



## For Immediate Release

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June 29, 2020 – Kirkland, WA. – [Imagine Housing](#), a non-profit provider of affordable rental homes and social services in East King County, announced today that it is sponsoring an emergency [rental assistance fund](#) to help Imagine Housing residents who are unable to pay rent due to financial hardship related to COVID-19.

To help those in need during these uncertain times, Imagine Housing is partnering with the [Eastside Legal Assistance Program](#), which will administer the fund for Imagine Housing. Imagine Housing has allocated \$100,000 to start the fund, with the aim of seeking additional charitable donations to support residents during the economic repercussions of the pandemic.

The funds will be made available starting today, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. To qualify, Imagine Housing households will need to contact the Eastside Legal Assistance Program at [housing@elap.org](mailto:housing@elap.org).

“When Imagine Housing approached us with the intent to launch this fund, we knew that we wanted to be a part of it, said Gerald Kröon,” Executive Director of the Eastside Legal Assistance Program. “Imagine Housing is a leading non-profit affordable housing provider focused on serving East King County, so they serve a critical role in providing safe and stable housing for our most vulnerable populations. During these uncertain times, they are trying to provide some certainty for their residents and that is something that we should all support.”

“Imagine Housing had already made a commitment to work with any resident who is financially impacted by the pandemic,” stated Vilette Nolon, President & CEO of Imagine Housing. “We have already forgiven late fees, legal fees and non-sufficient fund fees incurred after January 1, 2020 and have reassured all our residents that no one will be evicted due to non-payment of rent during this crisis. But we want to do more - and there is a need and a way to do more.”

“We hope that the greater Eastside community will join us and consider making a charitable contribution,” added Kröon. Through the Eastside Legal Assistance Program, 100-percent of the funds will go directly to Imagine Housing residents. To help your community members in need, donate at: <https://imaginehousing.org/get-involved/donate/1timeraf/>

“We, in the non-profit housing community, know firsthand how many hard-working individuals and families require housing assistance and now amid the stay-at-home sheltering, the importance of stable housing has likely hit home for everyone,” concluded Nolon.

[Imagine Housing owns and manages 15-apartment communities](#) which are home to over 1,400 people whose income is below 60% of the area median income. The non-profit develops permanent affordable rental apartments in East King County in addition to on-site individual support services to help residents take the next step in transforming their lives.

### **About Imagine Housing**

Rooted in the Eastside community for over 30-years, Imagine Housing is a leading, award winning affordable housing developer with 15-residential buildings in Kirkland, Bellevue, Issaquah, Redmond, Sammamish, and Mercer Island. As the only local, community-based nonprofit actively building new affordable housing on the Eastside, Imagine Housing provides more than 1,400 low-income families, youth, veterans, and seniors a safe, permanent home with an emphasis on long-term housing stability. In addition to permanent affordable housing, Imagine Housing provides on-site supportive services to help residents remain stable in their housing, as well as have the resources and support they need to achieve their goals. Services include case management; community-building activities such as meals and events; emergency basic needs supplies; and partnership development. For more information about Imagine Housing, visit [www.imaginehousing.org](http://www.imaginehousing.org) or call 425-576-5190.