

Every Vote Matters

Especially Yours



Washington Low Income Housing Alliance Voter Engagement Project

Who We Are

The Housing Alliance works to ensure that everyone in Washington has the opportunity to live in a safe, healthy, and affordable home.

Each year, we talk to people all over Washington to make sure that everyone who is eligible to vote will actually be able to vote in the upcoming election.

Voting is an important way to build power for your community. We can help you find out whether you can vote, help you register to vote, and talk with you about other ways you can get involved.

The Reality

Historically, community members living in low-income housing or experiencing homelessness face barriers to voting, and often are not encouraged to participate.

Elected officials and candidates know who votes and who doesn't. Some will pay less attention to, make fewer appearances in, and appeal less to neighborhoods that don't have registered voters.

However, affordable housing residents and community members experiencing homelessness are directly impacted by the decisions made by lawmakers.

It is time for YOU to be HEARD!

The Solution

Voting can influence the decisions that impact you and your community. Every year, there are very close races in Washington State. In 2004, our governor's race was decided by just 133 votes out of more than 2,800,000. It's important to exercise your right to vote and have your voice be heard.

It may be the deciding factor in the next election!

To learn how your organization can register people to vote, contact:

Alouise Urness, Community and Member Organizer

206.442.9455 x203 | alouise@wliha.org

Who Can Vote?

Voter Registration Guidelines



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Who CAN register to vote in Washington?

- ✓ Must be citizen of the United States, a legal resident of Washington State, and at least 18 years old by Election Day.

Do you know that you CAN vote even if you have been convicted of a felony in the past?

- ✓ If you were convicted of a felony in Washington, your right to vote is restored automatically when you finish your time in incarceration and you have served any required community custody supervised by the Department of Corrections (including probation, parole, community work release, and house arrest).
- ✓ If you are unsure if you are under community custody you should call the Department of Corrections at 360.725.8213.
- ✓ If you were convicted of a felony outside of the state of Washington or in a federal court, your right to vote in Washington is automatically restored when you are released from incarceration.
- ✓ If you have legal financial obligations to the state of Washington, but are not under community custody, you have the right to vote.

Do you know that community members experiencing homelessness CAN register to vote without a permanent address?

- ✓ Experiencing homelessness does not disqualify people from voting.
- ✓ You must provide an address on the registration form, but it does not need to be a valid mailing address. You can use any location you consider to be your residence. The address is simply used to determine what precinct you will vote in.

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