



CITY OF KIRKLAND

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MEMORANDUM

To: David Ramsay

From: Carrie Hite, Deputy Director, Parks and Community Services
Jennifer Schroder, Director, Parks and Community Services
Sharon Anderson, Human Services Coordinator
Human Services Advisory Committee

Date: February 29, 2008

Subject: Human Services Issue Paper for Council Retreat

The purpose of this paper is to inform Council of the current status and trends for Human Services in our area. It will also present some current challenges and opportunities for Kirkland.

The City and Council has adopted a Human Services component of the Comprehensive Plan. There are three Human Service goals that guide us in our work:

Goal HS-1: Build a community in which families, neighbors, schools, and organizations all work together to help young people to become happy, competent and responsible members of the community.

Goal HS-2: Maintain and improve the quality of life for Kirkland residents 50 years and older.

Goal HS-3: Provide funds to non-profit human service providers to improve the quality of life for low and moderate income residents.

Current Status and Trends

Although Kirkland last completed a human services needs study in 1999, there is a number of statistical sources, and agency information that staff have draw upon to measure needs and predict trends for Kirkland. These sources include United Way Needs Update, Eastside Communities Count, City of Bellevue Human Services Update, State of Washington Adolescent Health Risk Survey, Eastside Human Services Forum publications, to just name a few.

Based on staffs' research the following are the issues, and trends that we are facing on the Eastside:

- Housing costs continue to rise. Many who work on the Eastside cannot afford to live here. The median home and condo price has increased over \$100,000 since 2001. Almost 25-30% of households pay more than the recommended 30% of their monthly income. The East King County Plan to End Homelessness was created in 2007, and identified the need for over 1800 homeless

housing units for the Eastside.¹ We are finding with the increase in immigrant and refugee families, there is an increasing in multiple families sharing apartments, or single family residences.

- Poverty is increasing. The poverty rate in East King County doubled between 1990-2000. It went from 3500 to over 7000 Eastside Households living below the Federal poverty line.² In addition, our community agencies that provide emergency living assistance (food, heat, shelter) have reported an increased need in each year since 2000. In 2004, over 40,000 Eastside families had to rely on food banks.³ There are eight schools in Kirkland that report over 20% population qualifying for free and reduced lunch. The highest percentage is John Muir at 42%, then Rose Hill Elementary at 36%.⁴
- Our population demographics are changing. there is a dramatic increase in foreign born residents in our community. There is an average of 30% ethnic minorities that make up the population in Lake Washington School District. Of this, a majority are Asian, and Hispanic, and first generation to the United States.⁵
- In addition to our ethnic diversity increasing, there is a growing increasing need for our elderly residents. By 2025, older residents (age 60 and over) will make up 25% of the Eastside population.⁶ Currently, 6% of the Eastside's elderly residents live below the Federal Poverty Level.⁷ As the number of elderly residents grows, services for seniors (including transportation, chore services, meal delivery, home health assistance, and care giving) will need to be significantly expanded.
- Job Growth still hasn't recovered from 2001-2002. King County lost more than 60,000 jobs during 2001-2002. Nearly 25% of these came from the Eastside. Kirkland lost 10% of their job base.⁸ According to the City of Seattle, mid 2005 economic update, the Eastside still has not recovered from that. As we head into another possible recession this will only add to the need for housing, and basic emergency services for our residents.
- Families are living without health insurance. There are an estimated 9% of families living on the Eastside that do not have health insurance.⁹ Evergreen Hospital continues to see their requests for charity care rise. In 2005, it nearly doubled, representing 5 Million dollars in charity care.¹⁰
- Mental Health needs for youth increasing. School drop out rates continue to increase, and are at almost 20% on the Eastside.¹¹ According to the King County Healthy Youth Survey in 2004, 12% of 8th graders, and 15% of 10th graders, contemplated suicide. Suicide is the second leading cause of death for youth in Washington State. Our youth serving agencies are reporting a minimum of 20% increase in clients each year. There is also a measured increase in drug and alcohol use with school age youth, and not always enough treatment available. There are an increasing number of children and youth who are overweight and/or obese. These trends pose both physical and mental health issues.
- In 2005, government officials, funders, homeless people, advocates, and housing and service providers initiated a plan to end homelessness in King County in 10 years. The *10 Year Plan to End Homelessness* has galvanized efforts to improve housing and services for homeless people throughout King County. Key to these efforts is preventing homelessness and the *housing first* strategy of connecting people to permanent housing immediately and providing supportive services to help maintain their stability. King County is geographically broad and holds diverse local communities, and while the *10 Year Plan* provides framework to guide approaches to homelessness, it does not distinguish goals for sub regions. The Eastside Human Services Forum and the Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee (EHAC) have created an *East King County Plan to End Homelessness*. This document serves as a companion piece to the *10 Year Plan* and

will be helpful in guiding East King County goals. This will help East King County quantify the amount of housing needed in this sub-region. Please see Attachment D for complete plan.

Challenges

There are several challenges that we will face in addressing the current human services needs and trends. Most of the challenges are financial and/or policy related. Following are these challenges:

- Currently, our Kirkland budget for Human Services has approximately \$225,000 of one time funding that our human services agencies rely upon. This has been a tremendous value to continue to meet the human services needs in Kirkland. Please see attachment A that represents our human services funding breakdown from 2000-2008. This will be a challenge in the next upcoming budget to find the resources to continue funding at the same service level.
- The addition of the 1/10th of 1% Mental Health Sales Tax that was incorporated into the King County budget beginning January 2008, represents \$50 million new dollars for King County. This is earmarked to fund Mental Health and Substance Abuse treatment, prevention and related diversion from chronic homelessness, incarceration and use of the emergency health system. Currently, King County is struggling with their infrastructure to allocate the Vets and Human Services funds that were incorporated three years ago, let alone being poised to allocate this new funding. The Eastside needs to work on positioning ourselves to both assist with the procurement plans, and advocate for some of these funds. It is often that the County focuses their concern on Seattle and South County. We need to step into action now, so as to be better leveraged to be successful.
- The King County Human Services Coalition recently completed a draft “Regional Gap Analysis” (See attachment B). The Healthy Families and Communities Task Force released a report in 2006 estimating the funding gap of \$83.1 million per year needed to provide ‘regional’ services that are necessary to help residents throughout King County meet their basic human needs. With an addition of several new funding sources, including the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Sales Tax, the Vets and Human Services Levy, new state funding, and the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness, there still exists a gap for the Healthy Families and Communities Task Force plan.
- With this new funding, and the “Gap Analysis”, we will need to apply this to Kirkland and East King County need. The EHSF recently completed a pull out plan from the *10 Year Plan to End Homelessness*. Should EHSF complete a pull out plan for the HS needs/gaps in order to leverage Kirkland and East King County for this new funding?
- United Way is one of the largest funders in this community. Their current strategic plan has narrowed their funding options to four main focus areas: School readiness, Ending Homelessness, KC 2-1-1 and Emergency Preparedness. This is an opportunity to impact several areas, and it presents a challenge for those agencies who have relied upon United Way, and now don't qualify for funds because they don't fit into any of the focus areas.
- Federal Funds: For funding year 2008, nearly \$1 billion was cut from HUD programs: Section 8, Community Development Block Grant and HOME. This will pose some challenges in our community related to our programs that are funded by CDBG.

Opportunities

With all of the trends, and challenges, one might conclude that we are in a difficult situation. However, we also have many opportunities to affect change in our community. We have a strong Eastside collaboration

for Human Services, both with the jurisdictions and our human service agencies. This allows us to join voices and power to advocate for change. The following are some of the opportunities in our community:

- The Eastside Human Service Forum is currently planning a June educational event, that will focus on all of the new funding available for our community. The EHSF will invite all elected officials, policy and decision makers, to help frame messaging for the County Council, and start to leverage ourselves to benefit from some of the increased funding available. **It would be valuable to have Council participation at this event. Also, if Council could reach out to their counterparts that are not well versed in Human Services to encourage their participation, that would be helpful for East King County to be more influential in this process.**
- Kirkland is very involved at the regional table for Human Services. This affords us the opportunity to be visible, be part of decision making for funds, assisting in regional policy that affects our citizens, and directly impact our community. Mayor Lauinger serves as the Chair of the Executive Committee for the Eastside Human Services Forum, and Carrie Hite serves as Chair of the Work Group committee. It has been helpful to have Council representation and leadership on the Regional Policy Committee on the Law, Safety, and Justice (Council member Dave Asher). The one area that we do not have Council representation is at the Regional Policy Committee in the Human Services Committee. This Committee has been involved in making decisions about the procurement process and funding priorities for the Vets and Human Services Levy. They will also be charged with helping to define priorities for the new Mental Health tax dollars. **It would be helpful to have City Council representation on this committee.**
- Staff to continue involvement in the East King County Community Health and Safety Network. Currently this Network is collaborating with the local school districts and Public Health to incorporate health clinics in all of our local schools. This will allow access to both physical and mental health support for all of our school age children.
- Staff to continue to be involved with King County Committee to End Homelessness. Be aware of shifts in funding to End Homelessness, and continue to advocate for both Homeless funds, and general Human Services funds.
- Staff to continue to be involved in Eastside Refugee and Immigrant Coalition, and the Cultural Navigator program, bringing a much needed resource to our changing community.
- Continue to be legislative advocates for Human Services. This could include County, State, and US representatives. **Council could include the EHSF legislative agenda with the City's agenda every year. In addition, it would be helpful for Kirkland to advocate at the legislative level to restore CDBG funds.**
- Research best practices, including tenets of Social Sustainability (Attachment C). One area the EHSF is going to research for an Eastside feasibility is the concept of creating a socially sustainable society. If Council has any experiences with other jurisdictions that are using best practice models, please pass this information along. **Our Human Services Advisory Committee would like to encourage Council to explore this as they have opportunities to network with other jurisdictions.**
- Increasing Efficiencies/Pooled Contract Funding, possible regional ARCH model applied to Human Services: For a number of years, nine North and East King County cities with competitive allocation processes for human service funds have had an agreed upon common application form. This provided for consistency, but not necessarily efficiency since agencies were required to fill out separate applications for each city. For the 2007-2008 allocation cycles, the nine cities entered

into a Memorandum of Understanding, agreeing upon a joint application that could be filled out one time and submitted to any or a combination of one or more cities. In addition, seven of these cities successfully agreed upon pooling funds into a joint account, from which one contract can be executed with an agency receiving awards from multiple cities. The City of Bellevue serves as the lead agency to administer these funds. Agencies submit an invoice to each participating city for approval. The lead city (Bellevue) then authorizes payment. Currently twelve agencies (nineteen programs) are taking advantage of pooled funding contracts. The success of this program is demonstrated in the fact that what would have been over 100 separate city-specific contracts were distilled into twelve pooled contracts.

- Participate in the ECityGov Alliance Human Services Portal. Currently, we are working with nine other cities to launch an East King County website, through the ECityGov Alliance, to have one site for agencies to learn about funding, apply for funds, look at outcomes reports, research best practices, etc. The initial site will be launched this Spring, in time for the next two year funding cycle.
- **As we move along the trends for our community, it is important for Council to be knowledgeable about trends in our community, advocate for Eastside needs, continue involvement in the EHSF, Regional Policy Committee, Law, Safety and Justice Committee, attend the EHSF June educational event (tentatively planned for June 19th), support regional efforts, invest in the Eastside with time, expertise, and charitable contributions, consider the gap in Human Service funding as part of the budget process.**

Council Questions/Discussion Issues

- 1. In reviewing our Human Service allocation model, the Human Service Coalition “ gap analysis”, and the new funding coming in to the region, does it make sense for Kirkland to advocate for a sub-regional approach? And, how do we balance local and sub-regional?**
 - **For example, should we advocate at the EHSF to produce an East King County strategic plan for Human Services (similar to our East King County Plan to End Homelessness)?**
 - **Should we expand our Pooled Contract Funding, and look at a regional allocation model (similar to ARCH)?**
 - **Should we be more involved in the RPC Human Services Committee in order to impact decisions at the County level?**
 - **Should we look at a socially sustainable model for East King County?**
 - **Should we focus on Kirkland’s need, and complete a Human Services needs assessment for Kirkland?**
- 2. Are there other ideas that Council has, that may assist our allocation model, human service agencies serving Kirkland, identification of needs in Kirkland, etc?**

¹ City of Bellevue, Human Services Needs Update, 2007-2008.

² King County Consortium Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan for 2005-2009, Appendix A Needs Assessment, p. 70.

³ Hopelink, *Reaching Out, The Quarterly Newsletter of Hopelink*, Vol. 25, No. 1, Spring 2005.

⁴ Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction, Student Demographics, 2006-2007.

⁵ Lake Washington School District, Ethnic Enrollment Report, October 2007.

⁶ Area Agency on Aging And Disability Services, *2004-2007 area plan on Aging, Creating Choices for Elders and Adults with Disabilities in Seattle-King County*, October 2, 2003, pp.9-10.

⁷ 2003-4 Human Services Update, City of Bellevue, p.161.

⁸ City of Seattle Finance Department, Economic Update, June 2005

⁹ City of Bellevue, Human Services Needs Update, 2007-2008.

¹⁰ Community Health Center Report, King County, 2005.

¹¹ Washington State Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, Annual Reports on Graduation and Drop Out Rates, 2006.

Summary of the City's Contribution to Human Services

Year	Per Capita	Total General Fund				One Time Funding Council Funds for Assistance League	Total Allocated	Total CDBG	
		Per Capita With One Time Funding	One time Funding	Ongoing	CDBG Human Services Funding North & East King County Sub-Region			Total	
2000	\$6.50	\$6.50	NA	\$302,805		\$302,805	\$305,285	\$608,090	
2001	\$6.89	\$6.89	NA	\$326,903		\$326,903	\$316,898	\$643,801	
2002	\$7.50	\$7.52	\$27,873	\$327,516		\$355,389	\$336,093	\$691,482	
2003	\$8.11	\$9.14	\$11,448	\$371,357		\$382,805	\$371,444	\$754,410	
2004	\$8.11	\$9.14	\$45,791	\$371,321		\$417,112	\$254,748	\$671,860	
2005	\$8.11	\$9.60	\$68,269	\$371,438		\$439,707	\$211,841	\$651,548	
2006	\$8.11	\$9.60	\$68,269	\$371,438		\$439,707	\$209,678	\$649,385	
2007	\$8.36	\$10.81	\$115,528	\$394,425	\$7,500	\$517,453	\$296,222*	\$813,675	
2008	\$8.36	\$10.62	\$96,673	\$413,280	\$7,500	\$517,453	\$296,222*	\$813,675	

*This represents both North and East King County Consortium. This amount increased due to a float loan payoff. It was added to the total allocation.

“Regional” Human Services Gap Analysis

The Healthy Families and Communities Task Force released a report in 2006 estimating a funding gap of \$83.1 million per year needed to provide “regional” services that are necessary to help residents throughout King County meet their basic human needs, but that were not being provided for due to inadequate funding.

The Task Force recommended fund sources to fill this gap and some of them have since been implemented. Below is a breakdown of needs identified by the Task Force. Those items that have been taken out of the gap due to newly implemented fund sources are highlighted. In addition, those also included both here and in the 10-Yr Plan to End Homelessness are also highlighted. Those not highlighted do not yet have a specific, identified fund source, and are not part of the 10-Yr Plan:

Yellow highlighted items are recommended for funding through the Mental Health and Substance Abuse sales tax.

Green items to be funded via Vets and Human Services Levy from the vets portion. There will be another \$6.65 million specified from this list.

Blue items to be paid for with new state resources.

Pink items are also included in 10-Yr Plan to End Homelessness, but not yet funded, so remain in gap.

Organized by King County’s goal areas, these needed services include:

Goal Area I: Food to eat and roof overhead

Estimate \$20.9 million

A. Services for the homeless, total estimated cost \$5.7 million

Case management - \$0.8 million

Education - \$0.2 million

Counseling - \$0.85 million

Child care shelter meals - \$0.5 million

Mobile outreach - \$0.6 million

Day centers - \$1.8 million

Hygiene/laundry services - \$.95 million

B. Emergency shelter/ transitional housing, total estimated cost \$7.7 million

C. Special needs housing, total estimated cost \$4.5 million

Seniors - \$0.4 million

Mental illness/ alcohol/ substance abuse - \$1.1 million

Disabled - \$0.6 million

Persons with AIDS - \$0.4 million

Formerly incarcerated - \$0.3 million

Veterans - \$1 million

Other acute health/ respite care - \$0.65 million

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D. Housing stabilization/ homelessness prevention, total estimated cost \$2.4 million

Tenant assistance - \$0.2 million

Eviction prevention - \$0.1 million

Rent/utility assistance vouchers - \$2.1 million

E. Distribution and transportation of food, total estimated cost \$0.6 million

Goal Area II: Supportive relationships within families, neighborhoods and communities

Estimate \$10.5 million

A. Child care resource and referral, total estimated cost \$1.4 million

B. Early intervention programs for at risk infants/children, total estimated cost \$4.7 million

Home visits - \$1.6 million

Early head start - \$2.5 million

Parent education - \$0.25 million

Services for new/young families, teen parents - \$0.3 million

C. Intervention for high risk youth, total estimated cost \$1.6 million

Presently in the criminal justice system - \$0.2 million

At risk for high reinvolvement - \$1.4 million

D. Civil legal assistance, total estimated cost \$0.5 million

E. Refugee/immigrant services, total estimated cost \$1.1 million

Language bank/interpretation services - \$0.6 million

Citizenship classes/training - \$0.5 million

F. Outreach, information and referral assistance to improve access to services, total estimated cost \$1.3 million

Community information lines - \$0.55 million

Access and outreach - \$0.75 million

Goal Area III: Safe haven from all forms of abuse

Estimate \$14.2 to 15.7 million

A. Comprehensive domestic violence services, total estimated cost \$8.8 to 10.3 million

Confidential shelter/transitional housing - \$0.90 to 2.40 million

Supportive services for children - \$3.20 million

Supportive services for domestic violence victims - \$2.50 million

Offender/batterer treatment - \$0.40 million

Education and prevention - \$1.80 million

B. Violence/Suicide prevention line, total estimated cost \$0.6 million

C. Comprehensive sexual assault services, total estimated cost \$4.8 million

Counseling, therapy, and support groups - \$1.50 million

Legal and medical advocacy - \$1.50 million

Sexual assault education and prevention - \$1.80 million

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Goal Area IV: Health care to be as physically and mentally fit as possible
Estimate \$27.0 to 29.2 million

A. Basic health care to provide a network of community health services, total estimated cost \$15.0 to 17.2 million

Dental care - \$0.40 million

Medical care - \$9.30 million, (\$2.33 from MHSA sales tax)

Home health services - \$0.75 to 3.00 million

School based services - \$3.50 million

Community outreach - \$1.00 million

B. Mental health/substance abuse diversion and transition services for persons in the criminal justice system, total estimated cost \$12.0 million (also in 10-Yr Plan)

Goal Area V: Education and job skills lead to an independent life Estimate
\$6.8 million

A. Educational instruction for out of school/at risk youth, total estimated cost \$5.0 million

GED preparation classes - \$0.25 million

Tutoring and career education programs - \$2.50 million

Pre-employment training - \$1.80 million

Work-based learning/internships \$0.45 million

B. Services for learning disabled, total estimated cost \$0.6 million

C. English as second language training, total estimated cost \$1.2 million

Total subset recommendations for funding from new revenue sources:

via mental health and substance abuse sales tax = \$20.38 million

via Vets and HS Levy = \$7.65m

Veterans and Human Services Levy, \$7.65m- The HFC recommends that \$6.65 million be applied to reduce the funding gap. The remaining \$1 million will be applied for special needs housing services for veterans.

via new state funding = \$1.3 million

Balance recommended for funding via property tax levy(ies) = \$53.77 million

Attachment C

Social Sustainability

The "soft infrastructure" of a Healthy Community

Trevor Hancock

Urban planning and development has long been fixated on the community's hard infrastructure the sewers, the roads and the electrical, gas and water utilities and other aspects of the physical structure that define the community's form. In the past decade or two, there has been a growing concern with the environmental sustainability of the community. This has significant implications for the design and operation of the hard infrastructure ecological management of storm water and sewage; energy, water and other resource conservation; an emphasis on walk / bike / transit-supportive environments and so on.

But a community is much, much more than its physical form. A community is composed of people as well as the places where they live; it is as much a social environment as a physical environment. Thus, communities must not only be environmentally sustainable, they must also be socially sustainable.

Of course, social sustainability cannot be created simply through the physical design of the community but then neither can environmental sustainability be created by physical design alone. Physical design cannot ensure that individuals, families and communities will lead environmentally sustainable lifestyles, although it can help to make such environmentally sustainable choices more easy. Equally, while there is much that can be done on the "design" of the soft infrastructure of the community to ensure its social sustainability, the physical design of the community can make it either easier or more difficult for communities to be socially sustainable. Thus there is a vital need to integrate the physical and social design of communities if we are to create communities that are both environmentally and socially sustainable.

In discussing sustainability both social and environmental it is important to understand that both of them require a system of economic activity that is compatible with and not destructive of either the ecological web of life or the social web of life of which we are a part, and upon which we depend for our health, well-being and quality of life. As the Canadian Public Health Association noted in its report on human and ecosystem health:

Human development and the achievement of human potential require a form of economic activity that is environmentally and socially sustainable in this and future generations.
(CPHA, 1992)

Thus, any discussion of socially sustainable communities must include a discussion of the physical design of the community and the economic system of the community. In this series of four columns I will discuss the concept of social sustainability, the implications for urban design and planning, the "new economics" of environmentally and socially sustainable communities, and the integration of

these concepts in a human development strategy. Readers might also look to Marcia Nozick's excellent book, *No Place Like Home: Building Sustainable Communities* (Ottawa: Canadian Council for Social Development, 1992) for a fuller discussion of many of these issues.

Social sustainability

As a society, we make social investments and we have a "stock" of social and human resources. Economic development can either contribute to or deplete those social resources (see Osberg, 1990). Many would argue that the form of economic development championed by Thatcher and Reagan has been socially unsustainable, depleting human and social capital and resources in addition to the damage it has wrought to the natural environment.

The concept of socially sustainable development including socially sustainable urban development (1992) has received less attention than the concept of environmentally sustainable development.

What would constitute socially sustainable development? 1.

I would argue that it is development that it:

- meets basic needs for food, shelter, education, work, income and safe living and working conditions;
- is equitable, ensuring that the benefits of development are distributed fairly across society;
- enhances, or at least does not impair, the physical, mental and social well-being of the population;
- promotes education, creativity and the development of human potential for the whole population;
- preserves our cultural and biological heritage, thus strengthening our sense of connectedness to our history and environment;
- promotes conviviality, with people living together harmoniously and in mutual support of each other;
- is democratic, promoting citizen participation and involvement, and
- is livable, linking "the form of the city's public places and city dwellers' social, emotional and physical well-being" (Lennard and Lennard, 1987)

The systems and processes that we put in place to achieve these ends can be thought of as the "soft infrastructure" of the community, a term used by Len Duhl, Professor of Public Health and Professor of Urban Planning at the University of California at Berkeley, to describe those elements of the community that contribute to social well-being. This "soft" infrastructure includes formal human services (health, education, social services, recreation and culture, etc.) as well as the community's informal structure the web of voluntary organizations and social relationships that comprise community. Urban planning needs to integrate these elements into all its work, giving as much weight to the soft infrastructure as to the hard infrastructure if we are going to create communities that work

Urban planning and social sustainability

The list of items that constitute the basis of a socially sustainable community suggests an "agenda" for urban planning. In planning the built environment, urban planners need to address issues of basic

needs such as urban food production and availability; equitable access to work and education; urban design that enhances social interaction and participation; methods of reducing living costs, especially for low income groups, and other unaccustomed topics. The physical design of communities to promote social sustainability will be the subject of my next column.

References

Canadian Public Health Association (1992). *Human and Ecosystem Health*. Ottawa: CPHA.

Osberg, Lars (1990). *Sustainable Social Development* (mimeo). Halifax, N.S.: Department of Economics, Dalhousie University.

¹ My original list of items has been amended to reflect "Strategic Directions for Community Sustainability", a 1993 publication of the B.C. Roundtable on the Environment and the Economy.

Trevor Hancock was a founding member of the Canadian Green Party. He is a principal exponent of the 'healthy communities' movement in North America.

Sustainability: Human, Social, Economic and Environmental

Robert Goodland
World Bank, Washington, DC, USA

The four main types of sustainability are human, social, economic and environmental. These are defined and contrasted in Tables 1-4. It is important to specify which type of sustainability one is dealing with as they are all so different and should not be fused together, although some overlap to a certain extent. Specialists in each field best deal with these four types of sustainability. For example, social scientists have a lot to say about social sustainability; economists deal with economic sustainability and biophysical specialists deal with environmental sustainability.

A definition of environmental sustainability (ES) has been given by Daly (1973, 1974, 1992, 1996, 1999) and Daly and Cobb (1989):

1. Output rule: Waste emissions from a project or action being considered should be kept within the assimilative capacity of the local environment, without unacceptable degradation of its future waste absorptive capacity or other important services.
2. Input rule:
 - Renewable resources: (e.g., forest, fish) harvest rates of renewable resource inputs must be kept within regenerative capacities of the natural system that generates them.
 - Non-renewables: depletion rates of non-renewable resource inputs should be set below the historical rate at which renewable substitutes were developed by human invention and investment according to the Serafian quasi-sustainability rule

(see below). An easily calculable portion of the proceeds from liquidating non-renewables should be allocated to the attainment of sustainable substitutes.

SERAFIAN QUASI-SUSTAINABILITY RULE OF NON-RENEWABLES

The Serafian rule pertains to non-renewable resources, such as fossil fuels and other minerals, but also to renewables to the extent they are being mined. It states that their owners may enjoy part of the proceeds from their liquidation as income, which they can devote to consumption. The remainder, a user cost, should be reinvested to produce income that would continue after the resource has been exhausted. This method essentially estimates income from sales of an exhaustible resource. It has been used as a normative rule for quasi-sustainability, whereby the user cost should be reinvested, not in any asset that would produce future income, but specifically to produce renewable substitutes for the asset being depleted. The user cost from depletable resources has to be invested specifically in replacements for what is being depleted in order to reach sustainability, and must not be invested in any other venture – no matter how profitable. For non-renewable energy, a future acceptable rate of extraction of the non-renewable resource can be based on the historic rate at which improved efficiency, substitution and re-use became available. These calculations show the folly of relying on technological optimism, rather than on some historic track record.

CAUSES OF UNSUSTAINABILITY

When the human economic subsystem was small, the regenerative and assimilative capacities of the environment appeared infinite. We are now painfully learning that environmental sources and sinks are finite. Originally, these capacities were very large, but the scale of the human

Table 1 Comparison of Human, Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability: Human Sustainability

- Human sustainability means maintaining human capital. Human capital is a private good of individuals, rather than between individuals or societies. The health, education, skills, knowledge, leadership and access to services constitute human capital. Investments in education, health, and nutrition of individuals have become accepted as part of economic development
- As human life-span is relatively short and finite (unlike institutions) human sustainability needs continual maintenance by investments throughout one's lifetime
- Promoting maternal health and nutrition, safe birthing and infant and early childhood care fosters the start of human sustainability. Human sustainability needs 2-3 decades of investment in education and apprenticeship to realize some of the potential that each individual contains. Adult education and skills acquisition, preventive and curative health care may equal or exceed formal education costs
- Human capital is not being maintained. Overpopulation is intensifying and is the main dissipative structure worsening per capita indices. That is far graver than overcapitalizing education so that laborers have PhDs

Table 2 Comparison of Human, Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability: Social Sustainability

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- Social sustainability means maintaining social capital. Social capital is investments and services that create the basic framework for society. It lowers the cost of working together and facilitates cooperation: trust lowers transaction costs. Only systematic community participation and strong civil society, including government can achieve this. Cohesion of community for mutual benefit, connectedness between groups of people, reciprocity, tolerance, compassion, patience, forbearance, fellowship, love, commonly accepted standards of honesty, discipline and ethics. Commonly shared rules, laws, and information (libraries, film, and diskettes) promote social sustainability
 - Shared values constitute the part of social capital least subject to rigorous measurement, but essential for social sustainability. Social capital is undercapitalized, hence the high levels of violence and mistrust
 - Social (sometimes called moral) capital requires maintenance and replenishment by shared values and equal rights, and by community, religious and cultural interactions. Without such care it depreciates as surely as does physical capital. The creation and maintenance of social capital, as needed for social sustainability, is not yet adequately recognized. Western-style capitalism can weaken social capital to the extent it promotes competition and individualism over cooperation and community
 - Violence is a massive social cost incurred in some societies because of inadequate investment in social capital. Violence and social breakdown can be the most severe constraint to sustainability
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Table 3 Comparison of Human, Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability: Economic Sustainability

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- Economic capital should be maintained. The widely accepted definition of economic sustainability is maintenance of capital, or keeping capital intact. Thus Hicks's definition of income—the amount one can consume during a period and still be as well off at the end of the period—can define economic sustainability, as it devolves on consuming value-added (interest), rather than capital
 - Economic and manufactured capital is substitutable. There is much overcapitalization of manufactured capital, such as too many fishing boats and sawmills chasing declining fish stocks and forests
 - Historically, economics has rarely been concerned with natural capital (NC) (e.g., intact forests, healthy air). To the traditional economic criteria of allocation and efficiency must now be added a third, that of scale (Daly, 1992). The scale criterion would constrain throughput growth—the flow of material and energy (NC) from environmental sources to sinks
 - Economics values things in money terms, and has major problems valuing NC, intangible, intergenerational, and especially common access resources, such as air. Because people and irreversibles are at stake, economic policy needs to use anticipation and the precautionary principle routinely, and should err on the side of caution in the face of uncertainty and risk
-

Table 4 Comparison of Human, Social, Economic and Environmental Sustainability: Environmental Sustainability (ES)

-
- Although ES is needed by humans and originated because of social concerns, ES itself seeks to improve human welfare by protecting NC. As contrasted with economic capital, NC consists of water, land, air, minerals and ecosystem services, hence much is converted to manufactured or economic capital. Environment includes the sources of raw materials used for human needs, and ensuring that sink capacities recycling human wastes are not exceeded, in order to prevent harm to humans
 - Humanity must learn to live within the limitations of the biophysical environment. ES means NC must be maintained, both as a provider of inputs (sources), and as a sink for wastes. This means holding the scale of the human economic subsystem (= population x consumption, at any given level of technology) to within the biophysical limits of the overall ecosystem on which it depends. ES needs sustainable consumption by a stable population
 - On the sink side, this translates into holding waste emissions within the assimilative capacity of the environment without impairing it
 - On the source side, harvest rates of renewables must be kept within regeneration rates
 - Technology can promote or demote ES. Non-renewables cannot be made sustainable, but quasi-ES can be approached for non-renewables by holding their depletion rates equal to the rate at which renewable substitutes are created. There are no substitutes for most environmental services, and there is much irreversibility if they are damaged
-



East King County Plan To End Homelessness

Eastside Human Services Forum
September 2007

Prepared for the Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee and Eastside Human Services Forum, with additional funding support from the Committee to End Homelessness of King County.

Participating Organizations:

A Regional Coalition for Housing (ARCH)	Friends of Youth
Bellevue School District	Health Care for the Homeless Network
Catholic Community Services/Archdiocesan Housing Authority	Hopelink
Child Care Resources	Housing at the Crossroads
Church Council of Greater Seattle	Interfaith Task Force on Homelessness/King County
City of Bellevue	Issaquah School District
City of Issaquah	King County
City of Kirkland	King County Housing Authority
City of Mercer Island	Kirkland Interfaith Transitions in Housing (KITH)
City of Redmond	Lake Washington School District
Committee to End Homelessness of King County (CEH)	St. Andrew's Housing Group
Congregations for the Homeless	Snoqualmie Valley School District
Downtown Action to Save Housing (DASH)	United Way of King County
Eastside Cares	Vets Edge
Eastside Domestic Violence Program (EDVP)	Woodinville Unitarian Universalist Church
Evergreen Health Care	YWCA of Seattle-King County-Snohomish County
Family Resource Center	

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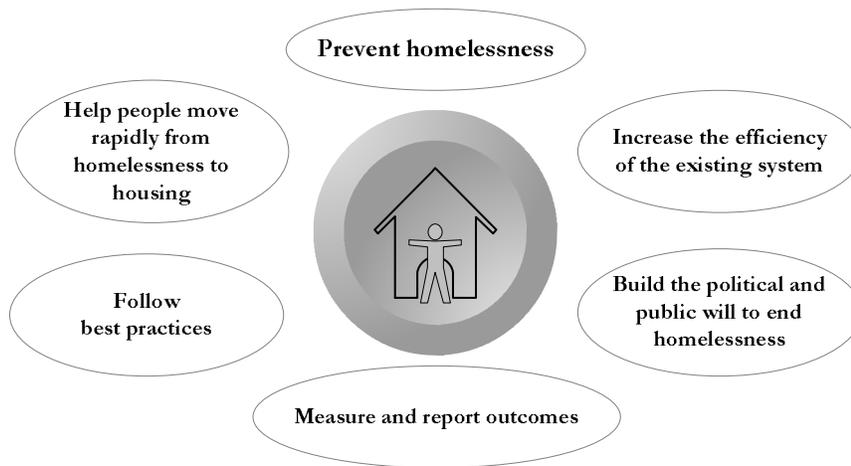
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Background

In 2005, government officials, funders, homeless people, advocates, and housing and service providers initiated a plan to end homelessness in King County in 10 years. The *10 Year Plan to End Homelessness* has galvanized efforts to improve housing and services for homeless people throughout King County. Key to these efforts is preventing homelessness and the *housing first* strategy of connecting people to permanent housing immediately and providing supportive services to help maintain their stability.

Key Strategies from the 10 Year Plan



Purpose

King County is geographically broad and holds diverse local communities, and while the *10 Year Plan* provides a broad framework to guide approaches to homelessness, it does not delve into sub-regional issues. The Eastside Human Services Forum and Eastside Homelessness Advisory Committee (EHAC) have created the following document to define what the county's *10 Year Plan*

means for East King County. This document is intended to serve as a companion piece to King County's *10 Year Plan*, describing needs and solutions to homelessness in East King County, and connecting the *10 Year Plan's* vision to the Eastside. Specifically, this plan will do the following.

- Connect cities and agencies throughout East King County to provide a comprehensive and coordinated set of housing and services to meet the varied needs of homeless and at risk individuals and families
- Guide and support government officials, policymakers and funders as they make decisions about the direction, funding, and capacity of housing and services for homeless and at-risk individuals and families in East King County over the next 10 years
- Help organizations make effective decisions about the housing and services they will provide
- Help public and private agencies, funders, and community members understand current and future homeless housing needs in East King County
- Identify gaps in housing and services for homeless and at risk individuals and families
- Raise public awareness about homelessness

Importance to East King County

Why is it important to end homelessness in East King County? There are many reasons, but following are a few that stand out as most important on the Eastside.

- Housing people saves lives and improves health.
According to Public Health's Healthcare for the Homeless program statistics, common health problems among homeless adults, families, youth and children in East King County include upper respiratory infections, skin disorders, heart problems, diabetes, asthma, and depression. Ending homelessness will decrease chronic and communicable diseases and improve mental health and substance use issues that disproportionately impact homeless people and decrease the number of deaths.
- Housing is essential for education and opportunities for homeless children and youth, improving long-term life and employment prospects.
Sound Families data shows a strong negative link between homelessness and school stability, with 59 percent of homeless children in East King County attending two or more schools in the year before entering housing.

- Homelessness is expensive.

It is not cost effective to fund emergency services at emergency rooms and jails, rather than providing supportive housing and rental assistance to help homeless individuals and families achieve stable housing and employment.

- Early intervention prevents more difficult problems.

If East King County acts to intervene now, it can keep chronic homelessness from becoming a more significant issue locally. Early intervention can also prevent individuals and families from spiraling down to need more services (e.g. chemical or alcohol dependency).

- Existing homeless housing in East King County is limited.

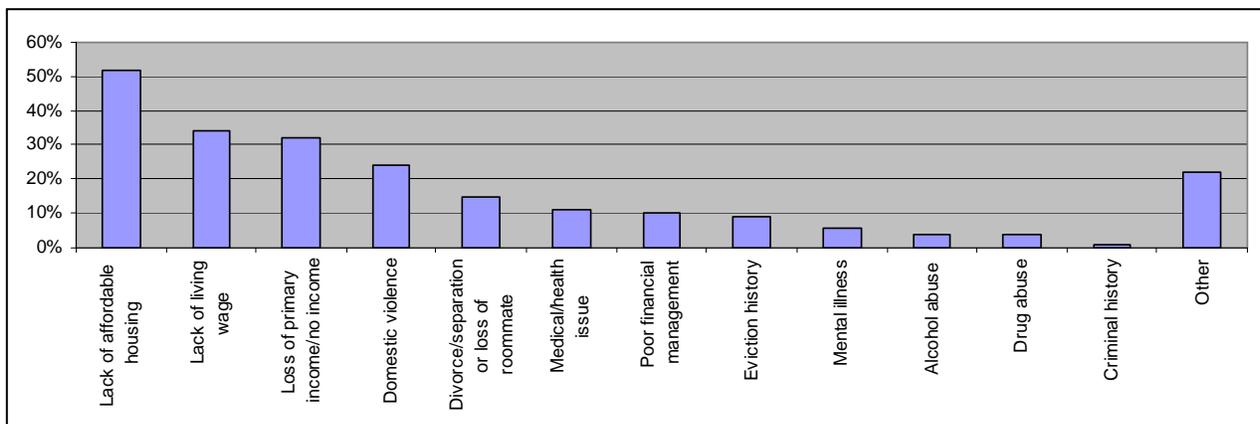
East King County’s existing housing capacity is overburdened and the situation will likely become worse if no action is taken.

- Ending homelessness is the right thing to do.

With significant resources to draw on and recent survey results indicating a communitywide commitment to ending homelessness, East King County should act now to ensure that community members at all income levels can retain their housing.

Homeless Populations and Needs in East King County

Individuals and families in East King County become homeless for a number of reasons. Data from the Gates Foundation Sound Families programs indicates that the primary cause of homelessness for most families on the Eastside (52 percent) is lack of affordable housing. This is



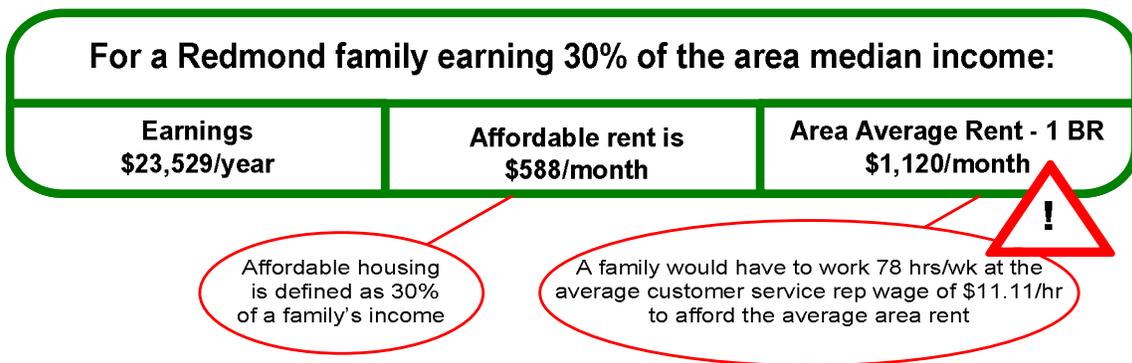
Percent of Eastside families by primary cause of homelessness

(As identified by case managers at Sound Families intake. Families could list more than one primary cause of homelessness.)

higher than average for King County, as is the percentage of families who become homeless due to a medical or health issue (11 percent). The second most common cause of homelessness for Eastside families is lack of a living wage (34 percent), indicating a significant gap between housing prices and wages for many families.

There is a real need for both affordable housing and living wage jobs in East King County. According to King County’s Benchmark Report, East King County has the smallest stock of affordable rental housing in the county for people at 50 percent of the area median income. None of the cities in East King County have sufficient affordable housing for families at 30 to 80 percent of the area median income. Benchmarks show that only 2 percent of rental units in Redmond are affordable to low-income households earning 50 percent or less of the area median income and 0 percent of rental units in Sammamish. Supply of less expensive housing is threatened by countywide trends such as rent increases and condo conversions.

For example:



Prevention of Homelessness

The most effective strategy to end homelessness is to help at-risk families and individuals *before* they become homeless. Countywide, the Committee to End Homelessness (CEH) has identified more than 46,000 extremely low-income families who are at risk of homelessness and need services and assistance to maintain their housing. Rental assistance and subsidies for utility bills help families and individuals maintain their market rate housing. Job training and educational opportunities help them secure living wage jobs that allow them to pay rents long term. Assistance

with child care can also help low-income families stay housed, as many are forced to make choices between paying for child care and rent.

Strategies such as rental assistance are particularly important in East King County, where the most common causes of homelessness are lack of affordable housing and lack of jobs that pay a living wage. Data from the Housing Stability Program, a major homelessness prevention services provider, shows how effective homelessness prevention can be. The program found that 94 percent of households served continued to live in their permanent housing six months later. The program served 105 households in the North/East King County region in 2006, at an average expense of \$954 in direct assistance per household. The most common reason that households needed assistance was a lost job, followed by cuts in work hours and illnesses or injuries. At the same time, it is important to be aware that there are families on the Eastside that do not meet the Housing Stability Program's criteria and may require potentially higher assistance costs to avoid homelessness. Additionally, while many households can stabilize with short-term assistance, households dependent on low-wage jobs will require longer-term subsidies or affordable housing.

Preventing homelessness also requires building connections between systems and providers to improve discharge planning. When people have an exit plan that includes a place to live, they are less likely to exit foster care, prisons, mental health or chemical dependency treatment, or medical respite into homelessness.

Homelessness prevention services for youth and young adults, while in some cases similar to adult services, also include family preservation and reconciliation services, crisis services, and collaboration with foster care, mental health, juvenile detention, jail, and chemical dependency systems to ensure that a housing plan is in place for each youth and young adult.

For example:

Hopelink's Family Development program helps prevent homelessness by providing support to families who are at risk in one or more areas of their lives. **Rent subsidies** and **eviction prevention funds** help families in crisis maintain their **housing** rather than falling into homelessness. **Family development specialists** work with each family to help them set **goals**, gain **self-sufficiency**, and ultimately remain **stable** and keep their **housing**.

Preventing homelessness for immigrant families in East King County must include culturally relevant services to help navigate the system. This may include assistance with housing search and housing support programs, and legal, educational, and job services, as well as ESL classes and interpreter services.

Estimating future need for homelessness prevention services and assistance on the Eastside is difficult. The factors that push individuals and families toward homelessness are wide-ranging and can be affected by unforeseen forces, such as changes in the economy and the housing market. While it is known that current resources are not sufficient, the optimum level of resources needed on the Eastside cannot be accurately determined at this time. The Committee to End Homelessness has convened a workgroup to study the issue of homelessness prevention in King County. The final product of that group will be evaluated and drawn on to help set a target for prevention resources needed in East King County.

Supportive Services to Maintain Housing Stability

While many individuals and families on the Eastside are simply priced out of the market and have low service needs, a substantial number need supportive services to maintain stability. For example, of the 2,307 mentally ill people served by the Regional Support Network in East King County, an estimated 270 adults were homeless for at least part of the year. In addition, Sound Families data, while limited to participating families in funded programs, indicates that at intake to housing, 12 percent of heads of household had a mental illness, nine percent had a physical disability, and two percent had a developmental disability. Alcohol and drug use also impacted families' stability, with four percent of families identifying alcohol or drug abuse as the primary cause of their homelessness.

Supportive services are essential in helping many people with mental health and chemical dependency issues maintain housing, and include case management, mental health and chemical dependency services, life and job skills training, and legal advocacy. Additionally, people with complex life situations, including mental illness, chemical dependency, histories of trauma, disabilities or health issues, criminal justice and bad credit history, and immigration status face

major obstacles in obtaining housing that can be mitigated with services such as credit repair, deposit assistance, and money management.

Best practices in ending homelessness encompass a range of housing and service strategies that have proven effective. However, key elements in any best practice approach are providing a range of affordable, independent housing options, and flexible supportive services that can increase and decrease in intensity depending on individual needs.

Supportive services can be located on-site or off-site, consist of mobile teams, or be easily accessed through public transit. However, in a *housing first* model, supportive services must be flexible – with capacity to increase and decrease in order to meet clients’ changing needs. In addition, they must be culturally competent.

What supportive services to maintain stability are needed in East King County?

- ✦ **Case management** services to help families set and attain goals that will promote self-sufficiency
- ✦ **Quality child care** and access to child care subsidies
- ✦ **Employment services**
- ✦ **Financial assistance** during times of crisis
- ✦ **Adult education**, including literacy and ESL classes
- ✦ **Access to health care and mental health care** and assistance with referrals
- ✦ **Credit, money management, and other financial literacy services**
- ✦ **Alcohol and chemical dependency services**
- ✦ **Transportation**

Homeless Housing Needs in East King County by Population

Single Adults

Within East King County’s homeless single adult population are substantial numbers of homeless veterans living outdoors in Eastside woods and unsheltered homeless people living in their cars. The proportion of homeless women appears to be greater than originally thought, based on the level of response at the drop-in center that opened in Bellevue in 2007. Data from the Crisis Clinic

indicates that among housing requests from Eastside residents, 80 percent of calls were from women.

One way to estimate the unmet need for homeless housing is to look at currently known homeless single adults on the Eastside. Annually, Congregations for the Homeless (CFH) serves approximately 120 men from Eastside communities. An additional estimated 150 persons annually live in Tent City communities. Eastside housing and service providers estimate that at least 50 people live outside in East King County, and 50 or more individuals from East King County are being served at Seattle facilities. To house this total population, assuming an average stay of 2.5 years, would require approximately 700 units for homeless single adults. In addition, 25 percent of King County's homeless population are originally not from King County or have no known last



address. Assuming that at least one tenth of that group are former residents of the Eastside or connected to Eastside community members would require an additional 120 units. Therefore, the estimated total need for single homeless adults on the Eastside is approximately 820 units with a mix of low, moderate, and high service levels.

This estimate is consistent with countywide projections. King County's *10 Year Plan* defines a need for 4,800 additional units for single adults in King County. Eastside providers, government officials, and CEH representatives estimate that 12 percent of homeless single adults in King County are from the Eastside. Adding a share of the homeless population not originally from King County or with no known last address yields a total share of 17 percent, or just under 820 additional units for homeless single adults on the Eastside.

East King County's housing units will need to serve single adults with needs of different intensities. Eastside housing and service providers estimate that approximately 20 percent of the units for homeless single adults will need to have high-intensity supportive services, with the remaining 80 percent serving low and moderate need levels. High-intensity services on the Eastside are needed for both episodically and chronically homeless adults, although East King County has a smaller relative proportion of homeless adults who are considered chronically homeless. The federal Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) defines chronic homelessness as an unaccompanied homeless individual with a disabling condition who has either

been continuously homeless for at least one year, or who has had at least four episodes of homelessness in the past three years.

Housing units for single adults, while primarily permanent, should also include *interim housing* for a small number of single adults who cannot be immediately placed in permanent housing due to particularly complex needs. King County's Shelter Task Force has defined interim housing as short-term units for three groups: (1) individuals whose mental/emotional/behavioral status is unclear and who require additional assessment prior to housing placement; (2) individuals who have complex issues with criminal justice, mental health, chemical dependency, HIV/AIDS issues and/or acute healthcare that prevent them from moving directly to appropriate permanent supportive housing; and (3) individuals facing a crisis that endangers their safety, including women fleeing domestic violence. Eastside housing and service providers estimate that 50 interim housing units will be needed for single adults within the 820 total units for single adults.

What kinds of housing might work well for homeless single adults in East King County?

Homeless single adults need a **mix of housing models**. Effective models include **single family houses** that can provide separate bedrooms with community living and dining areas, and on-site project managers. **Self-managed housing**, such as Oxford House, works well for low and moderate need single adults. Housing should provide privacy, security, living options outside of the central corridor, and access to supportive services as needed.

Eastside housing and service providers also see a need for approximately 100 **Single Room Occupancy (SRO)** style units, similar to those developed by Plymouth Housing Group in Seattle, which could provide interim and permanent housing with no restrictions on length of stay. While units can be small, each unit should include a shower and kitchenette, furnishings, and access to a common area with a larger kitchen, as well as 24/7 management on-site, offices for referral staff and easy access to transit. Connections should be made with **local social service providers** to support residents. Rents must be **affordable**, at approximately \$150 to \$175, and Section 8 can be used to help increase affordability.

While the *10 Year Plan* contemplates cutting back shelter capacity and converting shelter beds to interim housing for single adults, East King County needs to build its **interim housing capacity**. Currently, the CFH church shelter provides the only existing homeless housing of any duration for single adults in East King County and can provide shelter to only 30 adult men.

Families

East King County families become homeless for many reasons and may need easily accessible supportive services in addition to housing units to address these issues. Many families cannot pay high rents on the Eastside with low-wage jobs and need help obtaining a living wage job. Many female heads of household have experienced domestic violence and need legal help and security. Undocumented families find that it is hard to rent subsidized affordable housing, but their incomes are often too low to rent in the private sector. Families also lose their housing after drug and alcohol use; methamphetamines, particularly, have found their way to the Eastside.

King County's *10 Year Plan* estimates a need for 1,900 housing units for families, most with limited and moderate service level needs. This figure may be an underestimate. Given the Eastside's severe lack of affordable housing and the disproportionate representation of families among its homeless population, Eastside housing and service providers project that East King County will need 930 family units.



The need for 930 family units in East King County is based on the current estimate of five homeless families turned away for each homeless family housed. (While not all providers track turn-aways, one large Eastside provider estimates a ratio of eight families turned away for each family placed in emergency shelter beds, and 12 turn-aways for each family obtaining transitional housing. The rates are averaged and halved to roughly account for duplication as families who are turned away seek housing from other Eastside providers.)

Eastside providers have already begun to take advantage of funding for housing first projects, supporting approximately 33 families with Homeless Housing and Services (2163) funding

A snapshot of homeless families in East King County: Data from Sound Families-funded programs

Single head of household: 86%

Average caregiver age: 29

Average child age: 6

Most common caregiver race/ethnicity--
White: 45%,
African American: 24%
Latino: 8%

Most common caregiver education level--
High school diploma: 34%
Some college: 24%
Some high school: 19%

awarded to EDVP, Hopelink, CFH, and Friends of Youth; and providing rent subsidies, with Regional Affordable Housing Program (2060) funding, through Downtown Action to Save Housing (DASH). These partnerships between housing and service providers offer an excellent model to replicate but will require additional funding if the programs are to continue and grow.

Not all of the units needed by families, or other homeless individuals, need to be new construction. Units can also be found within the existing private sector – for example, through rent subsidies, and with education, incentives, and safeguards to encourage landlords to rent to families with credit or criminal histories. Homelessness prevention efforts that keep families in their homes will also decrease demand for additional units. However, some new construction will be necessary, particularly given current low vacancy rates.

What kinds of housing might work well for homeless families in East King County?

Most homeless families may be best served by **individual apartments**. Some families will also need facilities with **communal spaces** and **supportive services**. Housing for larger families will be more difficult to secure and warrants continued attention.

Domestic Violence

Domestic violence and homelessness are linked for many individuals and families. Sound Families data indicates that domestic violence is the primary cause of homelessness for nearly one quarter (24 percent) of homeless families in East King County. Units for families and individuals dealing with domestic violence must be safe and have access to culturally competent services. Many will also need assistance with child care, employment and legal services, and counseling. Eastside housing and service providers estimate that among East King County's single adult and family housing development there is a need for 45 permanent, 15 transitional, and 15 interim units for domestic violence survivors. These estimates are based on the current turn-away rate of 15 to 1 for emergency units and projecting that nearly all domestic violence-related residents of interim and transitional housing will ultimately need permanent housing. Use of existing housing for domestic violence suggests that approximately 80 percent of need is for families and 20 percent for single women.

What kinds of housing might work well for domestic violence survivors on the Eastside?

Individuals and families dealing with domestic violence need a range of housing options. While some will be best served by **set-aside units** scattered throughout East King County, Eastside housing and service providers also see a need for a **dedicated facility** on a bus line. A multi-story building would allow for co-location of interim and permanent housing and outreach services, with the ground level dedicated to **outreach services** for clients not in housing, as well as **common areas** and offices for **advocates and counseling**. Upper stories could be dedicated to interim housing and units for longer stays for individuals and families dealing with drug and alcohol abuse, as well as domestic violence.

Youth and Young Adults

Youth and young adults become homeless for many reasons, including abuse, neglect, and aging out of the foster care system. Youth and young adults, 11-17 and 18-25 respectively, face different issues and serious barriers to obtaining housing in the private market, as well as legislation complicating the services and housing that nonprofit agencies can provide to youth under 18 without immediate parental notification. They also need time and support to develop independent living skills and employment assistance and education that will help them obtain a living wage job. Many also need counseling to recover from past family trauma.

Existing permanent housing units are typically full for youth and young adults. While the proportion of pregnant young mothers is decreasing among homeless youth and young adults, the overall need for additional housing dedicated to youth and young adults remains high. Eastside



housing and service providers estimate that 96 additional units of permanent housing are needed for youth and young adults in East King County. Most of the 96 units should be permanent housing, excluding 12 units that are transitional/transition in place.

Estimates for long term needs for homeless youth and young adults in East King County are derived from current service numbers. Friends of Youth estimates that it serves an unduplicated 200 young adults per year in overnight shelter, in addition to 25 to 30 individuals at any given time through street outreach and 32 individuals through transitional housing units. Understanding that not all youth and young adults are in a situation where they need permanent housing, Friends of Youth estimates that an additional 12 units of transitional and 84 units of permanent housing for

homeless youth and young adults are needed in East King County. The 12 units of transitional housing should be evenly divided between young single adults and youth under 18.

Homeless youth and young adults also need a full-time drop in center with shelter capacity, which can serve as a key point of contact for youth and young adults, and particularly undocumented youth and young adults, who often must establish rapport and trust in staff before they will commit to entering a program. Drop in centers have been effective nationally and should have capacity for mental health and substance abuse treatment, health care, education, and employment training. The center should also be available consistently each night. Currently, The Landing can only operate 5 nights per week and is not available during the day, which means that youth are forced to go to Seattle for shelter, couch surf, or find other places to sleep.

What kinds of housing might work well for youth and young adults in East King County?

Eastside homeless youth and young adults with low and moderate service needs would be well served by **smaller complexes** with good access to bus service, where individuals would have their own **private units** with kitchens and **common areas** for meetings, and access to **supportive services**. While most units should be studios and one bedroom units, two bedroom units will also be needed for **single parents**. Some youth and young adults with low service needs would adapt well to a **self-managed community**. Youth with mental illness will likely need on-site managers and/or service providers.

In addition to permanent units, Eastside housing and service providers see a need for **transitional or transition in place units** with intensive case management. The transitional/transition in place units would likely be best placed in a small apartment building with 6 small units, an on-site resident manager, and office space.

Eastside Homeless Housing Goals

While this report maps the levels of need for youth, young adults, families, and single adults on the Eastside, it will take time to add housing units and services. The table on the following page shows overall need and sets short-term and long-term goals for adding housing capacity; this represents a snapshot of current needs and should be updated regularly.

The short-term goals are considerably smaller than long-term goals because existing housing and service providers and developers are not currently set up to secure and maintain this level of housing stock. Capacity building, as well as securing funding sources and land for development, are critical and will take time.

Population	Estimated Need	Developed/ In Development 2005-2007	Short-Term Goals (2005-2010)	Long-Term Goals (2010-2015)
Single Adults	<i>815 units</i>	<i>20 units</i>	<i>245, including 50 interim units</i>	<i>570 units</i>
Families	<i>930 units</i>	<i>35 units</i>	<i>300 units</i>	<i>630 units</i>
Domestic Violence	<i>75 units</i>	<i>10 units</i>	<i>25 units*</i>	<i>50 units*</i>
Youth and Young Adults	<i>96 units</i>	<i>12 units</i>	<i>30 units (6 transitional and 24 permanent)</i>	<i>66 units (6 transitional and 60 permanent)</i>
Total	<i>1,845 units*</i>	<i>77 units</i>	<i>575 units*</i>	<i>1,270 units*</i>

*Domestic violence units are listed separately, but are included within the total needed units for single adults and families.

Existing Inventory of Units, as of 2005:

Single Adults: 6 units

Families: 122 units

Domestic Violence: 30 units

Youth and Youth Adults: 21 units

Total: 179 units

Inventory figures include transitional and permanent housing. They are based on available data and may not be complete. As system-wide data becomes more available, these numbers should be revisited.

Principles and Strategies to Address Homelessness in East King County

Eastside housing and service providers have identified the following as *key principles* to guide efforts to end homelessness in East King County.

- Prevent homelessness among individuals and families at risk
- Develop long-term sustainable solutions to homelessness
- Provide short-term safety for homeless adults, families, youth and young adults, and domestic violence survivors
- Act now while it is most cost effective -- failing to be proactive will create a bigger problem and require more intensive service levels to address mental illness and drug use
- Create solutions that allow homeless Eastside residents to stay in their communities, rather than being forced into Seattle shelters due to lack of capacity in East King County
- Build commitment to address homelessness from all community members, including providers, funders, government agencies, and homeless individuals and families

Eastside housing and service providers have also formulated the following *key strategies* to effectively address homelessness in East King County.

- Preserve existing affordable housing
- Increase the number of housing units created by private developers
- Require private builders to include affordable housing within new housing
- Maximize the capacity of existing Eastside agencies to acquire, develop, own, and operate homeless housing, including needed services
- Encourage partnerships with organizations outside of East King County, especially as existing Eastside agencies reach their capacity
- Increase the ability of nonprofit developers to find and secure developable land sites in East King County, particularly those close to transit services
- Continue to increase coordinated funding opportunities that will provide full funding for affordable housing projects
- Develop an Eastside strategy to increase local public awareness of homelessness in Eastside communities
- Relieve the burden on transitional housing in East King County with increased permanent housing supply
- Provide critical assistance before people become homeless

- Provide supportive services to allow individuals and families who need them to remain stable in housing
- Create housing that can serve more than one population group, e.g., Hope House serves multiple populations in one housing facility
- Provide coordinated entry into housing and services to help individuals and families access the housing and services they need as efficiently as possible
- Decrease domestic violence turn-aways with increased housing and service capacity
- Assist homeless youth and young adults with life and job skills
- Create interim housing for specific populations, including domestic violence survivors, youth, and young adults
- Capture, analyze and utilize more complete data/statistics to document the number and types of services needed to end homelessness on the Eastside

The key strategies for success in King County's *10 Year Plan* to End Homelessness hold true in East King County.

1. Prevent homelessness

It is more cost-effective (and compassionate) to “close the front door” on homelessness through rent and utility assistance, job training, employment, education, health care, mental health counseling, foster care, and chemical dependency treatment. We must also ensure that people are not discharged from jail, mental health programs, and foster care into homelessness.

2. Help people move rapidly from homelessness to housing

Shelters are not a place where people can stabilize their lives. We must enable people to move quickly into permanent housing and stabilize with integrated supportive services.

3. Increase the efficiency of the existing system

As we seek to make housing and services available, we need to restructure the system so that existing resources are used most efficiently. Programs are working together to coordinate services according to their areas of expertise and funders are streamlining rules and regulations that get in the way of efficiency.

4. Build the political and public will to end homelessness

Our community wants to end homelessness. We need to build on that commitment by educating the public, reporting on our successes, and establishing steady funding.

5. Measure and report outcomes

The CEH is tracking funds coming into the homelessness provider system and how that money is being used. Each project sets outcome goals in order to receive funding and regularly reports on whether it is achieving its goals. This information is reported annually to the community and guides planning and future actions.

Legislative Goals and Initiatives

The Committee to End Homelessness has prioritized a set of countywide goals and initiatives. Several address issues that are particularly important to the Eastside. East King County should work with CEH to actively participate in shaping, supporting, and advocating for these initiatives.

The following CEH legislative goals are of key interest in East King County.

- Increase the Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing production
- Improve discharge from state systems into stable housing with supportive services, particularly correctional facilities and youth aging out of foster care
- Fund mental health and substance abuse services
- Advocate for changes to state legislation and the administrative code to increase access to homeless services for youth under 18, particularly addressing restrictions from the Becca Bill that limit services to youth under 18 without notification of police and parents within eight hours
- Expand Transitional Housing, Operating and Rent Program (THOR) for homeless single adults, youth, and people at risk of homelessness

East King County housing and service providers and policymakers should actively engage with CEH initiatives that address Eastside issues, particularly by participating in IAC oversight and workgroups. Following are some of the *key issues* that will need to be addressed in this work.

- Improving links to private sector housing to increase affordable housing capacity and to recruit and retain landlords that will rent to households with previous credit, criminal, and other barriers in their backgrounds
- Coordinating entry into housing to connect homeless and at risk individuals and families with the housing and services they need
- Improving discharge planning to connect people leaving jails and other institutions with housing and services before they become homeless
- Developing strategies to mitigate systematic barriers to housing production
- Identifying new resources and funding supports for increasing housing capacity
- Creating pathways to living wage jobs for homeless and formerly homeless people
- Enhancing services and assistance to prevent households from becoming homeless

Next Steps

Following the Eastside Human Services Forum's adoption of this plan, local advocates will present the plan's findings and recommendations to Eastside elected officials, the Interagency Council of King County's CEH, and housing and supportive services funders. EHAC will continue to work to link local and countywide efforts to end homelessness and to bring providers together to work collaboratively to meet the goals outlined in this plan.