

TABLE MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS

- **African Community Housing & Development / Partner: Bree Nicoletto, Community Development/Special Projects Director**, their mission is to provide opportunities for African Diaspora immigrant and refugee communities, families, and individuals in King County to attain health and housing stability, economic development, high-quality education, and referrals to legal services.
- **Centro Cultural Mexicano / Partner: Angie Hinojos, Executive Director**, strives to inspire inclusive participation by the community in all aspects of education, culture, and society by providing opportunities to create a positive future. They work to build a vibrant community of empowered individuals through art and culture.
- **Indian American Community Services / Partners: Nanda Tewari and Dr. Pran Wahi, Seniors Program**, is committed to supporting the local Indian community with critical programs and services, especially for those most at-risk members of our community. They seek to work together to increase the well-being of the community by addressing individual needs ranging from healthcare, financial assistance, family assistance, mental health and counseling.
- **Lavender Rights Project / Partner: Ebo Barton, Director of Housing Services**, elevates the power, autonomy, and leadership of the Black intersex & gender diverse community through intersectional legal and social services. We utilize the law as an organizing principle to affirm our civil rights and self-determination. The organization disrupts oppressive systems that target Black gender diverse and intersex communities of color and lead to disproportionate levels of poverty, housing disparities, and gender-based violence, especially among Black and Indigenous people.
- **Lived Experience Coalition / Partner: Harold Odom, Director of Policy and Outreach**, is a diverse group of people who are coming together to lift each other up, advocate for themselves and others, and advance race and social justice.
- **Open Doors for Multicultural Families / Partner: Ginger Kwan, Executive Director**, engages and partners with culturally and linguistically diverse individuals with developmental/intellectual disabilities and their families. We use a cultural brokerage model to navigate services, provide specialized programming, and advocate for systems change. Open Doors for Multicultural Families envisions a world where all culturally and linguistically diverse individuals with developmental or intellectual disabilities and their families thrive in an inclusive society of their design.
- **Sound Generations / Partner: Brittany Blue, Chief Marketing & Philanthropy Officer** supports people on their aging journey through community connections and accessible services. They envision a just society where aging adults, adults with disabilities, and those who care for them can live their best lives in a supportive and caring community.

HOUSING SOLUTIONS

Community Partners Table Recommendations Report

OVERVIEW

The Community Partners Table (Table) has now met four times. At these meetings, they learned about the work plan priorities for the AHC this year and developed a shared vision for their work as a Table. The Table has prepared this first recommendations report for the AHC to serve as a vision document to reference throughout as work progresses, and offer connections to community stories. The AHC is invited to engage with the Table about any component of the report.

People in the communities the Table Member Organization serve share with them how they experience housing cost burdens and what they need when trying to access affordable housing in the region. These trusted community-based organizations collect qualitative and quantitative data and support constant communications with the people they serve. Reflected below are visions developed by the Community Partners Table for how to support safe, affordable, and accessible housing solutions.

The report contains the following components:

1) Priorities shared by the Table, 2) Data and Stories uplifted from communities, 3) Reflections about Housing For Us All, and 4) Recommendations for engagement between the Table and AHC.

At the AHC meeting on April 8, Table members will share highlights from this report. They will also observe Committee deliberations about the framework to inform their engagement on this topic. Committee members will have time at the April 8 meeting to ask Table members clarifying questions about their presentation and report.

PRIORITIES SHARED BY THE TABLE

- Table members are community liaisons and will share perspectives specifically from the communities they serve, including people who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color (BIPOC), gender diverse, experiencing homelessness, have developmental/intellectual and physical disabilities, aging adults and elders, LGBTQIA+ youth, families, cost-burdened renters, immigrants, refugees, and undocumented individuals.
- The recommendations shared by the Community Partners Table supports documenting housing disparities and how they are experienced by different populations, and uplifts what communities have shared with these trusted community-based organizations.
- Recommendations that uplift strategic solutions and how to repair the harm.
- Recommendations that challenge the Affordable Housing Committee to be bolder and braver.
- Systems change for housing affordability and ownership by low-income BIPOC communities in the region is supported by more forms of accountability.
- Assumptions in data sources are checked and stereotypes are busted through Community Partners Table engagement with the Committee. The continuous engagement implemented in the organizational work of the Table members would help inform the standards cities are held to as part of a region wide effort to increase housing affordability and access.

THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS TABLE INVITES YOU TO REVIEW REPORTS, VIDEOS, SURVEYS, AND RESEARCH IN PROGRESS.

The Table intends to share more about what is learned from the communities they serve, and will continue to uplift data sources and stories in each report to the Affordable Housing Committee.

- [Video](#), *Vision to Create a Multicultural Village*
- [Video](#), *¡Ya Es Tiempo! The Time is Now!*
- [Project Charter](#) for Lavender Rights Project's, *The House*
- [Survey results](#) from culturally and linguistically diverse community engagement and [focus groups](#) with people living with developmental disabilities, their parents and caregivers, and service providers.
- Research in progress – King County Regional Homelessness Authority is leading outreach currently to understand the experience of living unsheltered and what barriers people face on the path to housing. There is also a [rapid re-housing dashboard](#) that reflects ongoing research.



DATA AND STORIES

Uplifting what each organization has learned through their outreach, community engagement, and research efforts.

The Community Partners Table works to understand housing needs of people who are low-income, BIPOC, gender diverse, experiencing homelessness, have developmental/intellectual and physical disabilities, aging adults, elders, LGBTQIA+ youth, families, cost-burdened renters, immigrants, refugees, and undocumented individuals. Solutions for BIPOC communities are beyond just providing shelter; it takes a community and services. Everyone is healthy, honored, healing, and housed.

Some community-based organizations (CBOs) are now planning and developing their own housing projects and solutions, including many represented on the Community Partners Table. Throughout the pandemic, all offered rental assistance and crisis care and have much to share about how housing disparities are experienced in the pandemic and beyond. CBOs should guide during the planning and design processes for housing to better meet community needs. Cultural and language needs should be met in the process to access both rental and ownership opportunities. Policies that invest in housing development and financing should be led by BIPOC CBOs and housing developers, along with investment in training programs for BIPOC housing developers so more are uplifted and there is generational knowledge sharing.

HOUSING FOR US ALL

Includes Options For:

- *Multi-generational and multi-family households with over four-persons.*
- *People who want single-occupancy rooms in community integrated housing with private bathrooms and 24-hour staff.*
- *Owner-occupied housing.*
- *Community centered programming and easy access to amenities and services.*
- *Training and financing for developers of color to implement a community vision.*
- *mentorship/partnership opportunities*
- *People who need living assistance professional support.*
- *Addressing the substandard safety and quality of some housing options.*
- *Intentionally designed communal spaces for all abilities to enjoy, including spaces for fitness and physical health, healthy foods (garden and grocery store), near transit and jobs, childcare, cultural centers, and eldercare.*
- *Behavioral health crisis response that is community-informed, powered and educated.*
- *Long-term stability.*
- *Safer spaces for people who are gender diverse.*
- *Continued pandemic response and relief.*
- *In-language outreach to increase access to opportunities.*
- *Leasing to own.*
- *Opportunities that are not dependent on credit scores.*
- *Decolonizing systems of care.*
- *More dense housing by changing zoning requirements.*
- *Recognizing cultural history of place to support the mental health of all.*
- *The communities that are coming out of homelessness and who need true wraparound services on site, supporting restorative justice and a housing first model.*
- *People on a fixed-income.*
- *People who cannot provide documentation required in many relief applications.*
- *People who lost the ability to afford mortgage or rent due to incarceration of a family member.*
- *Households who have multiple members living with a disability, reflecting the multigenerational nature of their family structure.*
- *Removing discriminatory occupancy limit rules and regulations on unrelated persons.*
- *Communities in which accommodations for disabled individuals are integrated with others for authentic connections.*
- *Tribal recognition and benefits as a part of housing development.*
- *Low-income housing developments and housing vouchers (increase income eligibility).*
- *Co-housing, such as co-ops, trusts, Public Development Authorities (PDAs), etc.*



REFLECTIONS CONTINUED

Universal design in housing policy supports a process of designing housing affordability options to be functional for as many people as possible, to the greatest extent possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design. There is support to use the principle of universal design from some CBOs on the Table, such as creating a universal standard in housing development that establishes a much higher percentage for how many new units include modifications already as a baseline, allowing people of all abilities to age in place and allowing for a variety of family sizes.

Other CBOs on the Table support a wide array of solutions that are customized to help make housing affordable and keep people housed. The organizations represented by the Community Partners Table support processes that are based in self-determination from BIPOC communities, and they work to develop customized pathways for housing support.

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ENGAGEMENT

The Community Partners Table will engage with the AHC on work plan items to support the effectiveness of the AHC and recommend equitable solutions informed by their connections and outreach with the people they serve.

- The Table will provide feedback and reflections about the accountability and implementation framework after attending and listening at the April 8 AHC meeting.*
- The Table will engage with the AHC around the jurisdictional housing needs and targets. This includes joint meeting opportunities, and the Table intends to recommend observable measurements for how success can be measured. Recommendations for equitable solutions will help to increase how impactful the data collected and used by cities is for the sake of increasing housing affordability and availability in the region.*