

SUPPORT FOR SEATTLE / KING COUNTY HOMELESSNESS SYSTEM REDESIGN

As provider, philanthropic, business, and community leaders, we care deeply about the crisis of homelessness in our region.

We have called for: a comprehensive plan to effectively end homelessness, clear leadership and accountability, system-wide priorities and policies designed with racial equity at their core, and strengthened coordination to improve outcomes for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. This work begins now.

We wholeheartedly support the direction the city and county are taking to create a new, unified entity that would set policy and fund solutions to make homelessness in our community rare, brief, and one time.

Creating this entity is a **critical first step to addressing homelessness across our region.** In addition to allowing for the coordination and collaboration we need, it would serve as a foundation for:

- **Unifying emergency funding and services** including shelter, outreach, and diversion
- **Coordinating** the delivery of permanent supportive housing, transitional housing, and rapid rehousing
- **Overseeing policy**, contract management, performance management, and technical assistance
- **Adopting a shared vision and agreed upon working approach**, and creating clear metrics and milestones for measuring success and increasing accountability

These governance changes alone will not solve the severe lack of affordable housing, behavioral health resources, and other root causes that contribute to homelessness.

They will create the foundation necessary to work differently, together, to solve this crisis. **We believe this is an important step in the right direction, led by the city and county.**

We look forward to tracking, participating in, and supporting a detailed implementation plan that leads to ending homelessness in our community.

Sincerely,

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