



Imagine Housing
building eastside communities

The Blueprint
January 2018

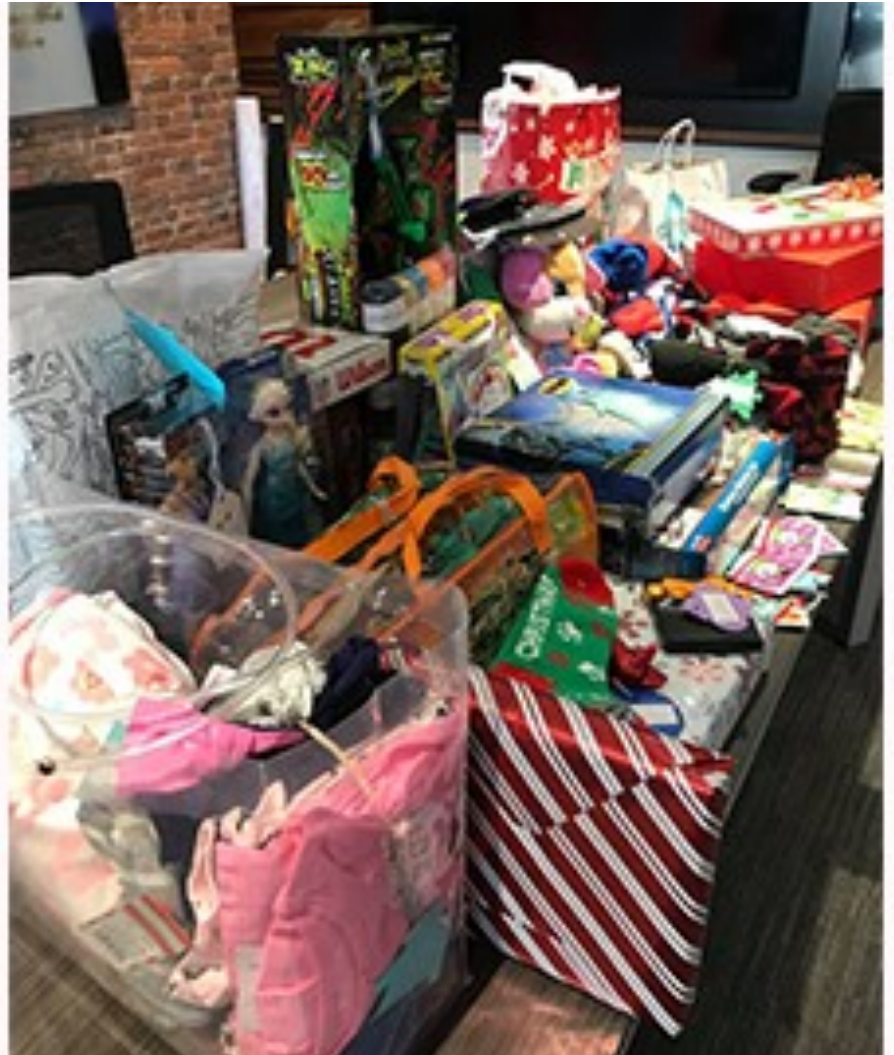
Starting the New Year Full of Gratitude

As the new year begins, we want to take a moment to thank all the amazing church groups, corporations, and individual people who made it possible for us to deliver over 500 holiday gifts to our residents in December! Your amazing generosity made it possible for 234 children, 90 seniors, and all our veterans to receive gifts at a time of year that can be stressful and lonely. Many volunteers spent hours coordinating, sorting, and delivering joy. Thank you!

One of our senior residents called the office to tell us how grateful she was for her holiday gifts of nice chocolates, tea, coffee, salts, a scarf, and more. She said everything was of beautiful quality and so thoughtful! She also told us about the excitement among all her neighbors, and said this may be the only present some residents will get this year and that it makes a big difference.

Our special thanks to: Faith Lutheran Church in Redmond, Sammamish Hills Lutheran Church, Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church, Bellevue, WA, St. Margaret's Episcopal Church, Bellevue, WA, St. Luke's Lutheran

Church, Northlake Unitarian Universalist Church, St John's Episcopal Church, Symetra, Bellevue Square, Venture General Contracting, and AT&T for offering so much holiday cheer!



Join Us for the 2018 Housing & Homelessness Advocacy Day in Olympia

Your voice *can* make a difference. Join Imagine Housing in advocating for more affordable homes! Hundreds of advocates from around the state will meet with our legislators in Olympia for Housing And Homelessness

Advocacy Day on **Thursday, Feb 1st, 2018**. Join us to show your commitment to ensuring all our low-income neighbors have stable, affordable housing. The day starts with several workshops to get you ready for your legislator meetings and arm you with all the information you'll need. For more information visit [WLIHA's website](#) and [register here](#) if you'll be joining us!

Lunch & Learn with Imagine Housing

Want to learn more about ways we can all help the vulnerable people in our communities? Join us for the next Imagine Housing Lunch & Learn on Thursday, February 8, 2018 from 12:00-1:00 PM! This short lunch program offers an overview of our mission, programs, and goals. You'll meet other like-minded people, learn about affordable housing, and get more connected to the Eastside.

Register [here](#) to attend.

Support our Mission—2018 Imagine Gala & Auction



Save the date! The 25th Annual *Imagine* Gala & Auction, on Saturday, March 24, 2018, is a night of fun, food, and celebration of our work together to create affordable apartment homes in our community. Proceeds from the event ensure that we continue to provide hope, support, and stability to more than 1,400 families, seniors, and veterans each year.

Together, we imagine a day when all everyone on the Eastside has a place to call home.

Visit our website to [register](#), and join us in making this event a great success by [sponsoring](#) or by [donating an item](#) for the auction.

Volunteer In Memoriam: Ed Short

We were very sad when George "Ed" Short, a member of Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church and a longtime supporter of Imagine Housing's mission, passed away in November 2017.

Ed was involved with Imagine Housing from the earliest days of Saint Andrew's Housing Group, and the joy and sense of community he embodied is remembered by founding volunteer Darcy Johnson:



"Our church was always buzzing in the early years of the housing group and my youngest child, Joel, was a fixture in church. He was always racing around and 'helping' staff and volunteers. One very sunny day Joel was racing around with his sunglasses on and as soon as he came within a few feet of dear Ed Short, Ed always picked him up, looked him in the eyes and started really communicating with him. Joel loved the attention and always appreciated the time Ed gave him. After a short conversation Joel exclaimed with enthusiasm, 'when I grow up I want to have a big nose like yours!' Ed didn't miss a beat and asked inquisitively, 'why do you want a big nose, Joel?' Joel smiled and said, 'so I can keep my glasses up,' as he demonstrated how challenging it is to keep glasses up if you don't have much of a nose. Ed was never offended and always remembered that exchange fondly."

Ed's humor, kindness, and dedication to his community will be greatly missed, and continue to inspire us as we work to build an affordable Eastside for all.