

Kitsap County – City of Bremerton HOME Consortium HOME-ARP Allocation Plan

Introduction

To address the need for homelessness assistance and supportive services, Congress appropriated American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds to be administered through HOME to perform activities that must primarily benefit qualifying individuals and families who are homeless, at risk of homelessness, or in other vulnerable populations. The eligible activities include:

- Development and support of affordable housing,
- Tenant-based rental assistance,
- Provision of supportive services; and
- Acquisition and development of non-congregate shelter units.

ARP defines qualifying individuals or families as those that are:

- Homeless, as defined in section 103(a) of the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act,
- At risk of homelessness, as defined in section 401 of McKinney-Vento,
- Fleeing, or attempting to flee domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking.
- Part of other populations where providing supportive services or assistance would prevent a family's homelessness or would serve those with the greatest risk of housing instability; or
- Veterans and families that include a veteran family member that meet the criteria of one of the above.

HUD allocated HOME-ARP funds to grantees that qualified for an allocation of HOME funds in Fiscal Year 2021 using the HOME formula established at 24 CFR 92.50 and 92.60. The HOME-ARP allocation to the Kitsap County-City of Bremerton HOME Consortium is \$2,653,349 with a City of Bremerton share of \$822,538 and the remaining \$1,830,811 for Kitsap County including the cities of Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo and Port Orchard.

Consultation

In accordance with requirements of Notice CPD-21-10 Requirements for the Use of Funds in the HOME-American Rescue Plan Program, Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton consulted with the Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition (Kitsap's Continuum of Care), as well as other housing and service providers that address the needs of the qualifying populations and organizations that address fair housing, civil rights and the needs of people with disabilities.

A presentation was made at the May 18, 2022 regular meeting of the Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition (Continuum of Care). Staff used a Power Point presentation to present information on HOME-ARP funds and feedback was encouraged from coalition members.

Additional outreach was conducted via email in July 2022 to homeless service providers, domestic violence service providers, veteran’s groups, the two housing authorities in Kitsap County, agencies that address the needs of the qualifying populations and organizations that address fair housing, civil rights and the needs of persons with disabilities. Organizations were asked to respond to the following questions:

- In thinking about the populations your organization serves, what are the most urgent housing needs?
- What are the most urgent service needs related to housing the population you serve?
- What are the gaps in our current system in Kitsap County?
- Considering there are limited resources, what do you think the top priority for investment of limited funds should be?

The following table lists the organizations contacted and feedback. Feedback received has been included in a table and attached to the end of this document in Appendix A.

Agency/Org Consulted	Type of Agency/Org	Method of Consultation	Feedback
Agape Unlimited	Non-profit substance abuse treatment	Email	No response
Kitsap County Division on Aging and Long-Term Care	County Human Services – Elderly	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Bremerton Housing Authority	Housing Authority	Email & Meeting	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Catholic Community Services	Non-profit homeless services	Email	No response
Catholic Housing	Non-profit homeless housing provider	Email	No response
Coffee Oasis	Non-profit – services and shelter for homeless youth	Email	No response
Communitas	Non-profit – housing for developmentally disabled adults	Email	No response
Community Frameworks	Non-profit housing provider	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Fair Housing Center of Washington	Non-profit - Fair Housing Services	Email	No response
Housing Kitsap	Housing Authority	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Housing Resources Bainbridge	Non-profit housing provider	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kitsap Community Resources	Non-profit housing provider	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kitsap County Developmental Disabilities	County Human Services – Developmental Disabilities	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A

Kitsap Housing and Homelessness Coalition	Continuum of Care	Meeting Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kitsap County Housing & Homelessness Division	County Human Services - Homeless	Meetings Email	Feedback received – data and narrative provided for plan
Kitsap Homes of Compassion	Non-profit housing provider	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kitsap Immigrant Assistance Center	Non-profit services for immigrant community	Email	No response
Kitsap Legal Services	Non-profit legal services	Email	No response
Kitsap Mental Health Services	Non-profit services and housing –homeless and those with mental illness	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kitsap Rescue Mission	Non-profit services & shelter - homeless	Email	No response
Kitsap Veterans Assistance	County Human Services - Veterans	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
League of Women Voters	Non-profit	Email	No response
NAACP Bremerton Unit 1134	Non-profit civil rights	Email	No response
NW Justice Project	Non-profit – fair housing & civil rights	Email	No response
Olive Crest	Non-profit -foster care	Email	No response
Salvation Army	Non-profit homeless services	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
St. Vincent de Paul	Non-profit homeless services	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Weaver Foundation	Non-profit homeless shelter	Email	No response
West Sound Treatment	Non-profit substance abuse treatment and housing	Email	No response
YWCA	Non-profit domestic violence services and housing	Email	Feedback received – see attached appendix
North Kitsap Fishline	Non-profit Food Bank	Email	No response
Helpline House	Non-profit Food Bank	Email	No response
Central Kitsap Food Bank	Non-profit Food Bank	Email	No response
South Kitsap Helpline	Non-profit Food Bank	Email	No response
Bremerton Foodline	Non-profit Food Bank	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kitsap Public Health District	Public Health District	Email	Feedback received – see Appendix A
Kingston Cares	Non-profit Food Bank	Email	No response

There was widespread consensus that the most urgent housing need is for more units of deeply affordable housing and supportive housing units. The most urgent service needs included case management, mental and behavioral health counseling, transportation services, more housing

navigators to help people navigate the housing system and remain housed as well as financial assistance for housing such as deposits and first month's rent. Some of the gaps identified included lack of affordable housing, including accessible units and lack of supportive housing units for those coming out of homelessness or with barriers. Also noted were the limited number of shelter beds, challenging housing referral system, lack of housing and services for the most seriously mentally ill and those with barriers like poor credit, criminal record and poor rental history. When asked what the top priority for limited funds should be, the most common answer was investment in more affordable housing units.

In addition to the urgent need for more housing units, conversations with the Bremerton Housing Authority point to the need for housing counselors to assist households with utilization of housing choice vouchers. Currently the housing voucher system is under-utilized in Kitsap County. Many households who qualify for vouchers struggle to complete the necessary steps to secure housing. A housing navigator is needed to assist households with the process. This would better utilize existing housing resources for many vulnerable households including HOME-ARP qualifying populations.

Conversations with homeless housing providers as indicate temporary shelter units are also needed in Kitsap County. Some non-congregate shelter units were opened during the pandemic and funded from COVID relief funds. As these funds expire new funding is being sought to preserve these units for the long term.

Based on feedback and conversations with providers, as well as data from the needs assessment and gap analysis, funds will be prioritized as follows:

- Kitsap County: Funds will be prioritized for creation of new units of rental housing, including new construction or acquisition (with or without rehabilitation) in unincorporated Kitsap County and the cities of Bainbridge Island, Poulsbo and Port Orchard. The units must be made available to households in all the qualifying populations defined in the HOME-ARP Notice.
- City of Bremerton: Funds will be prioritized for creation of new rental housing units open to all qualifying populations to be developed in the City of Bremerton.
- A portion of funds will be set-aside for housing counseling services to assist households with Housing Choice Vouchers throughout Kitsap County including the City of Bremerton.

Preferences for certain qualifying populations will not be utilized. In Kitsap County the Housing Solutions Center is our coordinated entry system for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. This system will be utilized to refer people to HOME-ARP housing. Because HOME-ARP funded rental housing is open to all qualifying populations, including those who may already be housed but are at risk of losing their existing housing, rental housing projects will be required to maintain a waitlist and conduct outreach to ensure all households are

aware of the property and types of units available. Projects will be required to complete HUD's Affirmative Fair Housing Marketing Plan (Form HUD-935.2A).

Public Participation

Date of public notice: A Legal ad was published in the Kitsap Sun on February 13, 2023, and the plan made available on the Kitsap County and City of Bremerton websites.

Public comment period: February 13th through February 28th, 2023

Dates of public hearings:

- Kitsap County Board of Commissioners Public Hearing, March 13th, 2023, 5:30 pm.
- City of Bremerton City Council Study Session March 8th, 2023, at 5:00pm, City of Bremerton City Council Public Hearing March 15th, 2023, at 5:30pm.

Describe the public participation process:

Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton posted the HOME-ARP Allocation Plan to their respective websites on February 13, 2023. A legal ad was published on this same date to notify the public of the plan's availability and 15-day written comment period. Electronic notification was sent out to all subscribers of the County and City's electronic notification systems. A public hearing is scheduled for March 13, 2023, with the Kitsap County Board of Commissioners. A separate hearing is scheduled with the City of Bremerton City Council on March 15, 2023.

Describe efforts to broaden public participation:

In addition to posting information to the County and City websites and sending out electronic notification to subscribers, information was disseminated over social media platforms and through an interested party's email list. Public comments on the plan are accepted by mail or email and the public hearings with the County and City are held in the evening in fully accessible buildings that can be easily reached by public transportation. The public hearings are also broadcast on BKAT public access television and can be attended virtually via Zoom.

Summarize the comments and recommendations received through the public participation process either in writing, or orally at a public hearing:

TBD

Summarize any comments or recommendations not accepted and state the reasons why:

TBD

Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis

Housing Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis

In 2019 Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton commissioned an affordable housing study to examine the current supply of housing, understand current trends and project future need. Some of the findings of the report include:

- Kitsap County has not been building enough housing to meet the needs of its residents. Over the 2010 to 2017 time period, it only built 42 new housing units for every 100 new households formed. This is one of the main drivers behind recent home price and rent increases seen in the past decade.
- Across all of Kitsap County, about 3,790 units were produced between 2010 and 2017. This translates to 541 units per year. The County will need to almost triple their annual housing production to accommodate the new 25,147 units needed in the next 17 years.
- As of 2013-2017, Kitsap County had a shortage of 5,782 units of rental housing affordable to its extremely low-income renter households (those earning less than 30% of the median family income).
- During the 2013-2017 period, about 50% of all Kitsap County renter households were cost burdened, paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs.

The following data is from the final report published in March 2020.

1. Total Rental Units (# of units) – 33,407 units
2. Rental Units Affordable to Households at or below 30% Area Median Income - 2,488 units
3. Rental Units Affordable to Households at or below 50% Area Median Income - 12,782 units

Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis

Homeless													
	Current Inventory					Homeless Population				Gap Analysis			
	Family		Adults Only		Vets	Family HH (at least 1 child)	Adult HH (w/o child)	Vets	Victims of DV	Family		Adults Only	
	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds					# of Beds	# of Units	# of Beds	# of Units
Emergency Shelter	45	11	225	24	4								
Transitional Housing	106	29	70	67	60								
Permanent Supportive Housing	60	25	74	55	5								
Other Permanent Housing	153	50	146	127	107								
Sheltered Homeless						125	255	71	24				
Unsheltered Homeless						5	177	9	14				
Current Gap										21	-6	-137	

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Data used to describe this qualifying population per section 103(a) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act is reported from the Kitsap County Coordinated Entry Program, known as the Kitsap County Housing Solutions Center. Data used for this element is based on the 2021 Annual Report, which provides detailed client demographic information for individuals and households seeking housing assistance between the dates of Jan 1st, 2021 to Dec 31st 2021.

The data available consists of 2 subpopulations which include:

- A. Category 1 Literally Homeless per At a Glance Criteria and Recordkeeping Requirements for Definition of Homeless (hudexchange.info):
 - (1) Individual or family who lacks a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence, meaning:
 - (i) Has a primary nighttime residence that is a public or private place not meant for human habitation;
 - (ii) Is living in a publicly or privately operated shelter designated to provide temporary living arrangements (including congregate shelters, transitional housing, and hotels and motels paid for by charitable organizations or by federal, state and local government programs); or
 - (iii) Is exiting an institution where (s)he has resided for 90 days or less and who resided in an emergency shelter or place not meant for human habitation immediately before entering that institution
- PLUS
- B. Category 2 Imminent Risk of Homelessness a per At a Glance Criteria and Recordkeeping Requirements for Definition of Homeless (hudexchange.info)
 - a. Individual or family who will imminently lose their primary nighttime residence, provided that:
 - (i) Residence will be lost within 14 days of the date of application for homeless assistance;
 - (ii) No subsequent residence has been identified; and
 - (iii) The individual or family lacks the resources or support networks needed to obtain other permanent housing

Based on the data collected by the Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (HSC), the Coordinated Entry System for Kitsap County, there was a total of 1,778 non-duplicated households meeting the homeless definition seeking housing or shelter assistance. The HSC has offices located throughout the county, and a mobile outreach team. Most households seeking assistance were from the Bremerton area (1259 households), the largest city within the county. Following enrollments in Bremerton, the mobile outreach team had the most contacts for housing assistance (780 households).

1,778 Non-Duplicated Homeless Households Seeking Housing Assistance in Kitsap County 2021

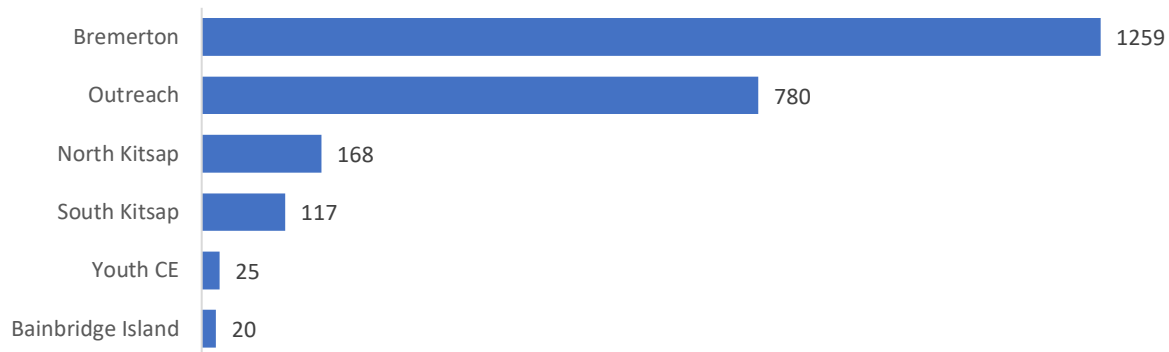
Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry),
Kitsap County HMIS 2021



During intake for assistance heads of households self-reported characteristic information, such as background, disabilities, and income. Of self-reported characteristics, 65% of heads of household report mental illness, 46% report substance use disorders, 35% have a chronic health condition, 35% are domestic violence survivors, and 27% have long-term physical disabilities. Head of household ages range from 16 to 85, with a median of 39 years of age. When examining the household composition type, the majority of households seeking assistance consist of single men or single women (81% combined), with couples, single parent families with children, two parent families with children, youth, or other household types making up the remainder of households. Household incomes are low, with 43% having no sources of income, and 85% having income that is less than 100% of the federal poverty level for 2021. Racial minority households are disproportionately impacted by homelessness. Racial minority households at coordinated entry represent 23.5% of households seeking assistance at coordinated entry, but represent only 17.9% of the Kitsap County population, based on the 2021 Kitsap County Census data.

Households Served by Coordinated Entry Location or Mobile Outreach (duplicated)

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry),
Kitsap County HMIS 2021



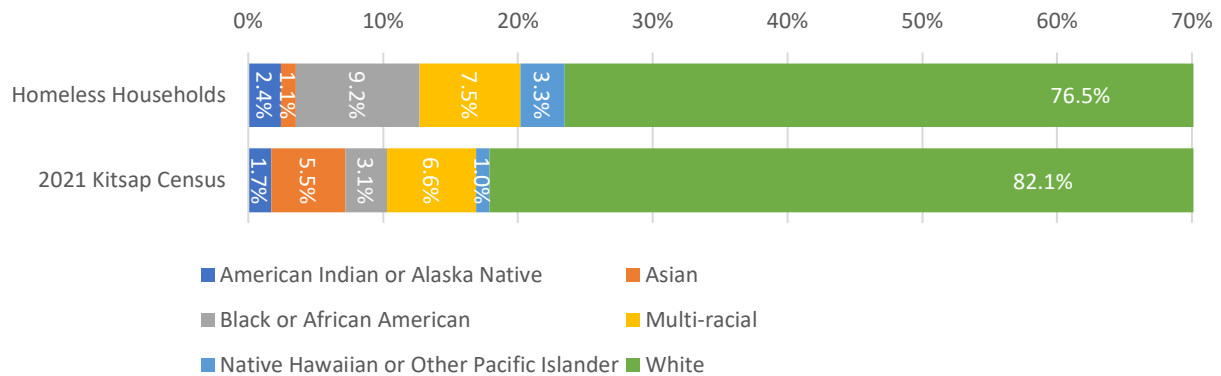
Household Composition

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry), Kitsap County HMIS 2021

Single Male	913	51%
Single Female	534	30%
Single Male w/Child(ren)	15	1%
Single Female w/Child(ren)	189	11%
Couple	52	3%
Family	51	3%
Single Transgender Adult	24	1%
Youth	11	1%
Client refused	5	0%

2021 Homeless Racial Disparity Comparison

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry), Kitsap County HMIS 2021



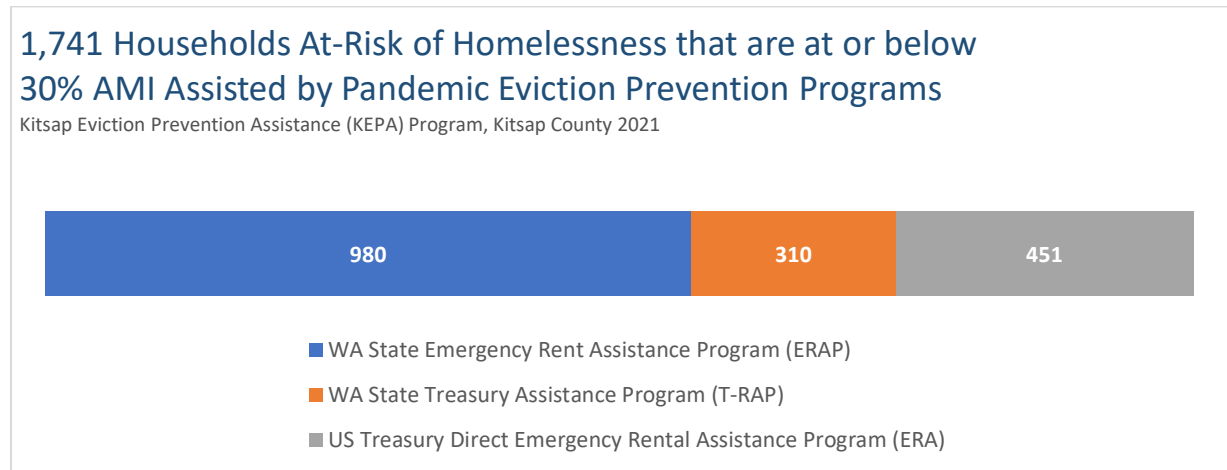
At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

At-Risk of homelessness as defined is not collected at CE (per definition 401 of The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act As Amended by S.896 The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing (HEARTH) Act of 2009 (hud.gov), however these households would map to the group definition of unstably housed. Households that are unstably housed are not provided intake into the Homeless Crisis Response System through our Coordinated Entry known as the Housing Solutions Center. These households are provided informational sessions and handouts about housing assistance in the county. Furthermore, during the COVID-19 pandemic in addition to informational sessions many of these households have been assisted through the US Treasury COVID Rental Assistance Program funding.

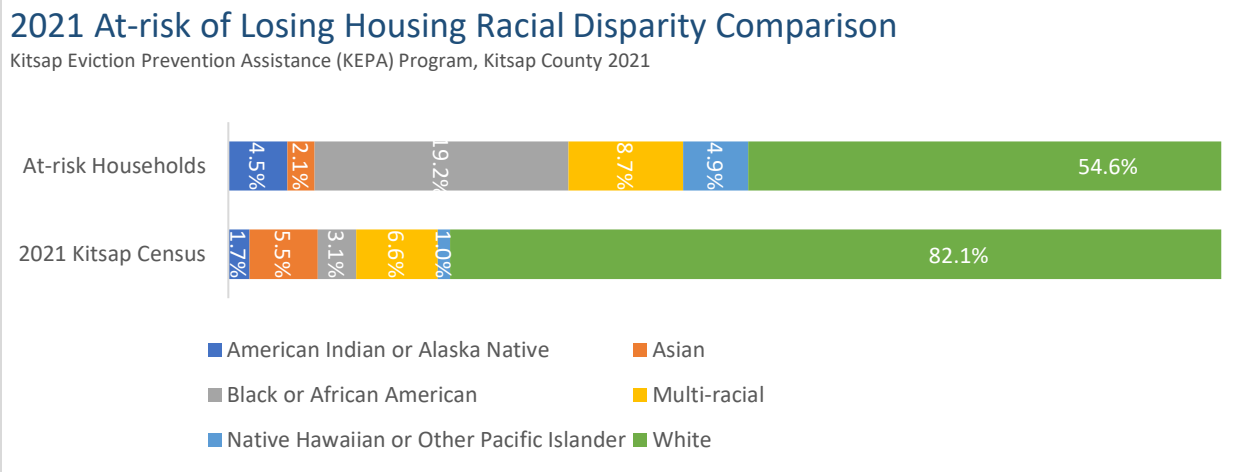
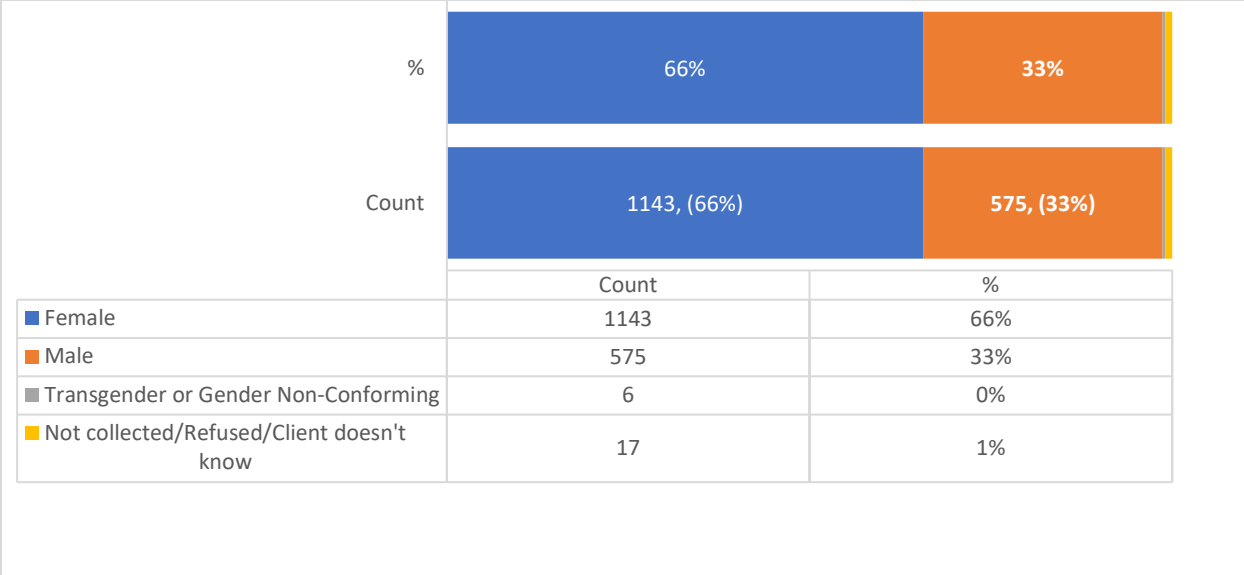
Kitsap County received funding from WA State Dept of Commerce and directly from the US Dept of Treasury to distribute pandemic rental assistance from multiple sources under the program Kitsap Eviction Prevention Assistance (KEPA). This program assists households that

and are at risk of losing their housing due to unpaid rent, are under 50% AMI, and prioritizes households that are unemployed to pay rent, rental arrears, and utilities payments directly to landlords and utility providers. The majority of households assisted by this program were at or below 30% AMI, have insufficient means to immediately attain available housing, are unable to pay rent and would be evicted but for the Washington State Eviction Moratorium, or live in places such as motels, low-income housing developments, overcrowded housing, or other characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness. In addition to allowing households to apply directly for assistance, the County contracted and worked closely with 6 community organization to perform outreach and education about the program to racial and ethnic minorities, immigrants & refugees, youth, people with disabilities, and American Indians. These groups are disproportionately impacted by the pandemic and housing instability in Kitsap County.

When examining the data for these households meeting the definition of At-Risk of Homelessness, 1,741 were counted seeking assistance to prevent homelessness. These households were more likely (66%) to be headed by female heads of households. Youth heads of households ages 18-24 or unaccompanied youth 16-17 years of age data was incomplete (not collected by some programs), but where this information was collected 10% of households were headed by youth.



For funding provided through Washington State Dept of Commerce, program performance goals were provided as benchmarks to promote equitable distribution of rental assistance to low-income racial minority households and other populations that have been historically underserved by these types of programs. Benchmarks were determined based on the racial background of households in poverty from the US Census data for Kitsap County. Kitsap County exceeded the goals of this program to promote racial equity and assistance to underserved populations.



Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

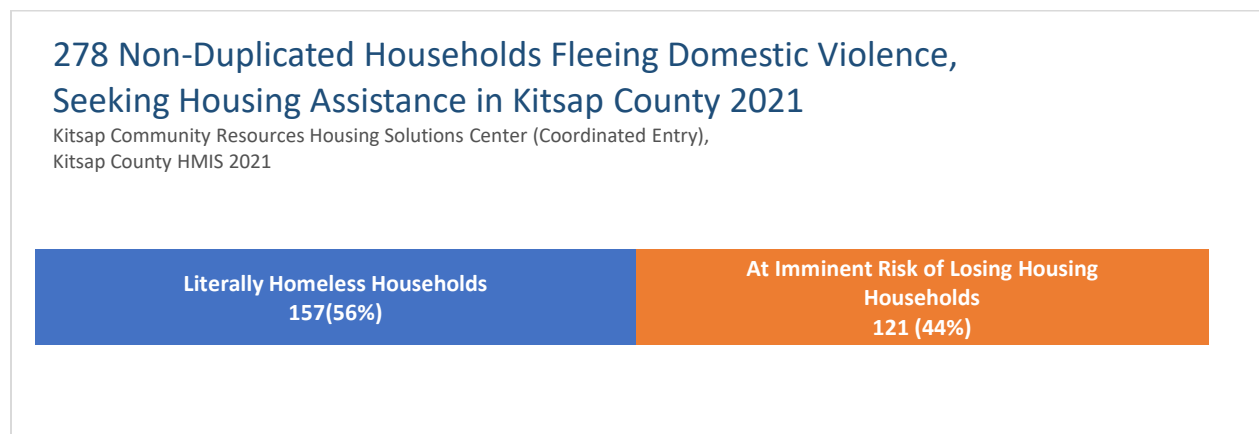
Data used to describe this qualifying population per section 103(b) of the McKinney Vento Homeless Assistance Act is reported from the Kitsap County Coordinated Entry Program, known as the Kitsap County Housing Solutions Center. Data used for this element is based on the 2021 Annual Report, which provides detailed client demographic information for individuals and households seeking housing assistance between the dates of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

The data available consists of 2 subpopulations which include:

Category 4 Fleeing/Attempting to Flee DV per At a Glance Criteria and Recordkeeping Requirements for Definition of Homeless (hudexchange.info)

(4) Any individual or family who: (i) Is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence; (ii) Has no other residence; and (iii) Lacks the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing

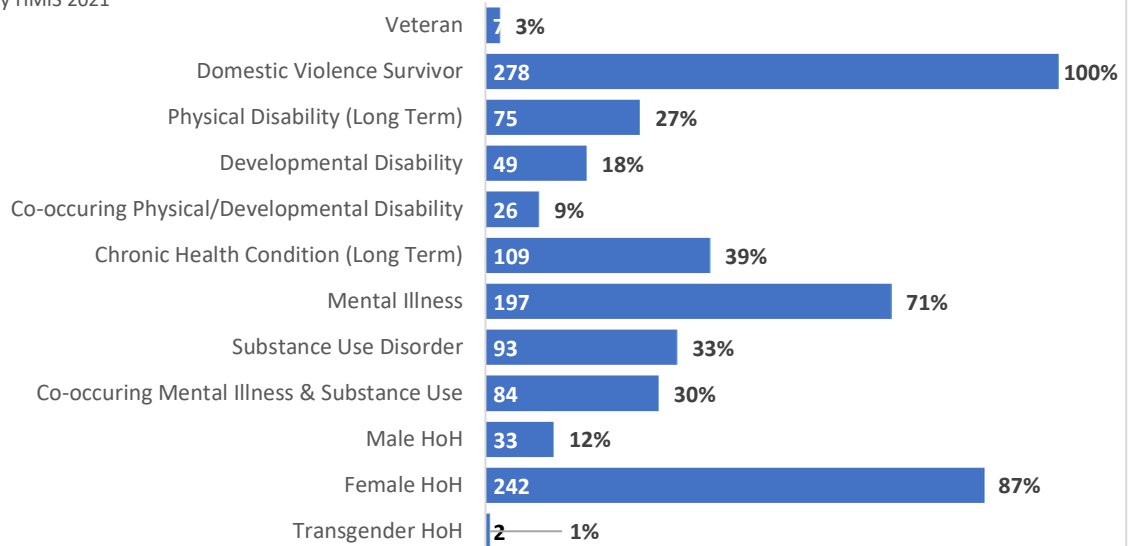
Based on the data collected by the Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (HSC), the Coordinated Entry System for Kitsap County, there was a total of 278 non-duplicated households meeting the homeless definition seeking housing or shelter assistance and reported that they were fleeing/attempting to flee DV. The HSC has offices located throughout the county, and a mobile outreach team. Most households seeking assistance were from the Bremerton area (196 households), the largest city within the county. Following enrollments in Bremerton, the mobile outreach team had the most contacts for housing assistance (87 households).



During intake for assistance heads of households self-reported characteristic information, such as background, disabilities, and income. Of self-reported characteristics, 71% of heads of household report mental illness, 33% report substance use disorders, 39% have a chronic health condition, and 18% have long-term physical disabilities. Head of household ages range from 16 to 79, with a median of 38 years of age. When examining the household composition type, most households seeking assistance consist of single women and women with children (82% combined), with other household types making up the remainder of households. Household incomes are low, with 32% having no sources of income, and 85% having income that is less than 100% of the federal poverty level for 2021. Racial minority households are disproportionately impacted by homelessness due to fleeing domestic violence situations. Racial minority households at coordinated entry represent 20.8% of households seeking assistance at coordinated entry due to fleeing domestic violence, but represent only 17.9% of the Kitsap County population, based on the 2021 Kitsap County Census data.

Head of Household Fleeing Domestic Violence Self-Reported Characteristics

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry),
Kitsap County HMIS 2021



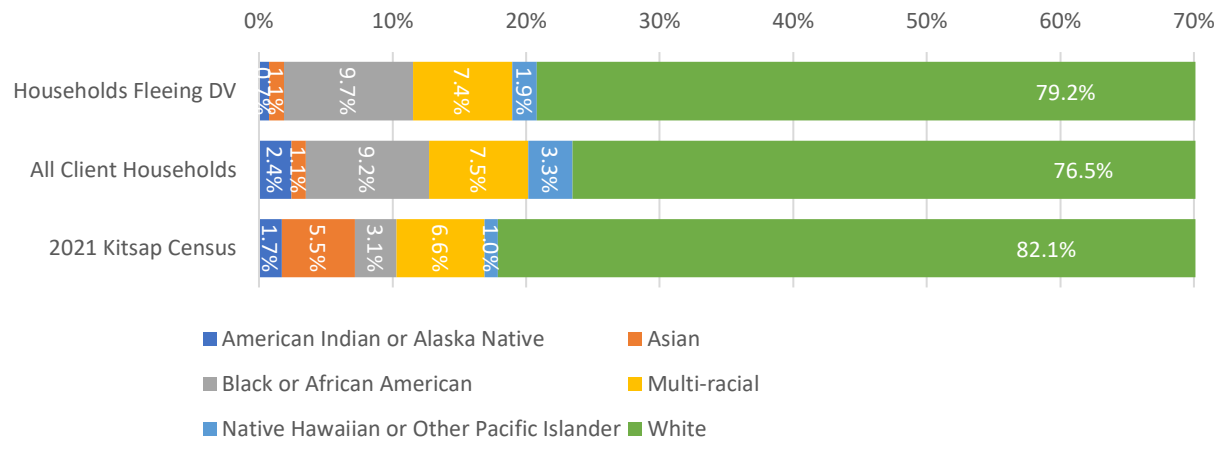
Fleeing Domestic Violence Household Composition

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry), Kitsap County HMIS 2021

Household Composition	Count	Percentage
Single Male	32	11%
Single Female	157	55%
Single Male w/Child(ren)	1	0%
Single Female w/Child(ren)	77	27%
Couple	0	0%
Family	6	2%
Single Transgender Adult	3	1%
Youth	7	2%
Client refused	1	0%

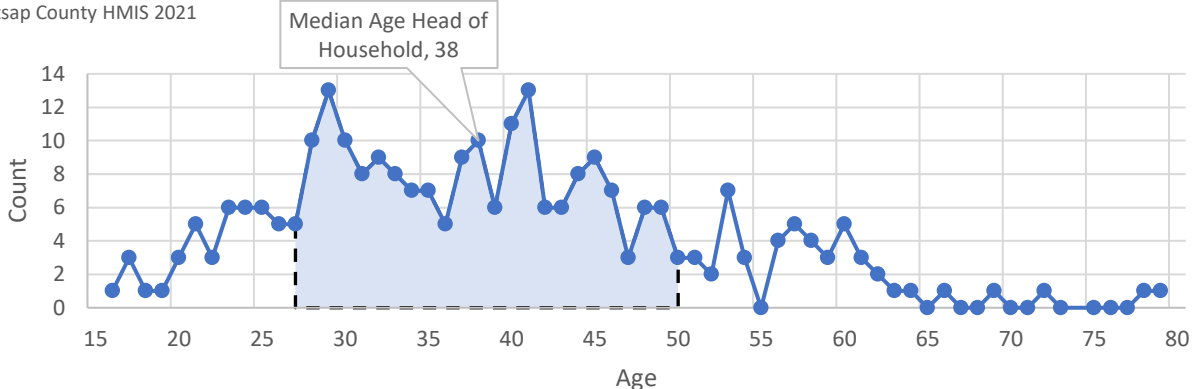
2021 Households Fleeing Domestic Violence Racial Disparity Comparison

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry), Kitsap County HMIS 2021



2021 Fleeing DV Head of Household Age Distribution

Kitsap Community Resources Housing Solutions Center (Coordinated Entry), Kitsap County HMIS 2021



Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability, as defined by HUD in the Notice

HUD defines “Other” qualifying populations as follows:

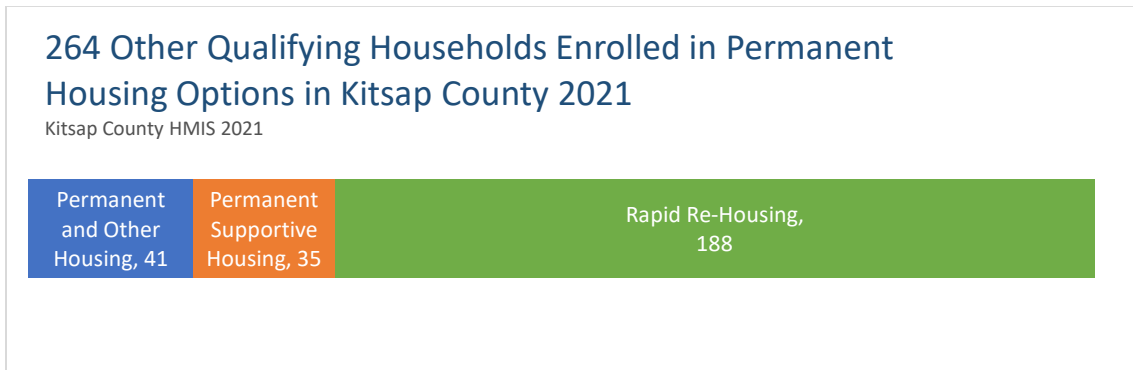
- (1) Other Families Requiring Services or Housing Assistance to Prevent Homelessness is defined as households (i.e., individuals and families) who have previously been qualified as “homeless” as defined in 24 CFR 91.5, are currently housed due to temporary or emergency assistance, including financial assistance, services, temporary rental assistance or some type of other assistance to allow the household to be housed, and

who need additional housing assistance or supportive services to avoid a return to homelessness.

Data used for this element is based on data from Kitsap County HMIS, which provides detailed client demographic information for individuals and households enrolled in housing assistance between the dates of January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

The data available consists of households in 2021 that are enrolled into PH – Housing Only, PH – Permanent Housing with services (no disability required), PH – Permanent Supportive Housing (disability required), PH – Rapid Re-housing programs, and Other project types which provide permanent housing not meeting the definition of the prior project types, where the head of household was qualified as homeless (entering from place not meant for habitation, emergency shelter, or actively fleeing domestic violence) at the time of enrollment:

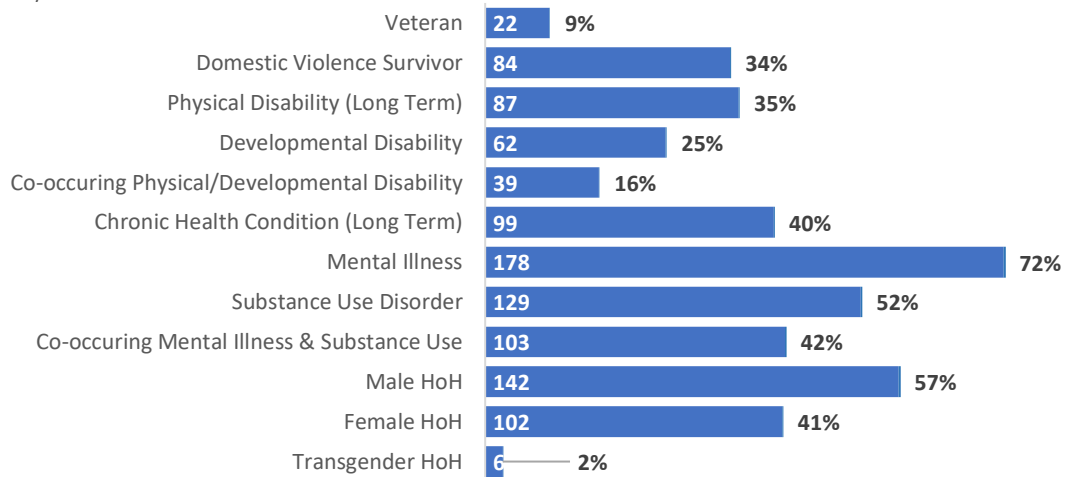
Based on the data collected from Kitsap County HMIS, there was a total of 264 non-duplicated households were enrolled in a permanent housing program and qualified as homeless upon program entry. Of these households, 41 entered into a variety of permanent housing without a disability requirement, 35 entered into permanent supportive housing with a disability requirement, and 188 households entered into a rapid re-housing program.



During enrollment heads of households self-reported characteristic information, such as background, disabilities, and income. Of self-reported characteristics, 72% of heads of household report mental illness, 52% report substance use disorders, 40% have a chronic health condition, and 35% have long-term physical disabilities. Head of household ages range from 18 to 72, with a median of 40 years of age. When examining the household composition type, the majority of households entering permanent housing programs consist of single men or single women (86% combined), with other household types making up the remainder of households. Household incomes are low, with 34% having no sources of income, and 85% having income that is less than 100% of the federal poverty level for 2021. Racial minority households represent 23.5% of households seeking assistance at coordinated entry, but Other qualifying households as defined represent only 19.2% populations housed in these permanent housing programs in 2021 Kitsap County.

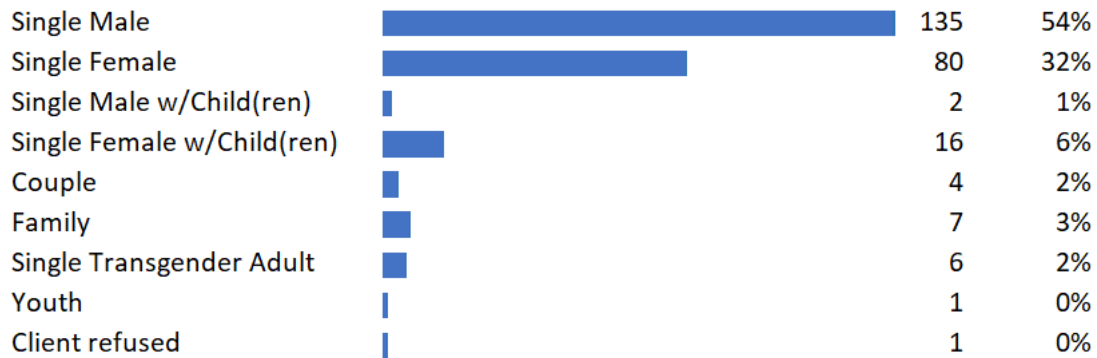
Other Qualifying Head of Household Self-Reported Characteristics

Kitsap County HMIS 2021



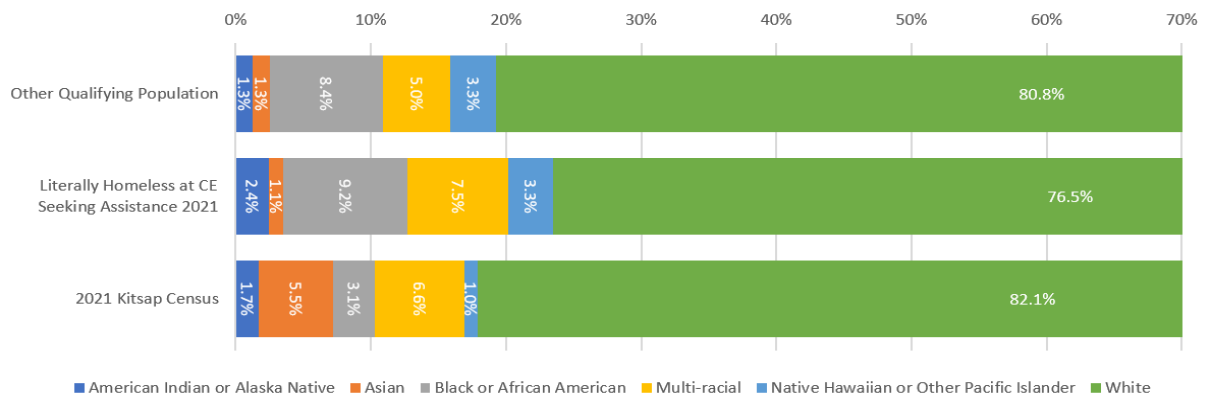
Other Qualifying Household Composition

Kitsap County HMIS 2021



2021 Other Qualifying Racial Disparity Comparison

Kitsap County HMIS 2021



(2) At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability is defined as household who meets either paragraph (i) or (ii) below:

(i) has annual income that is less than or equal to 30% of the area median income, as determined by HUD and is experiencing severe cost burden (i.e., is paying more than 50% of monthly household income toward housing costs); or

(ii) has annual income that is less than or equal to 50% of the area median income, as determined by HUD, AND meets one of the conditions from paragraph (iii) of the “At risk of homelessness” definition established at 24 CFR 91.5.

Data for this element is from the 2021-2025 Kitsap County and City of Bremerton Consolidated Plan which identified 13,063 households who are experiencing severe cost burden (i.e., paying more than 50% of monthly household income toward housing costs). There are 18,539 households who are cost burdened (i.e. paying more than 30% of monthly household income towards housing costs). More recent data and anecdotal evidence suggests the numbers are even higher today. Rents have risen significantly since 2019 putting many of these households at risk of homelessness.

Kitsap County does not have data to track most of the conditions from paragraph (iii) of the “At risk of homelessness” definition established at 24 CFR 91.5.

Identify and consider the current resources available to assist qualifying populations, including congregate and non-congregate shelter units, supportive services, TBRA, and affordable and permanent supportive rental housing:

Kitsap County has limited resources to address the needs of qualifying populations, both in terms of funding and organizational capacity. Rapidly increasing costs to develop new housing and shelter units means the County has been unable to keep up with the need for new units. Temporary funding brought on by the COVID-19 pandemic has allowed some additional units of shelter to be created and it has prevented many more households from becoming homeless due to rental assistance. However, creating new units of rental housing remains challenging.

Describe the unmet housing and service needs of qualifying populations:

Homeless as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Based on the data in the **Homeless Needs Inventory and Gap Analysis Table** at the beginning of this section, Kitsap County has a gap of 137 shelter beds for adults and 6 shelter units for homeless families, based on the 2021 Coordinated Entry data compared with the number of current homeless shelter beds. However, 150 of the current shelter beds are being funded with COVID-19 specific funds, which are slated to expire in 2023. Kitsap County is working to develop a new 75-bed shelter that will replace ½ of these beds but will

still leave a net loss of 75 beds from current levels, bringing the unmet need to 212 shelter beds for adults and 6 shelter units for families specifically by the end of 2023.

Coordinated Entry data for calendar year 2021 indicates that 153 households were unable to receive immediate shelter due to lack of shelter beds and spent an average of 48 days on the waitlist for shelter.

Additionally, the Washington State Department of Commerce recently released a Housing for All Planning Tool (HAPT) in November 2022, which is intended to assist local counties in planning for sufficient affordable housing units and shelter beds to meet the needs of projected population growth through 2044. According to this projection, Kitsap County will need to produce an additional 1,598 shelter beds by 2044 in order to meet the needs of the population at that time. This would constitute a 93% increase over 22 years from the number of current shelter beds in operation.

The HAPT projection indicates a need for an additional 1,787 permanent supportive housing (PSH) units by 2044. These units would provide permanent housing for people with long-term behavioral and physical health needs in order to stay stably housed.

At Risk of Homelessness as defined in 24 CFR 91.5

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, households who are at-risk of homelessness were identified only when they met the criteria to receive the limited amount of rental assistance that is available or qualified for a housing-authority-administered voucher program or public housing. Many people at risk of homelessness were not able to be served by the limited resources and were therefore not identified specifically. However, as described above, during the pandemic, a large volume of eviction prevention rental assistance was made available by US Treasury and the WA legislature.

To date, 69% of households served with this funding had incomes at or below 30% of Area Median Income. Most of the households that were served were unable to pay their rent before the pandemic and this funding temporarily alleviated that burden during the pandemic and allowed landlords to recoup this rent in arrears. However, after this temporary pandemic funding expires, these households will again struggle to make up the gap between their incomes and the cost of rental housing. Current other resources to provide rental assistance are a fraction of what was available during the pandemic and will only be able to serve a small sub-section of this very low-income population.

The HAPT projects that between now and 2044, Kitsap County as a whole will need to produce 13,219 units of new housing that is affordable to households at or below 50% AMI and an additional 4,697 of units affordable to households with incomes between 50% and 80% AMI. This represents a 36% increase from the current stock in housing units affordable to households under 80% AMI

Fleeing, or Attempting to Flee, Domestic Violence, Dating Violence, Sexual Assault, Stalking, or Human Trafficking, as defined by HUD in the Notice

Kitsap County has one shelter that is specifically serving people who are fleeing DV, though other shelters that serve women or women with children also shelter people who are survivors of DV. These clients are entered anonymously into HMIS, so it is more difficult to ensure un-duplicated statistics for this population. In addition, DV-affected individuals are often referred from outside Kitsap County or DV-affected individuals in Kitsap are referred to programs outside of Kitsap County – this adds to the complexity of projecting the need within the county.

The DV-specific shelter did not run at capacity during 2021, with beds available during most of the year. A DV-specific permanent housing program housed 15 households in 10 units in 2021 and ran at full capacity during that year, indicating a need for additional permanent units of this type.

In analyzing statistics through the coordinated entry system and HMIS, people reporting DV as a characteristic had a 43.6% rate of exits to permanent housing, which is better than the overall shelter-leaver population.

Other populations requiring services or housing assistance to prevent homelessness and other populations at greatest risk of housing instability as defined by HUD in the Notice

The unmet housing and services for this population include additional rental assistance to replace the assistance that will go away once the COVID rental assistance runs out. More permanent rental units, especially low barrier or supportive units for people exiting institutions or suffering from disabling conditions. Housing counseling to help people utilize housing vouchers.

Identify any gaps within the current shelter and housing inventory as well as the service delivery system:

While current shelter providers and the limited permanent supportive housing units that are in current operation are working hard to provide low-barrier shelter, there are several populations that are not able to be served by current shelter services or current PSH programs. These include: 1) people with chronic and/or severe physical health conditions, including incontinence, that exceed the capacity of shelter or PSH staff to care for, 2) people with socially disruptive mental health conditions, 3) people who are still in active addiction that leads to disruptive behaviors, 4) people with deteriorated or diminished cognitive function (including Alzheimer's, Parkinson's, and dementia), and 5) people who are unable to perform their own activities of daily living (ADLs), such as bathing, toileting, dressing, etc. People who have any combination of the previous conditions are also not able to be accommodated in current shelter and PSH programs. In order to be able to care for people with these conditions, extremely intensive (and expensive) shelter programs and permanent supportive housing units would need to be created that include a high level of on-site supportive services.

Kitsap County opened one permanent supportive housing building in 2022, with 72 units. However, as indicated above, there is a need for both a significant number of additional units, as well as units that can serve people with much higher needs.

Under Section IV.4.2.ii.G of the HOME-ARP Notice, a PJ may provide additional characteristics associated with instability and increased risk of homelessness in their HOME-ARP allocation plan. These characteristics will further refine the definition of “other populations” that are “At Greatest Risk of Housing Instability,” as established in the HOME-ARP Notice. If including these characteristics, identify them here:

Kitsap County has not identified additional characteristics.

Identify priority needs for qualifying populations:

Kitsap County has identified new units of rental housing as the single biggest priority need, followed by new units of shelter.

Explain how the PJ determined the level of need and gaps in the PJ’s shelter and housing inventory and service delivery systems based on the data presented in the plan:

We analyzed data from the coordinated entry program, the local HMIS data set, the Point in Time County, and the Housing For All Planning Tool (a population-based projection of housing need through 2044), the Affordable Housing Study completed by ECONorthwest in 2020 and data from the 2021-2025 Kitsap and City of Bremerton Consolidated Plan. We looked at the current available stock of shelter, permanent supportive housing and subsidized housing compared to the current and projected need to come up with the resulting gaps.

HOME-ARP Activities

Describe the method(s) that will be used for soliciting applications for funding and/or selecting developers, service providers, subrecipients and/or contractors:

Kitsap County will utilize a Request for Proposal (RFP) process to solicit applications for specific rental housing projects to utilize HOME-ARP funding. The projects funded must be open to all the Qualifying Populations outlined in the HOME-ARP Notice and meet additional requirements set forth in the Notice for HOME-ARP funds. Projects must also meet HOME requirements detailed in Kitsap County’s 2024 CDBG/HOME Policy Plan.

The City of Bremerton, continuing its partnership with Bremerton Housing Authority (BHA), will allocate its share of HOME-ARP to an existing rental development project in Bremerton.

A portion of the County and City of Bremerton’s share (\$402,977) will be set-aside for BHA to undertake a rental housing counseling program to assist households in using Housing Choice Vouchers to secure permanent housing county-wide.

Describe whether the PJ will administer eligible activities directly:

Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton will not administer activities directly. Funds will be awarded to owner/sponsor/developers for eligible rental housing development activities. The County and City of Bremerton will also set-aside a portion of funds to be used for housing counseling undertaken by the Bremerton Housing Authority who will act as a subrecipient.

If any portion of the PJ's HOME-ARP administrative funds are provided to a subrecipient or contractor prior to HUD's acceptance of the HOME-ARP allocation plan because the subrecipient or contractor is responsible for the administration of the PJ's entire HOME-ARP grant, identify the subrecipient or contractor and describe its role and responsibilities in administering all of the PJ's HOME-ARP program:

Not applicable

In accordance with Section V.C.2. of the Notice (page 4), PJs must indicate the amount of HOME-ARP funding that is planned for each eligible HOME-ARP activity type and demonstrate that any planned funding for nonprofit organization operating assistance, nonprofit capacity building, and administrative costs is within HOME-ARP limits.

Use of HOME-ARP Funding

	Funding Amount	Percent of the Grant	Statutory Limit
Supportive Services	\$ 402,977.41		
Acquisition and Development of Non-Congregate Shelters	\$ 0		
Tenant Based Rental Assistance (TBRA)	\$ 0		
Development of Affordable Rental Housing	\$ 2,117,704.14		
Non-Profit Operating	\$ 0	0 %	5%
Non-Profit Capacity Building	\$ 0	0 %	5%
Administration and Planning	\$ 132,667.45	5 %	15%
Total HOME ARP Allocation	\$ 2,653,349		

Describe how the PJ will distribute HOME-ARP funds in accordance with its priority needs identified in its needs assessment and gap analysis:

The needs assessment and gap analysis identify gaps in permanent rental housing for households with income below 30% AMI and for those. Funds will be prioritized for projects that create new units, either through construction or acquisition/rehabilitation, and made available to all qualifying populations. Projects must not violate fair housing and civil rights requirements and cannot limit eligibility based on a protected class (e.g., single-sex rental housing, single adults-only shelter, etc.).

Describe how the characteristics of the shelter and housing inventory, service delivery system, and the needs identified in the gap analysis provided a rationale for the plan to fund eligible activities:

Kitsap County's housing inventory shows a significant gap between the housing currently available and what is needed. Households are continuing to struggle to obtain affordable rental units, and certain populations with higher needs are unable to secure supportive housing. There is also a significant need for more shelter beds, particularly for people with high needs that are not a good fit for the current shelter system, however there are currently no organizations with capacity to take on development of a non-congregate shelter project. The County does not have significant funding for capital housing. This is the rationale for the plan to prioritize funding for creation of new units of rental housing, including supportive housing.

The County currently has several on-going funding streams that are used to fund services including funds prioritized for homeless populations and those with mental and behavioral health challenges. The HOME-ARP funds will not be prioritized for services with the exception of a set-aside of funds for rental housing counseling for the Housing Choice Voucher program administered by the Bremerton Housing Authority.

Funds will not be used for Tenant-based Rental Assistance. The current housing voucher system is under subscribed and additional tenant based rental assistance is a low priority.

HOME-ARP Production Housing Goals

Estimate the number of affordable rental housing units for qualifying populations that the PJ will produce or support with its HOME-ARP allocation:

Funds will be used to support the creation of 30 units of new affordable rental housing. Nine units will be developed in the City of Bremerton and 21 units in Kitsap County, outside the City of Bremerton. The units will be for all four of the qualifying populations outlined in the HOME-ARP Notice. Projects may include acquisition with or without rehabilitation and new construction. Acquisition of vacant land or demolition may be undertaken only with respect to a HOME-ARP project for which construction is expected to start within 12 months of commitment.

Describe the specific affordable rental housing production goal that the PJ hopes to achieve and describe how the production goal will address the PJ's priority needs:

The Needs Assessment and Gaps Analysis portion of this plan demonstrates a great need for

more units of housing affordable for very low-income household in Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton. As of 2013-2017, Kitsap County had a shortage of 5,782 units of rental housing affordable to its extremely low-income renter households (those earning less than 30% of the median family income. During the same period, about 50% of all Kitsap County renter households were cost burdened, paying more than 30% of their income on housing costs. Housing which is low barrier or supportive units for people exiting institutions or suffering from disabling conditions are especially needed.

Development of this type of housing will require significant funding for capital development and on-going operations so the number of units HOME-ARP can support is limited, however it is expected that projects will have other funding sources to fill the gap. Based on previous projects developed in Kitsap County and the City, 30 new units is a reasonable goal. While modest compared to the number of units needed, it represents a significant increase in the affordable housing stock available for households with very-low incomes.

Identify whether the PJ intends to give preference to one or more qualifying populations or a subpopulation within one or more qualifying populations for any eligible activity or project:

All projects funded with HOME-ARP funds will be available to all qualifying populations. Kitsap County and the City of Bremerton will not give preference to one or more qualifying population or subpopulation.

If a preference was identified, explain how the use of a preference or method of prioritization will address the unmet need or gap in benefits and services received by individuals and families in the qualifying population or subpopulation of qualifying population, consistent with the PJ's needs assessment and gap analysis:

Not applicable

Describe whether the PJ intends to limit eligibility for a HOME-ARP rental housing or NCS project to a particular qualifying population or specific subpopulation of a qualifying population identified in section IV.A of the Notice:

Kitsap County will not limit eligibility to a particular Qualifying Population (QP) or specific subpopulations. All projects funded with HOME-ARP will be open to all qualifying populations.

Appendix A: HOME-ARP Agency Consultations – Feedback
(next page)

Appendix A: HOME-ARP Agency Consultations - Feedback				
Agency	In thinking about the populations your organization serves, what are the most urgent housing needs?	What are the most urgent service needs related to housing the population you serve?	What are the gaps in our current system in Kitsap County?	Considering there are limited resources, what do you think the top priority for investment of limited funding should be?
Housing Resources Bainbridge	All populations and groups have an urgent need for housing. That being said we see a big need for housing for low income that comes with project based vouchers.	Case management and mental health counseling and services.. wrap around support for residents.	Not enough housing, not enough vouchers, not enough mental health services	In capital housing projects
Kitsap Community Resources	The most urgent need for the populations we serve is permanent supportive housing for families and individuals that are experiencing chronically homelessness. The private market cannot handle the challenges that these clients present and they need supportive services and landlords that have a mission to keep them housed. We need another 500 units to really make a dent in chronic homelessness. Followed closed behind are subsidized units that don't rise to the level of PSH, but are affordable for households that are exiting homelessness. So many clients would stabilize with affordable housing that was operated by an organization with a housing mission (BHA, HK, KCR, KMHS, etc.). We need more than 2,000 of these types of units to make a real dent.	The most urgent service needs that the population that we serve needs are integrated Behavioral Health Therapists within our case management team. We have this model already on a small scale that is funded through the One Tenth Grant and it works! So many of our clients now have comorbidities that makes serving them incredibly complex and require the need of multiple specialists, but the traditional doctor's office model does not work for our folks.	We need more high barrier shelters, more permanent supportive housing, and services for clients that are chronically unhoused. We also have a huge shortage of housing units that are affordable for low income renters.	Priority: PSH beds, Affordable Housing Units, Low Barrier Shelter
Community Frameworks	Populations served by CF and CF's partners in Kitsap County, including KMHS and Bremerton Housing Authority, need more housing and more housing options. Studio and one-bedroom units for 1-2 person households are in critically short supply. However, affordable units of all sizes, including 2- and 3-bedroom family units, would meet urgent needs in the community.	Populations served by our clients often have mental health and substance use issues and need high-touch, wraparound services to be successful. However, there are many avenues to fund those services, including other County grants, State grants, and even rental assistance subsidies. The most urgent priority for new housing-focused money coming into the County should be on the production of new units.	Kitsap County doesn't have enough units, regardless of affordability, to house the County's population. Affordable units for low-income households is the largest gap in the County.	The top priority should be more housing. Our understanding is that the Housing Authority (and potentially other providers) have rental support funds that go unused because recipients can't find units that meet the requirements and will accept the rental support. More units is the most urgent need.
Bremerton Housing Authority	Just a thought it seems like maybe a 80-100 TBRA units (average/location) in every primary community is a need. It would be great to also have a currently homeless priority on these units.	I do have some service gaps ideas that I wanted to share and that I hope we can use to develop a successful and innovative response from our local and regional agencies. Driving this for me is the need to respond to families that are living in RVs or cars on-street and not being able to help them or the local neighborhood. Areas that could be increased include ongoing transportation services and drug rehabilitation.	Vehicle and asset disposal and/or storage services. Rapid rehousing outreach and referral process possibly through BPD and KC Community Resource Specialists and also community referral line - APP that is open to the public - maybe coordinated through 911? Foster families and/or individual case managers - an adult version ofCASA strongly linked to temporary and permanent housing.	
Bremerton Housing Authority	BHA has 1892 vouchers, have only been able to utilize 1300-1500 vouchers. Reasons – payment standard was lower than area rent. The FMR has been raised this year, which quadrupled the number of units that would qualify, but there is still a shortage of housing available for voucher holders. Second barrier is people have challenges that require understanding by landlords. Some households have poor credit history, criminal record, no rental history etc. BHA is working on relationships with landlords to add landlords to their portfolio. They just opened the wait list, they know at least 2300 maybe 2500 people on the list. This year everyone who got on the list will stay on the list until they get housing.		Jill indicated there is a huge need for people coming out of chronic homelessness but BHA does not do permanent supportive housing. They would do a housing project for homeless individuals that do not need wrap around services and those at 30% AMI and below but do not need wrap around services. BHA cannot rent to those with \$0 income	
Cont. of Care Member Jeff	Bremerton: Significantly more low income housing, especially for elderly living on social security, our disabled neighbors and other people who can't come up with \$3,000 down payments for rent.	The situation on ML King Way has got to be treated like the humanitarian emergency that it is. Our citizens that are suffering down need emergency help. In other countries we would be setting up refugee centers with medical professionals, toilets, laundry facilities , showers, FOOD and WATER, basic shelter... Something has got to be done this year.	A voting class that is making a fortune off the rising cost of land and the rest of us who are being squeezed out. It's a political gap not an ability to serve needs gap.	Setting up the equivalent of a red cross level refugee center in downtown Bremerton. We have got to stop the unnecessary suffering.
Kitsap Mental Health Services	Supported affordable housing	They need a type of subsidy.	Our population has limited skills so they need life skills and other forms of skill building.	Permanent supported housing
Kitsap County Veterans Assistance Program	Typically, indigent veterans require shelter space. When local resources have been fully occupied we use VAF funds to purchase motel vouchers. Safe parking areas for RVs would help bridge housing gaps for some. More RV dump stations would help some remain off of public assistance and improve hygiene among those who must live in their RV. Transportation assistance between the RV, job, and social services would help.	Transitional housing that helps the veteran move from a shelter to permanent housing. Temporary lodging that provides a safe and secure place while job and house hunting activities are needed. Many of our most vulnerable receiving VAF assistance are having trouble paying higher utility bills especially propane and electricity. Inflationary pressure on gas prices is impacting the ability of people to finance their transportation to and from home, work, and support services needs some help. Most Kitsap Transit buses have much more capacity than passengers. Most of our low wage earners do not have the ability to work from home.	I think one of our strengths is also a gap. The good news is there are several agencies working to help resolve housing issues and from what I can see doing the best they can. The bad news in my opinion is that they are separate entities, all doing the same thing, but little "islands." How about creating a one stop shop for all housing issues. Combine KCR, Kitsap County Housing and Homelessness, Catholic Community Resources, Shelters, Motels, and the others dealing with housing issues and bring them all under one umbrella at one place. As it is the support an indigent veteran receives depends heavily on the referral received. Another gap is the fact that much of the activity we see today on the housing front is funded through temporary money that as you point out in your attachment is expected to go away. We need a longer term strategy with sustainable funding. I don't think the system emphasizes work and skill development as a condition of assistance enough nor does it incentivize work enough as it should in order to encourage self-sufficiency. A person's disability rating or medical diagnosis is not necessarily an accurate indicator of an individual's capability to contribute to the community through meaningful work.	It is clear to me and many others that the lack of "affordable" and subsidized housing is contributing to homelessness. Building more low cost housing should be a priority now in order to help stem homelessness later. It will attract businesses to the county as well. Housing those who are least able to care for themselves using public funds should also be considered as well. Build as much as you can while the funds are available. Develop new and meaningful work incentives for those who can and should contribute.
DSHS - Developmental Disability Admin.	Urgent need to for accessible affordable housing for those clients who do not work and only have social security income. Units should be built for individual and families	Accessible transportation services is needed to any affordable unit being built along with access to services such as medical and mental health. Mental Health services are needed for DD population who are experiencing homelessness as well.	One of the largest gaps is not enough accessible affordable housing with accessible transportation especially for those clients who are employed. One other gap is clients being able to access care coordination so they can access their medical and mental health services through their insurance. Many of our homeless clients are unable to connect with their insurance care coordinator so services do not get provided.	To serve the needs of the residents of Kitsap County, investment in accessible affordable housing that has services built into their program to assist residents in accessing transportation, medical and mental health services and make referrals to services and support already in place in the community. Housing is health care. It offers people stability while they access other services to meet their needs. When people have a safe place to live crime rates drops as the opportunities to commit crimes diminish.
Kitsap Homes of Compassion	The population we serve are destitute due to their mental and physical disabilities. The population we serve live on only SSI disability, which is so meager it forces them into homelessness. They desperately need affordable housing combined with mental health services. There are not enough section 8 vouchers, and many who have them can't find appropriate housing, so remain homeless. The answer is permanent supportive housing – that is affordable housing combined with social services, case management, and mental health services. Until Kitsap County can physically build enough supportive housing apartment buildings, a stop-gap measure is to lease homes and provide supportive housing services to them, and rent rooms to the homeless on SSI.	KHOC needs additional funding from the County to keep KHOC solvent due to rising rent cost on the homes we lease. We require donations of \$15,000 per month to made of the difference between our home rental and utility costs and the revenue we receive from the residents (which they pay from their SSI). Due to increased rentals rate costs on the homes we lease, we have used up our emergency reserves, and we are close to insolvency without financial assistance. Also, we need additional funding to pay for social worker services. In 2023 we will not be receiving grant funding for paying for our social workers, so we will need \$400,000 in 2023 for those services.	There are many major gaps in Kitsap County's system. Relating to mental health services and housing for the most seriously mentally ill, the situation is appalling. There are two major problem areas: (1) Housing for the most serious mentally ill, and (2) Mental Health Services for the most severely mentally ill. First, regarding housing: there needs to be a continuum of care and level of care combined with housing for those with severe mental disabilities. Some people only need a social worker to check up on them weekly. Others need a higher level of care, with live-in house help in the group homes. If the County would provide the finances, KHOC could open up many more shared homes and house 80% of all the chronically homeless in the County. The remaining 20% need a higher level of care than KHOC can provide at this point, as that 20% need 24/7 supervision and mental health care. Since WA state has closed down 97% of all its psychiatric hospitals and residential care facilities for the most seriously mentally ill, we now have the current situation. The County should fund a psychiatric residential care facility for those who are too sick to live in any of the existing housing. These are human beings we are talking about, not dogs or cats. Second, regarding services to help the seriously mentally ill: Many with severe schizophrenia or untreated bipolar disorder find 5 day respite from their condition at the K.M.H. crisis triage center, and then are discharged back to the street with a sleeping bag given to them as a gift. This is a disgraceful neglect of human lives. These people need a higher level of care, but are discharged to the street because Kitsap County has no permanent supportive housing facilities for them.	First, KHOC needs immediate funding so that it does not become insolvent (unable to pay the rent on its 27 group homes), which would create 117 more chronically homeless back on the streets of the County. Second, with additional funding new group homes could be rented, new social work staff hired and many who are mentally disabled could be housed. Third, for the long-term, KHOC will need to purchase and own the homes so the rents do not continue to go up. This will make the organization more financially stable and sustainable.
Community Frameworks	Populations served by CF and CF's partners in Kitsap County, including KMHS and Bremerton Housing Authority, need more housing and more housing options. Studio and one-bedroom units for 1-2 person households are in critically short supply. However, affordable units of all sizes, including 2- and 3-bedroom family units, would meet urgent needs in the community.	Populations served by our clients often have mental health and substance use issues and need high-touch, wraparound services to be successful. However, there are many avenues to fund those services, including other County grants, State grants, and even rental assistance subsidies. The most urgent priority for new housing-focused money coming into the County should be on the production of new units.	Kitsap County doesn't have enough units, regardless of affordability, to house the County's population. Affordable units for low-income households is the largest gap in the County.	The top priority should be more housing. Our understanding is that the Housing Authority (and potentially other providers) have rental support funds that go unused because recipients can't find units that meet the requirements and will accept the rental support. More units is the most urgent need.

Kitsap County Aging & Long-Term Care	Reference the Area Plan community survey results. Lack of available low-income safe housing units. Lack of section 8 vouchers and units fully ADA accessible for seniors to age in place. Landlords increasing rent to unaffordable levels for individuals on fixed incomes, rental assistance to maintain housing. Organizations or volunteers to help with physical act of moving/relocating. Supportive housing for special populations, such as individuals served through mental health or aging, that provide case management, transportation, caregiving.	Reference the Area Plan community survey results. Organizations or volunteers to help with physical act of moving/relocating. Workforce shortages of in-home caregivers to provide services so individuals can remain in their homes, such as light housekeeping, yardwork, bathing and meal prep. Reinstating the CHORE program.	Reference the Area Plan community survey results. Lack of available low-income safe housing units/apartments. Lack of enough wrap-around/supportive services included in existing low-income senior housing to ensure they have the services they need to live independently. Individuals served through Kitsap Aging report inconsistent communication between housing teams and clients (per client reports). Lack of section 8 vouchers and units. Assistance with extensive home modifications necessary for people with mobility issues, such as building a ramp or shower remodel. Requirement for credit report for individuals with disabilities - there is no/limited credit history. Utility assistance (heat/cooling, water, garbage)	Increase staff or streamlining of the utility assistance applications (there is a backlog). Increase safe transportation options. Increase Housing first options: Create more safe and affordable low income housing. Limit the max amount of yearly rental increases or subsidize the rent increases to landlords for individuals on fixed incomes. Address the need for home repairs and accessibility needs to assist with aging in place or transition home from hospital or facility. Funds used to subcontract with organization to cover staff, supplies, and building subcontractors would meet a community need.
Housing Kitsap	There has historically been a gap between the very low income and low income populations. While some programs serve both, many are restricted and those that are over income cannot access services and affordability of housing programs. This creates housing instability, in that there can frequently be hard choices between rent and other necessities. Some broader range of affordability options to assist those in the "gap" income categories. Maybe even "gap" assistance? Also feedback from staff is that there seems to be a shortage of one bedroom units.	Services for those who are "just barely" housed. These would be residents who are housed but are not abiding by the terms of their lease for various reasons: crime, mental illness, substance abuse. These situations create a fragile housing ecosystem in that there will likely be legitimate reasons for eviction, which is necessary to preserve the peaceful enjoyment of other residents. BAM, now there is another homeless individual or family. Frequently when a client who has been homeless obtains housing, there are needed life skills that the new renter may not possess. These can be as fundamental as cleaning house. I have always thought a successful renter's program would be a very valuable tool for not only getting folks housed but keeping them housed.	I confess I have not been here long enough to comment on this myself. However, as is the case all over the county, additional affordable units need to be built according to staff input I received. For those who have been issued a Housing Choice Voucher, the competition with the Naval ships docking in the county has a huge impact. Private landlords, from my experience, would be much more likely to rent to military personnel than a low-income individual or family with a voucher. Various landlord incentives might be a solution to this problem (are there any in Kitsap County?). These could be as simple as help with Security Deposits, or an amount for damage done to the unit by an assisted renter.	I do think services are needed that are focused on keeping those that are "just barely" housed in place. It is not the most visible or sexy, but it is a preventative measure that could have a huge impact, I think. It is much easier to keep a person housed than to get them re-housed after an unsuccessful tenancy.
Bremerton Foodline	Affordable housing, both rental and purchase	Price is a large factor. Most people in our county can't afford the rent prices with one bed room units averaging over \$1,000, this makes it hard for even people not in crisis to afford housing and pushes them towards homelessness. Even shipyard workers are having a hard time finding housing they can afford.	Limited shelter beds, and the process to even get on the list is. Family shelters are much needed. As well as shelters that are run by secular organizations.	
Kitsap Public Health District	Environmental Health impacts include improper disposal of solid waste as well as sewage releases due to substandard or lack of housing. More subsidized housing options along with help for deposits and funds for crisis assistance. Housing assistance that doesn't ebb and flow with the date of the month. Availability of affordable small units, studios and 1bd. The majority of our clients live on a very small, fixed income and do not have flexibility in where they can live. They live on their own.	More shelter options for people without housing with an improved pathway to stable, low-income housing units as they become available. Staffing: Housing solutions is unable to really get to people in quickly, it makes people who are in crisis have additional stress. Sometimes it takes several phone calls/voicemails to get a hold of staff to get updates, get started on intake, etc. Adding to the issue noted above, sometimes when housing seekers finally connect with someone, the money is gone. Broadened scope of assistance methods (currently, assistance waffles between eviction prevention and support for people who are literally homeless). Obtaining emergency funding especially during the colder months. There are some programs that are available in our county that can provide emergency assistance to pay back rent or utilities (heating during the winter) but getting in contact with any of these programs is almost impossible, which makes assisting clients with funding very challenging. Rental caps would also be helpful, we have clients who have lived in their homes for 15 years, their building is purchased by an investor and their rent goes up \$500.00, or the new landlord wants everyone out so they can renovate and then charge more. This displacement pushes clients to other counties because there is no available housing here, these clients then have to find new health services, navigate new public transportation, etc. Consistent funding for operations for supportive housing case management costs. Consistent eviction prevention and homeless funding that doesn't change depending on the time of the month	Lack of available low-income housing stock. Need for more sites in areas including Bremerton. It would be helpful to have more access points in the further reaches of the county. Language support. Housing for those who have felonies or misdemeanors on their records. For example, we have a client who has a gross misdemeanor and they keep getting rejected from apartments because of this, this client has already paid their fines and this charge is very old. This client won't be rejected until they have already paid the \$45.00 application fee. This constant payment and rejection is very discouraging and prevents clients from being able to secure housing even if they can afford it. If this client didn't have a caring family to take care of them and their children, this client would be homeless with two kids. This also occurs for those who have drug charges from their past but have been sober for years now.	Either the City should develop housing units or create incentive for developers to create true low-income housing units, not using the current standard for what is considered "low-income". Top priority would be expanding housing assistance, especially if it's local funding, especially for folks who otherwise wouldn't qualify (undocumented families). Another top priority is funding case management and operations costs. Landlords are more willing to take what are perceived as "riskier" renters if there is intensive case management attached and someone aside from the tenant they can call with issues. Ultimately, there is such scarcity of available units and the success of Pendleton place in West Bremerton, it would make sense to see what kind of affordable housing could be built. To incentivize investors who have purchased many of the complexes in Kitsap, and surrounding counties, with supplemental income so they can drop the price of their monthly rent rates. Funding to renovate empty commercial buildings or master lease local hotels into additional permanent supportive housing units, similar to Pendleton Place, including costs for operations
St. Vincent de Paul	Low-income housing units and housing units. 1st priority-TBRA, 2nd priority-additional NCS's paired with supportive services. Shelters currently have huge wait lists.	Funds to support non-traditional behavioral health services and other supportive services, capacity building funds to provide adequate wages that will attract and retain staff	Respite care for those exiting hospitals and emergency rooms, affordable housing units for low-income individuals and families, additional shelter units paired with stabilizing services so folks are able to sustain permanent housing once secured.	Tenant based rental assistance for low-income individuals and families
Salvation Army	Low income, mental health, and medical supportive housing	Respite care, mental health assistance	People who are unable to stay at shelters because of medical, substance abuse, or mental health conditions that are above our level of care. The hospital will not keep them and they can be a source of violence and health safety issues at the shelter. Also, some people in the EMS system treat many of our guests with contempt and are rude to them.	Mental health support
YWCA Kitsap County	1. Although we need 4 bedroom apartments from time to time, our most significant need at the ALIVE emergency shelter right now is studio apartments for single women and 3 bedroom apartments for women with 1 to 3 children. All of these clients request our tangible and support services. 2. We also need rental assistance funds. KCR has some of these funds, but they are often out or waiting on funding.	1. We need funding for move-in (deposits, first month's rent) and emergency section 8 vouchers. 2. We also need funds for relocation (gas vouchers, bus tickets) when it is not safe for a client and family to stay in Kitsap County.	1. Exible funds. 2. Eviction prevention funds. 3. Communication could be better concerning the funding process. It is unclear whether the funder does or does not have funds, and when they do, the process takes too long. Energy Assistance takes months to qualify. It did not use to take this long.	As we said above, more assistance for singles and smaller families, more funding for eviction prevention, and greater availability of move-in funding—flexibility in the use of funds would be a great help.