



Kitsap Homes for All: Small Cottage Communities

The vision is to provide safe, secure, and affordable housing for those who have no home.

Our plan: Introduce a new affordable housing type (small cottages) to meet transitional, emergency and temporary needs.

The goal is a village in each commissioners' district, each with about twelve cottages.

Volunteers will construct the cottages. *Their labor is donated, as are some of the materials. The cottages can be displayed in various locations to showcase them.*

The village features some shared facilities, and provides security, sanitation, and support services:

- The residents will share kitchen and bathroom facilities.
- Fencing and possible vegetation around the village provides a sense of security for residents and neighbors; and residents are responsible to staff the check-in station.
- A dumpster will be provided on-site, with regular pick-ups.
- Case management is available to village residents.

Why small cottages?

- ✓ Decent housing is cost saving (on law enforcement, jails, hospitals, and treatment);
- ✓ Areas that established the village concept (like in Seattle and Olympia), have seen reduced crime;
- ✓ Cottages improve our community, benefit businesses and neighborhoods, and create healthy neighborhoods by offering a safe, secure, sanitary, and affordable option for those who have no home.

Funding and friend-raising.

The United Way of Kitsap has volunteered to be the fiscal agent for Homes for All donations related to local cottages. Community assistance can help with cash and labor for the small cottages, and more. To recognize this valued support, we propose to place a plaque on each house sponsored by a particular group.

A slide show relays the message that "We know how to solve homelessness," and promotes consistent messaging regarding key actions for the project, which include:

- building small cottages,
- site selection,
- neighborhood outreach,
- screening of the population to be served,*
- finalizing the village, and
- providing care support. Reputable organizations will manage a support system for people housed in this program.

*The population for this project includes families and individuals, some veterans. Our focus is on persons experiencing housing instability and at high risk for homelessness. The Housing Solutions Center (HSC) will recommend (low/no income and good prospects to stabilize). This initial program does not serve a population with high needs such as mental health and addiction.