals who have had difficulties with homelessness. The focus is to rapidly rehouse and providing essential services to folks living on rights of way, while delivering trauma-informed services and supports. We work within the Rapid re-housing model to rapidly connects families and individuals experiencing homelessness to permanent housing through a tailored package of assistance that may include the use of time-limited financial assistance and targeted supportive services.

Since the inception of this program, Helping Hands Project Organization in partnership with pertinent stakeholders in Snohomish County and the City of Everett have conducted several outreaches. We have temporarily housed a total of three people that were living in the Everett Encampment, and our goal is to eventually provide them permanent housing as well as trainings and wrap around behavioral health services that would help them re-integrate into the community. Our goal is to help them thrive.

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Clients are offered wrap around services that are extremely important to the continuity of care and success in services with less scattered locations to go for treatment. The advantages to housing these individuals and providing immediate care can prevent unnecessary ER visits and help clients recover in safe supportive spaces without the stresses of their next meal or where they will sleep that night. Having these needs met will also lower the crimes that are committed to meet the homeless populations basic needs. When clients have their basic needs met, they can seek recovery and mental health services for long term self-sufficiency and have the support of learning soft skills and support in facing some of the daily tasks that might be common to the average person.

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