

ONE TABLE

 Addressing root causes
of homelessness

ROOT CAUSE: Employment

CURRENT STATE

Nearly **50%** of King County households* earn less than \$75,000 per year, the income needed to afford the typical 2-bedroom apartment in King County**

* Source: United State Census Bureau. American Community Survey, 2016. <https://factfinder.census.gov/>

** Source: National Low Income Housing Coalition. Out of Reach Report. 2018. http://nlihc.org/sites/default/files/oor/00R_2018.pdf

FACTORS

Low wages

Lack of job
readiness, including
supportive services

Lack of social capital
and networks

Implicit bias inherent
in employers' hiring
practices

HIGHLIGHTED STRATEGIES



IMMEDIATE

IMPLEMENTATION WITHIN 3 YEARS



Scale *King County Jobs Initiative* and increase other dedicated funds for training pathways in high wage jobs for groups most at risk of homelessness.



Change employment program policies to allow for more flexible funding to address needs of individuals and prevent homelessness.



Train housing and homeless service providers on income/employment referral options.



Create a system that encourages employers to adopt initiatives from a menu of actionable options (including training, internships, education, and hiring preferences) that address racial inequities in hiring.



LONG-TERM

IMPLEMENTATION IN 3-10 YEARS



Create Summer Academies for at-risk youth in middle school.



Place more high-quality teachers, counselors and community-based mentors in the highest poverty middle schools to support youth in need/at risk.