

Washington Low Income Housing Alliance Announces Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Awardees for 25th Anniversary Celebration

June 4, 2013



washington low income
housing alliance

1411 Fourth Avenue, Suite 850
Seattle, WA 98101
206.442.9455 www.wliha.org
twitter.com/WLIHA
facebook.com/WLIHA

Bringing Washington Home Advocacy Awards Dinner

Tuesday, June 11, 2013
5:30pm-8:00pm
Seattle Fisher Pavilion
305 Thomas Street
Seattle, Washington 98109

Celebrating our 25th anniversary this year.

Learn more about our history
here: wliha.org/history, and see
our long list of legislative
victories here:
wliha.org/legislative-victories.

A version of this release can
be found at: wliha.org/press.

Contact: Joaquin (wah KEEN) Uy (wee)
206.427.2999, joaquin@wliha.org

The Washington Low Income Housing Alliance (Housing Alliance) has announced the 2013 awardees for their annual advocacy awards dinner.

- Individual Advocate of the Year: **Greg Winter**
- Advocacy Organization of the Year: **Community Action of Skagit County**
- Legislator of the Year: **State Senator Steve Hobbs (44th—Lake Stevens)**
- Leadership in Board Advocacy: **Imagine Housing**

Every year, the Housing Alliance celebrates and recognizes an individual, organization, and lawmaker who have gone above and beyond to advocate on affordable housing and homelessness issues. This year also marks the first time recognizing a nonprofit board for their dedication to legislative advocacy.

The four awards will be officially given out on Tuesday, June 11 during the Housing Alliance's annual **Bringing Washington Home** event. This awards dinner is particularly significant, as the Housing Alliance celebrates their 25th anniversary. From their humble beginnings as the Washington Low Income Housing Congress to today as the statewide champion for housing, they will be commemorating several milestones and accomplishments.

This includes playing a pivotal role in founding one of the nation's first **state housing trust funds**, organizing the largest **Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day** this February, and our **impressive list of legislative wins**.

To mark the occasion, the evening's keynote speaker is antipoverty advocate **Peter Edelman**, author of the book, "So Rich, So Poor: Why It's So Hard to End Poverty in America." He is currently a professor of law at Georgetown University where he teaches constitutional and poverty law. **Edelman made news in 1996 when he resigned from the Clinton administration in protest of the president signing the Personal Responsibility and Work Opportunity Act.** According to Edelman, the 1996 welfare reform law destroyed the safety net.

"We're looking forward to hearing Professor Edelman talk about the importance of sparing struggling families cuts to the services they need," says **Housing Alliance Executive Director Rachael Myers**. "The state legislature is debating just that as they try to finish a budget. I hope Professor Edelman's message reaches Olympia."

The **Washington Low Income Housing Alliance** is a statewide member organization leading the movement for creating affordable homes and ending homelessness. We utilize advocacy, education, and organizing to achieve our vision that all Washington residents have the opportunity to live in safe, healthy, affordable homes in thriving communities.

Find out more about the Housing Alliance at our website: wliha.org. ###

Our vision is that all Washington residents have the opportunity to live in safe, healthy, affordable homes in thriving communities.