



Our History and Legacy

Imagine Housing develops affordable housing, builds welcoming communities and fosters vibrant futures.

Imagine Housing (at the time St. Andrew's Housing Group) was founded in 1987 by a small group of community members who were concerned about the increasing cost of housing in East King County and wanted to be part of the solution. This dedicated group of volunteers worked to develop Imagine Housing's first affordable housing community in 1992, Andrew's Arms. In 1993, the organization's first Executive Director was hired and the groundbreaking work of the volunteers began to pay off as Imagine Housing entered into a period of dramatic growth and accomplishment. Within 6 years, Imagine Housing had added another 124 units to their portfolio had development plans for two senior properties to open in 2001. Since that time, Imagine Housing has developed 485 units of housing in 13 properties in East King County and nearly 1,200 individuals annually. Additionally, since 2007, Imagine Housing has been offering many senior, adult and children residents the opportunity to receive on-site supportive services to help them build their skills and resources and ultimately break the cycle of family poverty.

At Imagine Housing's 2011 Benefit Auction & Dinner, the organization's founder announced that St. Andrew's Housing Group had changed its name to Imagine Housing. While the mission remains the same, this name more fully encompasses the greater role that Imagine Housing plays not only providing safe, stable and affordable rental housing, but also in supporting residents. In this way, Imagine Housing is imagining and working towards a community where everyone, regardless of income, is afforded the opportunity to pursue their dreams, develop stability and provide for their families.

Imagine Housing is headed by an Executive Director and operated by over 20 qualified and professional staff. Imagine Housing is governed by an engaged and effective Board of Directors, which includes members from the Eastside and Seattle who bring experience in commercial, industrial and mixed-use housing construction and management, commercial and nonprofit real estate development, community development, finance and real estate law. Each Board member contributes financially each year, participates in fundraising and serves on at least one committee.

Imagine Housing's committee-led corps of more than 150 volunteers plays an integral role in the organization's operations. Volunteers donate more than 3,000 hours of time annually. These volunteers work tirelessly on Imagine Housing's behalf, serving on the Board and committees, designing gardens for housing properties, working with residents, providing maintenance for our properties, and helping with annual events, especially the benefit dinner and auction that Imagine Housing hosts each spring.