



Thank You to our Holiday Heroes!

We want to say an enormous thank you to the many generous organizations who supported our Holiday Gift Program for 2018:

- Bellevue Collection included Imagine Housing on their annual giving trees and community members gave generously and thoughtfully - we received multiple phone calls and notes from mall shoppers who stopped to give some holiday cheer and wanted to make sure they were getting the exact gift a child wanted
- Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church collected gifts for senior residents at Kirkland Plaza
- Faith Lutheran Church supported families at Rose Crest with gifts
- Holy Spirit Lutheran Church added Imagine Housing to their giving tree and donated gifts for seniors
- Symetra once again sponsored gifts for children as well as gift cards to help out parents during the holiday season
- St. Margaret's Episcopal Church donated gifts for kids at their neighboring community of Andrew's Glen
- Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church fulfilled gift wishes for children throughout their area
- St. Luke's Lutheran Church focused on ensuring young children in our communities received the gifts they wanted
- Pacific Medical Systems/Pacific Mothers Support Inc brought their mission and ours together and donated gifts for babies
- Venture General Contracting collected gifts for kids at Andrew's Glen and Andrew's Heights
- Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church brought holiday joy with donations for veterans, children, and seniors at various communities

We are so thankful for the spirit of giving and community love that makes this program possible.

One parent shared, "It's been such a hard year, and it's not the kids' fault, and I'm so glad we can still give them presents."

We are also so grateful to the many volunteers who helped at holiday community meals. You brought food, you brought friends, and you brought the gift of yourself to build a warm, nourishing community moment.

Thank you for bringing joy to children, relief to parents, and happiness throughout our community!



Home and Community for the Holidays - Our Best Wishes to YOU!

Thanks to your generosity, not only did we meet our matching challenge of \$10,000 in new and increased donations, but we exceeded our goals for the Fall Campaign, raising nearly \$40,000 in total.

Your support helps us provide housing and supportive services to the families, seniors, and veterans who live at our communities. Thank you for partnering with us in our mission, and from our whole team, have a happy New Year!



Imagine Housing Team, December 2018

Wealth on the rich Eastside

I live in 98006, one of the wealthiest zip codes in Washington State. On Saturday, I was shopping at the nearby QFC. I saw a woman who looked to be in her 30s also shopping for fresh produce. She was dressed neatly, but looked exhausted. She was struggling to balance her basket with her bicycle and backpack while trying to look inconspicuous. It looked to me as if she was carrying all her belongings and that her bike was her only

transportation - why else would she have it in the store with her? I suddenly realized she was shopping slowly to keep warm, as it was blustery outside. She was homeless.

When I offered her some help, she understood what I meant, and did not protest the cash I proffered.

There is a tent city at an I-90 exit. If you don't go past Issaquah, you would never see it. Most of the people I know who live on the eastside have no idea it is there.

Yes, we have incredible growth and unprecedented wealth in King County, and we are lucky to have it. The downside of this rapid growth is that the price of housing will continue to go up as more than 1 million people are projected to arrive on King County's doorstep in the next 10 years, creating the need for over 244,000 new affordable homes in the next 22 years.

This year, Imagine Housing will open 62 permanent affordable apartments in Bellevue for families of 4 earning under \$65,000 annually. This is only a drop in the bucket as the need is huge.

Until we prioritize permanent affordable housing as a necessary component of a healthy community, we are destined to condemn our most vulnerable neighbors to living on the edge all the time. We'll have more people living in cars and in tents in the very rich cities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, and Kirkland.

Please consider joining Imagine Housing's board and staff this month on the King County [One Night Count](#). And, please remember that not everyone is wealthy on the rich Eastside.



Villette Nolon
President & CEO

You Hold the Key to Safe, Stable Affordable Housing



Join us on March 30, 2019 for the Imagine Gala & Auction presented by JPMorgan Chase & Co. The 26th Annual Imagine Gala & Auction is a night of fun, food, and celebration of our work together to create affordable housing.

You hold the key to safe, stable, affordable housing on the Eastside, and your participation will support our Imagine 1000 goal of having 1,000 affordable homes, serving 2,400 people, by 2022. You can visit the event website now to [register](#), [donate an item](#) for the silent or live auction, or [sponsor](#) the event.

Learn more about the impact of an affordable home from some of our residents [here](#). Can't make the event? [Donate now](#) to help our neighbors in need.

Sign Up Now for the February Lunch & Learn

Want to learn more about Imagine Housing? Join us in the rooftop community space at Velocity Apartments for our first Lunch & Learn of 2019!

[Register here](#) for Thursday, February 7, 2019 from 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM.

This short educational lunch program offers an overview of our mission, programs, goals, and most importantly, how you can help. We promise you'll learn a lot, meet other like-minded people and get more connected to the Eastside.

Donate today to help reach our goal of providing 1,000 affordable homes to 2,400 people on the Eastside by 2022.

Your Support Makes a Difference

Donate