



# SEATTLE HUMAN SERVICES COALITION

"An Assertive and Unified Voice helping People Shape Public Policy to Meet Basic Human Needs in Seattle and King County, Washington."

## About Us

Seattle has a long history of pulling together as a community, including creating a strong, unified voice advocating for public policies that help Seattle residents meet their basic human needs. Now, in the course of over 29 years of education and collaboration, public investments in meeting basic human needs have gone from zero to over \$83 million a year in City of Seattle general funds alone, *plus* locally levied dedicated funds. Decades of steadfast advocacy across many service areas and sectors, found nowhere else across the country, led to this degree of local investment.

Today, the Seattle Human Services Coalition continues this history of strong, unified, grassroots advocacy. SHSC is now a multi-cultural group of hundreds of human service providers, agencies, programs, and individuals committed to helping Seattle-King County residents meet their basic human needs. Together we shape public policy on issues such as ending homelessness, hunger relief, domestic violence prevention, quality early childhood education, health care, employment, issues affecting elders and people with disabilities, racial equity, and the development of children and youth.

## What we do

SHSC's policy and community organizing work for **2016** is guided by the following priorities set by our Steering Committee members:

◆ **Coordinate action for education on City of Seattle policies that impact people's abilities to meet their basic human needs.**

SHSC members work together to monitor City policies, identify shared positions, and educate policy-makers on the impact of current issues such as public safety, racial equity, and budget priorities.

◆ **Develop support for stable, adequate funding for regional community health and human services to assist residents across Seattle and King County to meet their basic human needs.**

As part of the King County Alliance for Human Services, members of SHSC are working with human service providers, allies, and cities across the county to support increased local investment in fund sources for community health and human services that are urgently needed to build strong families and communities across the county.

◆ **Catalyze community-wide discussion and movement toward a future of social justice & meeting basic human needs.**

SHSC members are collaborating with a diverse range of community members to advocate for the actions needed to reach our shared vision for a public infrastructure that works for everyone. The Building Well-Being messaging framework is a tool to strengthen and unify our voices.

◆ **Coalition building actions to strengthen SHSC members' abilities to work collaboratively.**

SHSC members continue to grow SHSC's capacity to work toward racial equity and social justice. As a network of collaborative advocates, we also inform members about opportunities to engage and shape public policy through advocacy alerts, community discussions, candidates' forums, and an annual awards reception.

## Your Coalition Representatives

**Advocacy, Organizing, & Capacity Building**

Tony Lee, Sarah Tran

**Coalition Ending Gender-Based Violence**

Merril Cousin, Mary Ellen Stone

**Community Health Council of King County**

Teresita Batayola, Linda McVeigh

**Disability Services Committee**

Paula Hoffman, Kimberly Heymann

**King County Early Learning Coalition**

Johnny Otto, Michelle Sarju, Paula Steinke

**King County Services for Seniors Coalition**

Joanne Donohue

**Meals Partnership Coalition**

Krista Grimm, Lindsey Webb

**Nonprofit Anti-Racism Coalition**

Regent Brown

**Seattle Food Committee**

Steven Curry, Joe Gruber, Jen Muzia

**Seattle Helpline Coalition**

Kelly Brown, Chris Langelier, Lisa Moore

**Seattle-King County Coalition on Homelessness**

Alison Eisinger, Flo Beaumon, Nicole Macri

**Youth Development Executives of King County**

Jessica Werner, Rene Murry

**SHSC Co-Chairs**

Steve Daschle  
Patricia Hayden

**SHSC Staff**

Julia Sterkovsky  
*Executive Director*

Michelle Peñaloza  
*Operations Administrator*