

A History of St. Andrew's Housing Group

St. Andrew's Housing Group (SAHG) is dedicated to improving the quality of life for people with limited income on King County's Eastside, empowering these families to succeed by providing housing and access to services while strengthening local communities and encouraging diversity.

Founded in 1987 by members of Bellevue's Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church, SAHG became independently incorporated in 1989 as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Until 1993, SAHG was a volunteer-led organization. During this time, SAHG volunteers worked diligently to learn the business of developing affordable housing, establish SAHG within the housing industry, create networking relationships, and build a solid reputation as a trustworthy developer of affordable housing. In 1992, SAHG opened its first housing development, Andrew's Arms, offering 14 units of affordable housing in Issaquah, Washington.

In 1993, SAHG's first Executive Director was hired and the groundbreaking work of the volunteers began to pay off as SAHG entered into a period of dramatic growth and accomplishment. Within 6 years, SAHG added another 124 units to their portfolio and had development plans for two senior properties to open in 2001.

Today, SAHG provides affordable rental housing in the following East King County communities: Mercer Island, Issaquah, Redmond, Bellevue and Kirkland. SAHG serves more than 965 individuals annually with a portfolio of 325 units of affordable housing in 10 properties. With more than twenty years of development and ownership experience, SAHG is a recognized leader in providing quality affordable housing in the Northwest.

Currently, SAHG is headed by Executive Director, Ann Levine, and operated by 14 qualified and professional staff. SAHG is governed by an engaged and effective 16-member Board of Directors, which includes members from the Eastside and Seattle who bring experience in commercial, industrial and mixed-use housing construction and management, commercial and nonprofit real estate development, community development finance and real estate law. Each Board member financially contributes each year, actively participates in fundraising and serves on at least one committee.

SAHG's committee-led corps of more than 150 volunteers plays an integral role in the organization's operations. Volunteers donate more than 3,000 hours of time annually. These volunteers work tirelessly on SAHG's behalf, serving on the Board and committees, designing gardens for housing properties, working with residents, providing maintenance for our properties, and helping with annual events, especially the benefit dinner and auction that SAHG hosts each spring.