
Out of a desire to be hands for God's work, our mission is to find creative ways to prevent homelessness and provide housing for people in need.



**UNIVERSITY
CONGREGATIONAL
HOUSING
ASSOCIATION**

News

SINCE 1983

FALL 2012

FROM THE PRESIDENT

JAN VON LEHE

It was just a year ago that we readied the newly purchased McGrath House for opening to homeless youth. It is one refuge amid many needs in our greater Seattle area. We asked and received the trust and support of so many of you who believe in creating shelters for those in need of affordable housing. This house is now functioning as a home for six in partnership with Seattle YMCA Young Adult Services. We now have only \$30,000 remaining on our loans.

I am in awe of this synergy that for nearly 30 years has pulled all sorts of souls together to provide housing and shelter for those in need. The Housing Association provides the hands to bring these gifts together to make this a more caring community. Who would imagine that such generous acts are possible by creating the means to make it real? We also own Sortun Court with sixteen units for families at or below 50% of median income and the Boathouse, which has six units of affordable housing. We lease the Lin House, a three-bedroom home for persons living with mental health issues. We give support to our community partners including the Church of Mary Magdalene and Mary's Place, and the Interfaith Committee for Sand Point Housing at Magnuson Park.

At our annual June retreat we took time to examine where we are and how we want to grow for the future. Thanks to the wise facilitation of Paul Wiesner, the group evaluated our strengths and developed goals to refresh our organization. This fall we are reviewing our business practices to assure we have necessary systems in place; developing our communications and visibility including logo, website and newsletters; and looking for ways to invite new members and partners to join us.

We are honored to have the devoted energy of so many and extend a sincere invitation to you to join us.

Upcoming Event

**Harvest Tea Nov. 2, 2012
UCUCC Lounge 12:30 PM**

Speaker:

Rev. Linda Smith, Pastor
Church of Mary Magdalene

Contact :

Gail Winberg, 206.524.7801,
winbergeng@q.com

Hosted by:

Evelyn Creighton &
University Congregational
Housing Association

Volunteers Wanted

University Congregational Housing is always looking for new members. Please consider joining us! **Web design, fundraising, and event planning** are currently areas where we need more help.

Interested? Contact our new member chair, Claudia Patton, 206.547.0923, cpatton50140@yahoo.org for more information. Or come to our new member forum after church on November 18 for a short overview of our activities and needs.

We meet 11 months a year on the 2nd Monday each month at 7PM. Most meetings are now held at church. The next meeting is on November 12 at church. The December 10 meeting will be held at Gail Winberg's.

McGrath House News

It has been just about one year since the first residents entered the YMCA's housing program at the McGrath House and the year of safe and stable housing has made a huge difference in the lives of several young people. In the past year, McGrath House has served as a home for 6 young adults who were either homeless or had recently aged out of foster care, giving them the opportunity they needed to focus on achieving their goals. All of the residents in the house are working and going to school, in addition to giving back to the community in some manner. Since this program is designed to give

young adults safety, security, and stability for up to 2 years, no residents have successfully moved out of McGrath House into their own apartments as of yet. Soon, however, one resident has received a Section 8 voucher and plans to move out into his own apartment within the next few weeks.

With the help of University Congregational Housing Association and University Congregational Church, McGrath House has become a real home for youth who needed one.

--Kristen Brennan, Director, Transitional Housing Program, Young Adult Services, Seattle YMCA

University Congregational Housing Association

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The Generosity of our Donors

Our vision of a home for aging-out foster youth was conceived and became a reality in less than two years—what a shower of abundance we at UCHA have been blessed with.

We're delighted to recognize these eight foundations that gave to the project with extraordinary generosity.

\$20,000 and above

Aven Foundation
Biel Foundation
Norcliffe Foundation

Below \$20,000

Brookshire-Green Foundation
Longbrake Family Foundation
Kirkpatrick Family Foundation
Norton L. and Barbara B. Peck Foundation
Windermere Foundation

We are so grateful to our many contributors and the way they responded to our call.

We also received a \$100,000 gift from an anonymous donor close to our organization and two \$100,000 low-interest loans to help us bridge our funding gap and make it possible to close on the house quickly at an excellent price. We have \$30,000 left to repay on these loans.

In the last two years we have received donations from many individuals who came to our annual dinners, our Harvest Home teas and who gave other special gifts. Many of these individuals are members of the University Congregational United Church of Christ, and others are friends, family or just wonderful souls whom we so appreciate.
--Kathy Elias

Interfaith Habitat for Humanity Build Forum

November 4
after church service

Habitat for Humanity Project

University Congregational Housing Association is going to partner with Habitat for Humanity on an Interfaith Build beginning November 17, 2012.

We will be working to deconstruct "The House of the Immediate Future" built near the base of the Space Needle this past spring and summer and then

reconstruct it at its permanent site in Rainier Valley. It has been 50 years since the World's Fair in 1962 when the Space Needle was built and the house we will be working on is part of Seattle's "The Next 50" celebration at Seattle Center.

Other than the usual mission for Habitat of providing decent, affordable housing, this effort will focus on the interfaith aspect of the build, with many faith communities participating. An important part of the build will be working with

people of other faith traditions and learning about their religions. We will also have an opportunity to sample typical foods from other religions and share meals with participants from those faith communities.

Come hear more at our Habitat forum on November 4 after church.

--*Marcia McCracken*

Newsletter editor:	Martha Tucker
Logo design:	Rebecca Rickabaugh

SAVE THE DATE!

**Help us celebrate our
30th Anniversary!**

**Benefit Dinner
March 2, 2013
Center for Urban Horticulture**

**Speaker:
Alison Eisinger, Exec. Director
Seattle/King County Coalition on
Homelessness (SKCCH)**

University Congregational Housing Association is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit.

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University Congregational
Housing Association



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