



TINY HOUSE VILLAGES





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In partnership with the City of Seattle, King County, City of Tacoma, City of Olympia, City of Bellingham, and partners throughout the state of Washington, the Low Income Housing Institute is now one of the largest operators of Tiny House Villages in the nation, ensuring that people's experience in homelessness is safe, dignified and as brief as possible.



THE PROBLEM

In the state of Washington there are currently more than 60,000 homeless individuals including singles and families with children, according to the State Department of Commerce. The latest point-in-time count for Seattle/King County showed over 15,000 homeless people. Seattle has the third largest number of homeless people of any major city, following after New York City and Los Angeles. While Veteran homelessness has gone down in recent years, the current stock of shelters and affordable housing cannot keep up with the dramatic increase in the number of people who are unhoused.



OUR SOLUTION

In 2015, LIHI started building Tiny House Villages as a response to the homelessness crisis and as a replacement for tents. Tiny houses offer tremendous benefits over tents – they are safe, weatherproof and lockable – and the Tiny House Villages allow residents to reclaim their dignity and get on a path to permanent housing, employment and connection to supportive services.



OUR COMMUNITIES

There are 16 tiny house villages operated or supported by LIHI in Seattle, Tacoma, Olympia, Skyway, and Bellingham. Each village has hygiene facilities, utility access, and a supportive neighboring community that is actively engaged in the success of the residents. LIHI partners with neighbors, volunteers, community groups, non-profits, faith organizations, businesses, rotary clubs, and schools that help support the residents with donations and meals. These 16 villages support over 1,000 people annually.





THE TINY HOUSES

By collaborating with students, volunteers, building trade organizations, and non-profits, tiny houses offer a grassroots solution to the Puget Sound region's homelessness crisis. A tiny house is approximately 8' x 12' and materials cost about \$4,000. All tiny houses are safe, sturdy structures that help protect homeless individuals and families who are faced with sleeping on the streets in unsafe conditions.



AMENITIES – MORE THAN HOUSES

Each house has electricity, overhead light, insulation, and a heater. Each village has a kitchen, bathroom & laundry facilities, offices for on-site case managers, ample storage, and a check-in house for security.



OUR SUCCESSES

Through our supportive services and housing resources, residents of the Tiny House Villages have experienced success in moving out of homelessness. We have helped hundreds of village residents move into permanent housing and find employment.



COMMUNITY, VOLUNTEERS & THE FUTURE

Working with our self-management and advocacy partners such as Camp Second Chance and Interbay Safe Harbor, village residents participate in community meetings, do daily litter patrols, and serve as eyes on the street in the neighborhood. Volunteers, neighbors, and donors play a huge part in building the houses, setting up the villages, and providing food and supplies. Local governments are partners providing land and operating funds. Tiny Houses are a new way to help people in crisis. We continue to forge new partnerships and are working to open more villages in the near future.

HOW TO HELP

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO GET INVOLVED IN THE TINY HOUSE VILLAGES:

DONATE

Give a donation or sponsor a tiny house for \$4,000.

Contact Becca Finkes at rebecca.finkes@lihi.org. Donations can be made on our website (www.lihi.org) or by check to **1253 S. Jackson St. Seattle, WA 98144**

BUILD

Do you or your group want to build and donate a tiny house? For more details, contact tinyhouses@lihi.org

VOLUNTEER

Learn about upcoming volunteer work parties by signing up at lihi.org/tiny-houses. Volunteer or organize a donation drive by contacting the Tiny House Team: volunteer.program@lihi.org

2021 Pitch Your Peers Seattle \$68,000 Grant Winner

USA TODAY Gannett Foundation \$100,000
A Community Thrives Grant Winner, June 2019

LIHI was selected from among hundreds of applicants to receive the highest award level. A Community Thrives awards grants to worthy causes in communities to help drive positive change. The program enables non-profits to promote their ideas and efforts on a national platform.

INNOVATION
AWARD WINNER
**LOW INCOME
HOUSING
INSTITUTE**

Recognizing LIHI's groundbreaking Tiny House Villages as a national model for the homeless crisis, the Puget Sound Business Journal named LIHI as its non-profit Innovation Award Honoree for 2018.



For more information on the tiny house villages, please visit www.lihi.org/tiny-houses or reach out to tinyhouses@lihi.org