

The 23rd district is represented by Senator Christine Rolfes, Representative Sherry Appleton, and Representative Drew Hansen, and is located on the Kitsap Peninsula. Data below is for Kitsap County and the North and Central Kitsap School Districts.



CARISSA'S STORY

Carissa is a survivor. And as a survivor she refuses to have her voice silenced.

19 years ago, Carissa packed everything she could, scooped up her three year old daughter, and fled a dangerous domestic violence situation. For four months they stayed in hiding and eventually found a home in a place where they didn't know anyone. 16 months later their house burned down, they lost everything, and had to start all over again. 10 years after that, her abuser found them, and they had to run.

YWCA of Kitsap County stepped in, helped Carissa and her daughter find a safe place to live, and helped them stabilize. They stayed on the YWCA program for a little over a year. Living in a safe, healthy, affordable home meant Carissa could focus on building a better life for her and her daughter. For safety reasons, Carissa is supposed move to a new location every two years, but she lives on a fixed income, and rising rents keep her from doing what's safest. She's lived in her current home for six years.

Carissa is now a senior at Seattle University majoring in Communications, and she is determined to become employable. Carissa does not live in fear though, saying, "I refuse to allow him to control me, 19 years later." She's a fierce public advocate for other women who've suffered similar abuse, and that's why she advocates for more access to affordable homes. "If we don't have an affordable home to live in, how are we supposed to stay safe?"



923

Housing Trust Fund supported homes



455

people counted without a home during the Point in Time Count, 181 unsheltered



508

homeless school children



\$14.98 PER HOUR

income needed to afford a 1-bedroom rental, \$19.52 per hour to afford a 2-bedroom



5,860

families who are severely cost burdened and need access to affordable homes



\$267,800

median home price