

Forty years of advocating, educating, organizing and taking action.

The coronavirus pandemic on top of the crisis of homelessness reveals every day and night how much work is necessary to meet the basic needs of people who are homeless, how much public health requires every person to have a home. Homeless services, housing and health care providers work at the front lines of systems that must both strengthen and change. Your essential work informs ours. The Coalition is here to support direct service staff in tough times. Together we can advance good policies and real solutions, and advocate for housing justice.

*Our recent member survey confirmed what we believe – **together we are stronger!***

“It’s the one space for county-wide networking and collaboration for service providers.”

“I appreciate that case managers and health professionals are treated like the experts they are in these circles.”

“It means that we are not alone in our efforts and while there it’s difficult to both DO the work AND advocate for the work, the Coalition is there to fill that void.”
– Senior Manager at a member organization

“The Coalition is a strong leader for the community of people experiencing homelessness and those who provide care for them. It is an essential part of the struggle for human rights.”
– Community member working in education

“Being a member of the Coalition to me means being a part of a larger community entity made up of people who work in the arena of homelessness, -and/or concerned community members, who can educate, advocate and mobilize around issues concerning this topic.” – Frontline staff

TOGETHER WE LEAD COVID-19 RAPID RESPONSE

- ❖ **Facilitate Collective Action.** On March 8, as the COVID19 crisis deepened and the legislative session ended, we helped draft a letter to Governor Inslee urging swift action to protect people experiencing homelessness and tenants from COVID-19 and the immense risk it poses to people experiencing homelessness, which was signed by 190 organizations throughout Seattle and King County.
- ❖ **Develop and share a way to track changes in Homeless Services in our community.** Coalition staff collected, organized, and disseminated essential information related to changes in homeless and other social services to support accurate and useful referrals during a time of great upheaval.
- ❖ **Convene Senior Leaders and front-line staff regularly.** The Coalition established a weekly conversation with local agency senior leaders to share information; identify system gaps and problems; engage members in local, state, and federal opportunities to speak up, problem solve, or take action together.

TOGETHER WE CHAMPION SYSTEM CHANGES

- ❖ **Raise** the voices of our members and community around our shared priorities during city, county, state, and federal budget processes and legislative sessions.
- ❖ **Activate** for legislative change through weekly news, including Action Alerts and advocacy tools, which are designed to keep members up-to-speed about substantive issues and empowering members to contact lawmakers on important decisions

FACILITATE DEEPER COLLABORATION AND LEARNING

- ❖ **Engage** members at our monthly Membership Meetings, a forum for providers and advocates to share information, learn, and make connections, across populations and programs.
- ❖ **Educate** members through free trainings to staff at member organizations to advance our shared mission of providing excellent services to people experiencing homelessness.

LEVERAGING PEOPLE POWER & RESOURCES

- ❖ **Project Cool for Back-to-School** supports over a thousand homeless students connected with our member organizations each year with backpacks, school and health supplies.
- ❖ **Homeless Voter Registration and Education:** We register people experiencing homelessness to vote and train volunteers and staff at our member organizations to encourage participation in the democratic process. Central to these non-partisan skills is empowering marginalized groups to know their voting rights
- ❖ **Homelessness Advocacy 101 Workshops:** Our Advocacy 101 workshops turn passion into action by teaching participants how to be a voice for real and positive investments. Join us to help transform these lively sessions into on-line opportunities to learn, connect, and take action in 2021!