



GETTING KING COUNTY TO FUNCTIONAL ZERO

Including 2024 Point-In-Time Numbers

Introduction

The purpose of this plan is to move every one of our homeless neighbors who are willing off the streets into a transitional temporary home. Tiny homes provides them

- a roof over their head,
- a lock on their door,
- food in their stomach,
- and wraparound services to get them to the next part of their lives.

We will show you how we can **accomplish this goal in three years.**



Camp Second Chance

Purpose

In this plan, we will also

- **Show the benefits** of tiny home villages as an intermediate step in transitioning our homeless neighbors from the streets into permanent housing.
- **Define the number** of homeless population in King County.
- **Show the costs** associated with setting up and maintaining a tiny home village.
- **Present a plan** to get to Functional Zero.



Defining Functional Zero

- According to Built for Zero, a nationwide organization of over 100 cities who are ending homelessness, Functional Zero is defined as “ **a milestone, which must be sustained, that indicates a community has measurably solved homelessness for a population.** When it’s achieved, homelessness is rare and brief for that population.”
(<https://community.solutions/built-for-zero/functional-zero/>)
- Our definition of Functional Zero pertaining to this plan is to get every one of our homeless neighbors who want to be off the street into a tiny transitional home.

HOMELESSNESS FACTS

Homeless deaths outpaced homicides in Seattle.

- **2023 Homicide rate: 72. Highest homicide rate ever in Seattle**
(<https://komonews.com/news/local/72nd-seattle-homicide-marks-highest-rate-in-nearly-3-decades-record-number-murder-death-grim-milestone-police-department-investigation-staffing-crisis-accountability-dead-adrian-diaz-violent-crime-gun-violence-offenders-criminals-evidence>)
- **2023 Death rate for homeless: 416. Highest ever in King County**
(<https://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/king-county-setting-records-for-homeless-deaths-is-becoming-awfully-routine/>)
- **Homeless death rates are NEARLY SIX TIMES THAT OF HOMICIDES.**

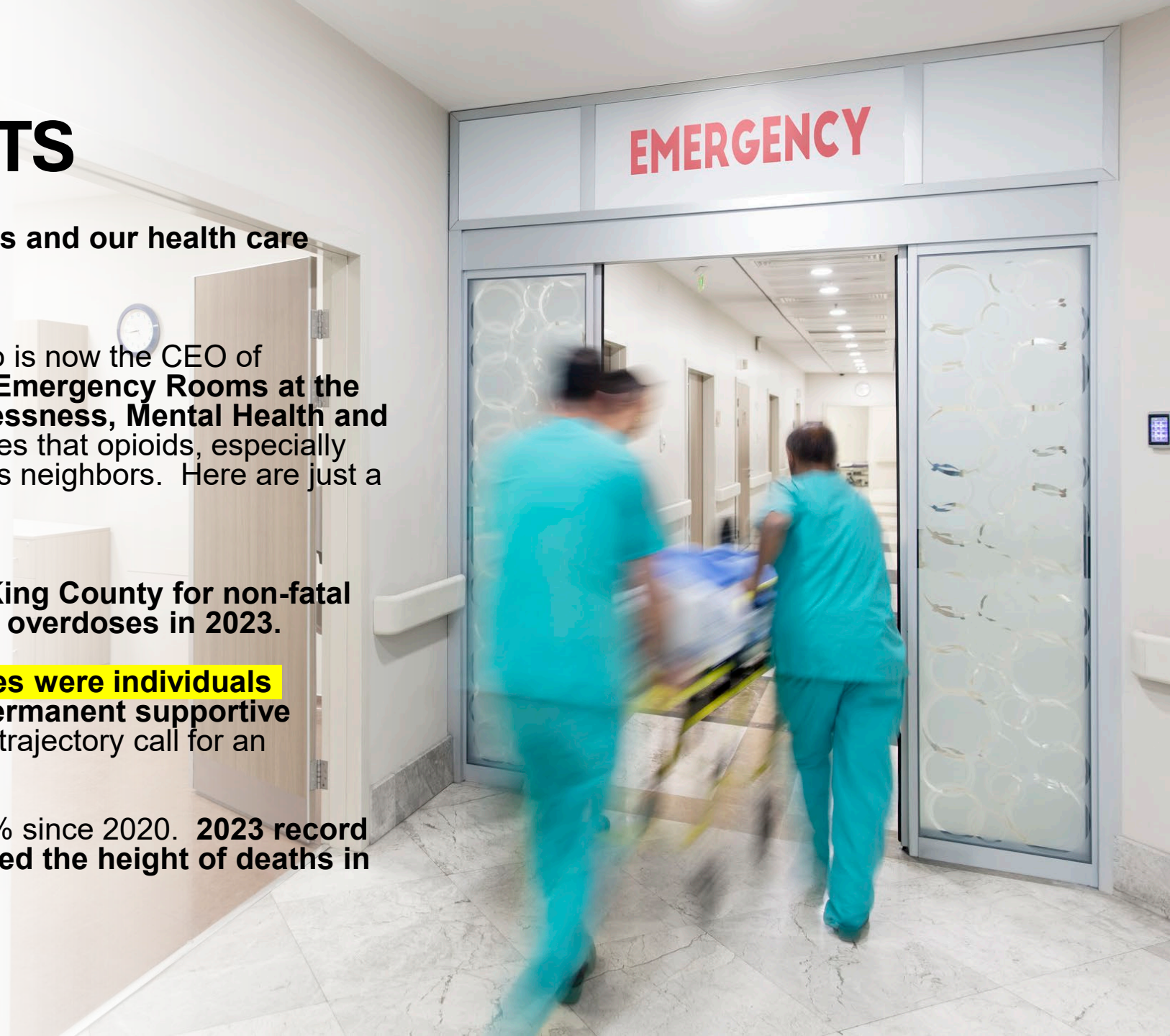


HOMELESS FACTS

Homelessness affects our emergency rooms and our health care system.

Recently, former Governor Chris Gregoire, who is now the CEO of Challenge Seattle published a report entitled “**Emergency Rooms at the Epicenter: Addressing the Crisis of Homelessness, Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder**”. The report states that opioids, especially Fentanyl, are addicting and killing our homeless neighbors. Here are just a few facts from this report:

- There have been **8390 EMS calls in King County for non-fatal overdoses and more than 1284 fatal overdoses in 2023.**
- In King County, **46% of fatal overdoses were individuals experiencing homelessness or in permanent supportive housing.** The current deaths and the trajectory call for an emergency response.
- Overdose deaths have increased 152% since 2020. **2023 record high overdose deaths have surpassed the height of deaths in King County for Covid-19.**



Benefits of Tiny Home Villages

- Seattle has the **third largest homeless population in the United States**, only behind New York and Los Angeles.
- In a conversation with Sound Foundations NW, Mayor Harrell called tiny homes “**the first, best solution to homelessness.**” Our goal is to get our homeless neighbors into a space that is warm, safe, and dry while they await permanent housing.

Studies have shown how effective tiny home villages are:

- **Harvard Study:**
https://www.harvardmagazine.com/2024/05/homelessness-public-health-crisis?utm_source=email&utm_medium=newsletter&utm_term=stewardship&utm_content=homelessness&utm_campaign=042424
- **Portland University Study:**
<https://www.kgw.com/article/features/study-motels-village-shelters-homelessness/283-d5355389-c08d-4f46-908c-020fef3acdd2>



Southend Village

Benefits of Tiny Home Villages

- In the **last two years, nearly 2500 individuals** in Puget Sound transitioned from homelessness to permanent housing via tiny house villages. This makes our system one of the most successful ways to get to Functional Zero.
- In 2023, there was a **63% transition rate** from tiny homes to permanent housing, one of the highest rates among all shelter options. **Over 90% stayed in permanent housing.**
- One of the main tenets from Built for Zero is this: Homelessness is not about a lack of a home. Homelessness is about a **lack of community**. Integrating our homeless neighbors into community while simultaneously meeting their individual needs makes the transition to permanent housing more successful. Please read <https://www.soundfoundationsnw.org/the-case-for-tiny-home-villages/>



Camp Second Chance

Point in Time Count Totals

PIT Year	Individuals Experiencing Homelessness	% Unsheltered	% Sheltered
2020	11,751	47%	53%
2022	13,368	57%	43%

5522 unsheltered
7619 unsheltered

According to the 2024 Point in Time Count

- 16,385: the total number of homeless persons in King County
- 9,810: the total number of UNSHELTERED homeless persons in King County.

Homelessness reported at all-time high in King County

More than 16,000 people were reported homeless during the latest Point-In-Time Count.



Data was not collected in 2021 and 2023. The method of counting unsheltered homelessness changed starting in 2022.

Chart: Fiona Martin / The Seattle Times • Source: U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development

Current Tiny Home Villages in King County*

There are a total of 14
tiny home villages with
a total of 549 tiny
homes and RV's.

The average number
of tiny homes/RVs per
village is 39.

**Detailed list in plan.*

A photograph of a tiny home village. The homes are small, rectangular structures with colorful exteriors in shades of blue, green, yellow, and orange. They are arranged in a long row on a gravel path. Several people are standing in the path, looking at the homes. The background shows bare trees and a clear sky.

Henderson Village

GETTING KING COUNTY TO FUNCTIONAL ZERO: THE PLAN

Homelessness is a large problem with lots of solutions. Our part, “the first, best solution”, is to get our homeless neighbors off the streets. To us, it’s a math problem:

- How many people are on the streets?
- How many homes does it take to get them off the streets?
- How long will it take?
- How much does it cost?

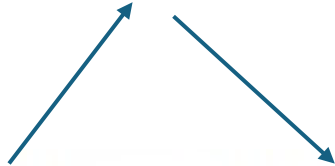
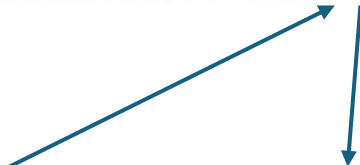
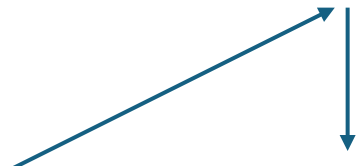


GETTING KING COUNTY TO FUNCTIONAL ZERO: THE PEOPLE

According to LIHI data, the median length of stay of a tiny home resident is 114 days. Therefore, roughly 3 people per year transition in and out of each tiny home. This is the number we use for conservative calculations.

- This plan will work when we add **four villages per year with 45 homes per village for the next three years.**
- *Year 2024 only has 2 residents transitioning per year. This is because at the very least, the tiny home villages won't be established until the second half of the year.
- The longer we wait to implement this plan, the longer it will take to get to Functional Zero.
- This plan also takes into consideration that **there may be significantly more homeless by 2027.** This plan takes that fact into consideration.

GETTING KING COUNTY TO FUNCTIONAL ZERO: THE PEOPLE

Number of People Currently Unsheltered: 9810			
YEAR	NUMBER OF VILLAGES	NUMBER OF TINY HOMES	NUMBER OF PEOPLE OFF THE STREETS
<i>2023 numbers for reference only</i>	14	549	$549 \times 3 = 1647$
	<i>Plus 4 village x 45 homes = 180 homes</i>		
June - Dec. 2024	18	729	$1458 (729 \times 2^*) + 1647 = 3105$
	<i>Plus 4 village x 45 homes = 180 homes</i>		
Dec-25	22	909	$2727 (909 \times 3) + 3105 = 5832$
	<i>Plus 4 village x 45 homes = 180 homes</i>		
Dec-26	26	1089	$3267 (1089 \times 3) + 5832 = 9099$
	NO MORE TINY HOME VILLAGES		GOAL OF 9810 ACHIEVED SOMETIME IN 2027
Dec-27	26	1089	$3267 (1089 \times 3) + 9099 = 12,366$
TOTAL			

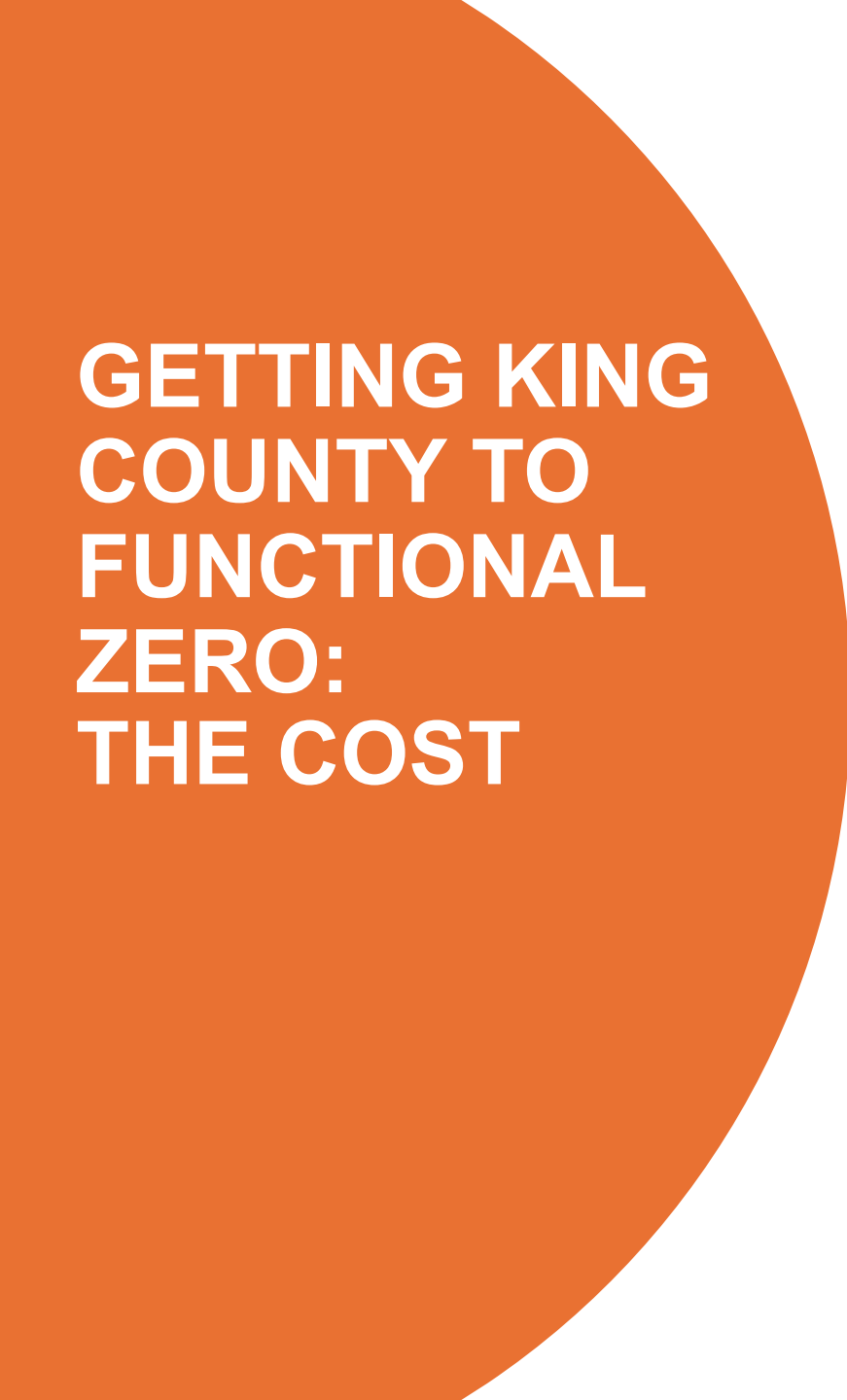
**GETTING KING
COUNTY TO
FUNCTIONAL
ZERO:
THE COST**

Construction, Infrastructure, and Operating Costs of a Tiny Home Village

- **Sound Foundations NW Tiny Home Construction Cost:** \$4500 in materials cost for one tiny home.
- **LIHI First Year Cost:** \$800,000 in Infrastructure cost to set up a village and run it for the first year.
- **LIHI Annual Operating Cost:** \$900,000 per year to maintain a village each year thereafter. Costs include all Operation Manager costs, Case Management costs, food, supplies and misc. costs.

GETTING KING COUNTY TO FUNCTIONAL ZERO: THE COST


COST	RFP: SFNW	RFP: LIHI	RFP: LIHI	
YEAR	COST OF TINY HOMES	INFRASTRUCTURE COST	ANNUAL OPERATING COSTS	TOTAL ANNUAL COSTS
2023	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,600,000.00	\$ 12,600,000.00
	<i>(180 tiny homes x \$4500 = \$810,000)</i>	<i>(4 new villages x \$800K = \$3,200,000)</i>	<i>(14 villages x \$900k = \$12,600,000)</i>	
2024	\$ 810,000.00	\$ 3,200,000.00	\$ 12,600,000.00	\$ 16,610,000.00
	<i>(180 tiny homes x \$4500 = \$810,000)</i>	<i>(4 new villages x \$800K = \$3,200,000)</i>	<i>(18 villages x \$900K = \$16,200,000)</i>	
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	<i>(180 tiny homes x \$4500 = \$810,000)</i>	<i>(4 new villages x \$800K = \$3,200,000)</i>	<i>(22 villages x \$900K = \$19,800,000)</i>	
2026	\$ 810,000.00	\$ 3,200,000.00	\$ 19,800,000.00	\$ 23,810,000.00
	<i>(No expense)</i>	<i>(No expense)</i>	<i>(26 villages x \$900K = \$23,400,000)</i>	
2027	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 23,400,000.00	\$ 23,400,000.00
TOTAL	\$ 2,430,000.00	\$ 9,600,000.00	\$ 64,800,000.00	\$ 84,030,000.00

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GETTING KING COUNTY TO FUNCTIONAL ZERO: THE COST

The cost of this plan is less than 8% of the total five-year, \$11.8 billion plan created by KCRHA.

The costs are at 2024 pricing. Even if overages exceed \$30 million on an \$84 million plan, we will still be under 10% of KCRHA's plan.

A blue dashed line graphic in the bottom right corner, consisting of several curved segments.

2024 Seattle
budget for
movement/
“sweeps” =
\$38,000,000

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- Original plan: October 2023 = \$69,120,000. Eight month wait = \$14,910,000 more.

- Daily cost per resident = \$69 (\$900K / 365 days – 39 residents).

- Timeframe for completion.





Availability of Homes



Most important: 416 of our homeless neighbors died on the streets last year, more than one death on the streets EVERY DAY. The longer we wait, the more people die on the streets. How many more people will die before we do something about it?



**HOMELESSNESS
IS
SOLVABLE!**

WELCOME HOME 😊

AFTERWORD

What happens after we get to Functional Zero?



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