

E. Terry Schulze
President

2017 was a year of changes and successes at Attain Housing.

Upon the resignation of Cheri Kilty, who had exciting opportunities awaiting her in Yakima, the Board of Directors embarked on an Executive Director search. In September, they hired Kathy Fleming, an Eastside resident for 26 years, to join a great staff and an organization that had been experiencing a very good year. Our Director of Programs and Facilities, Carmelita Parraz, had just been recognized by the Alliance of Eastside Agencies (40 members strong) as The Staff of the Year for 2017. Carmelita was chosen among all the other nominees for her inspiration of others while serving and advocating for those struggling with mental illness, domestic violence and homelessness. Congrats, Carmelita!

Attain also received a significant bequest from the estate of Jean MacDonald. Jean had been a former Housing at the Crossroads Board member. Ms. MacDonald's incredible gift allowed us to invest in the stability and infrastructure of the organization, and set aside reserves for future property purchases.

Attain has continued to search for additional properties or land in order to expand the number of apartments we own and help more families. In late 2017, Attain became aware of a local Bellevue church's desire to develop a portion of their property to address social concerns. Early in 2018 we engaged in a conversation with the church and made a proposal to build 25 apartments in two buildings with 13 units dedicated to low income homeless families. It has proven to be a highly competitive and lengthy process involving multiple non-profits and private developers. A decision by the Church is likely to come in 2019 and we are hoping that this will be our opportunity to expand!

As Attain Housing began to solidify measurements of our impact in the community, we realized that we had a widely successful program in our **Welcome Home Program**, which provides move-in assistance and financial assistance to avoid eviction. Prevention and diversion approaches to addressing homelessness have proven to be extremely cost effective and successful in keeping families in homes. With a mere \$50,000 total investment, we were able to keep 68 households, including 100 children, from becoming homeless. We measured the effectiveness of our financial assistance and found that 95% of the households we had helped were still in their homes 3-6 months later! Given the shortage of affordable housing on the Eastside (and everywhere) we think this approach deserves more attention. We have grown this program in 2018 by another 25% and will be helping at least 100 households this year.

We housed and worked with 49 families in our Transitional Housing Program in 2017. Of the families who left our program during this time, we were still able to help 80% of them move into permanent housing which became increasingly difficult as rents continued to rise. Even better, we saw a 71.5% increase in their income over the average of 20 months they were with us! We feel good that we were able to set up our families for success once they left us.

We want to thank all our supporters; our incredibly generous corporate and individual donors, the Foundations that grant us funding, the riders in the 7 Hills of Kirkland bike ride, and especially all of the volunteers who help us serve at Community Supper, maintain our properties, assist during the holidays, and serve on our Board. We are here because of you and are able to help homeless families through your generous gifts of time and treasure.

Thank you!

E.T. Schufe



Kathy Fleming *Executive Director*

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AT THE 2018 FALL LUNCHEON, we showcased a video featuring three of our client families telling their stories of how they ended up homeless and how they found Attain Housing. We wanted to give an update on how they've been doing since the luncheon.

James & Samantha

With the help of their Case Manager Greg, James and Samantha's immigration process is almost complete. They are just waiting for the final confirmation. Their son John had been struggling a bit in school, but after getting him the resources he needed through his school's counselor, he is doing much better now and is on track to graduate next spring.

Matthew & Kari

After getting settled into their apartment in July, Matthew was able to get a job after several months of job hunting. He's working full time while Kari takes care of Dallas, Mason, and Grace, and explores opportunities for working from home. Dallas remains cancer-free and is thriving in first grade.

Erneste & Denise

Erneste is still working facilities at Bellevue Presbyterian Church, but unfortunately came down with appendicitis recently and ended up in the hospital for a few days. He's expected to make a full recovery, but has to refrain from physical activity for a while. He still plans to launch his after-hours cleaning business in the near future.

Denise is taking ESL classes at Bellevue Community College while caring for Fiona and Faith. Fiona turns 1 soon and Faith is loving second grade.

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING

Number of clients:

149

Number of children:

87

Average increase in in client's income:

71.5%

Percentage of qualified families who obtained permanent housing after exiting:

80%

WELCOME HOME

Number of households helped by Eviction prevention:

68

Number of children helped by Welcome Home funds:

100

Percentage of those helped who retained permanent housing after 3 months:

95%

2017 IMPACT

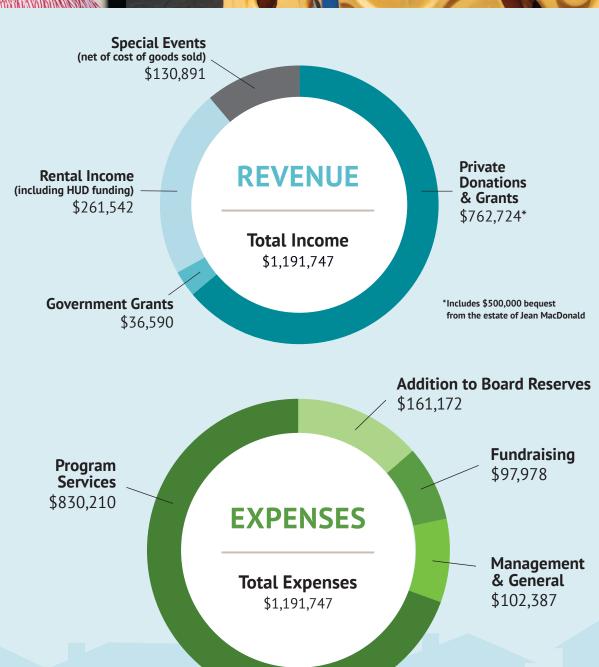


COMMUNITY SUPPER

Number of meals served:

2188







MANY THANKS TO OUR DONORS

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Alaska USA Federal Credit Union
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City of Kirkland
Evergreen Health
Hellam Varon & Co
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The Mary See Foundation
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Sammamish Rotary Club
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Tulalip Tribes Charitable Fund

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Bellevue Christian Church
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church
Inglewood Presbyterian Church
Kirkland Interfaith Network
Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church
Rose Hill Presbyterian Church
St. Louise Parish

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\$5,000-\$9,999
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