



Seattle Housing Authority

Reintegration Housing 

## Statement of approach

### Housing and support for liberated individuals

The Seattle Housing Authority (SHA), in partnership with community stakeholders, is developing a new pilot program to provide housing stability for liberated individuals. SHA understands that creating an inclusive housing program requires collaboration and, to ensure success of the program, are committed to engaging with local communities, advocacy organizations, people who were formerly and are currently incarcerated, and government agencies.

SHA enhances the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability in an equitable way. SHA and its Reintegration Housing partners believe that innovation and building relationships are paramount to creating a program that meets the needs of those it serves and will center the needs and perspectives of those who are affected by listening, learning and building upon the collective wisdom of the community.

The United States criminal justice system has disproportionately criminalized communities of color through policy and practice. As an affordable housing provider, SHA recognizes that experiencing incarceration exacerbates challenges in securing and maintaining housing and increases the likelihood of experiencing homelessness, which leaves individuals increasingly vulnerable to repeat interactions with the criminal justice system. With this program intended to provide housing and reintegration support for liberated individuals, SHA hopes to have an enduring impact on addressing the inequities caused by the criminal justice system. Support services and community resources will be essential to the success of the program and SHA's partners who are already doing this work will play a significant role in helping liberated individuals achieve the self-sufficiency needed to successfully reintegrate.

Housing authorities have been part of the governmental systems that have historically caused harm to communities of color. These systemic inequalities continue to be present, and SHA acknowledges its continuing responsibility to be accountable for change.

SHA is hopeful about the possibilities that lie ahead and looks forward to embarking on the Reintegration Housing journey with community partners. Together we can transform lives, strengthen communities and build a more equitable and inclusive Seattle.

To learn more, see the [SHA Reintegration Housing](#) web page. If you have questions, please email: [reintegration@seattlehousing.org](mailto:reintegration@seattlehousing.org).

### About the Seattle Housing Authority

The mission of the Seattle Housing Authority is to enhance the Seattle community by creating and sustaining decent, safe and affordable living environments that foster stability and self-sufficiency for people with low incomes. SHA provides long-term, low-income rental housing and rental assistance to nearly 38,000 people in Seattle. SHA owns and operates more than 8,500 housing units at nearly 400 sites throughout the city. SHA also administers approximately 12,000 Housing Choice Vouchers, enabling low-income residents to receive rental assistance throughout the Seattle housing market. In addition to housing, SHA provides many support services to help tenants improve their quality of life. SHA, an independent public corporation established in 1939, is governed by a seven-member Board of Commissioners, two of whom are SHA residents. Commissioners are appointed by the mayor and confirmed by the City Council. More information is available at [seattlehousing.org](http://seattlehousing.org).

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