

WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

THE  
WILLIAM D. RUCKELSHAUS CENTER

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

# Pathways to Housing Security

May 3, 2024



WASHINGTON STATE  
UNIVERSITY

**W** EVANS SCHOOL  
OF PUBLIC POLICY & GOVERNANCE  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

# Agenda

1. The Center and Team

2. Report Overview

3. Q & A

4. Individual Reflection (*break as needed*)

5. Small Group Discussion

6. Report out and Wrap Up

# Introductions

## Project Team

Phyllis Shulman - Associate Director

Jed Chalupa - Lead Facilitator

Molly Stenovec - Project and Program Manager

Hazel Wilburn - Project Specialist

Bridget Kelly - Burke Kelly Consulting

# Introductions

## The Center

Hosted By:



**W** EVANS SCHOOL  
OF PUBLIC POLICY & GOVERNANCE  
UNIVERSITY of WASHINGTON

Impartial Convenor

Support Governmental, Private, and Other Entities

Serve Washington State and the Pacific Northwest

Develop Shared Approaches to Complex Policy Challenges

# Introductions

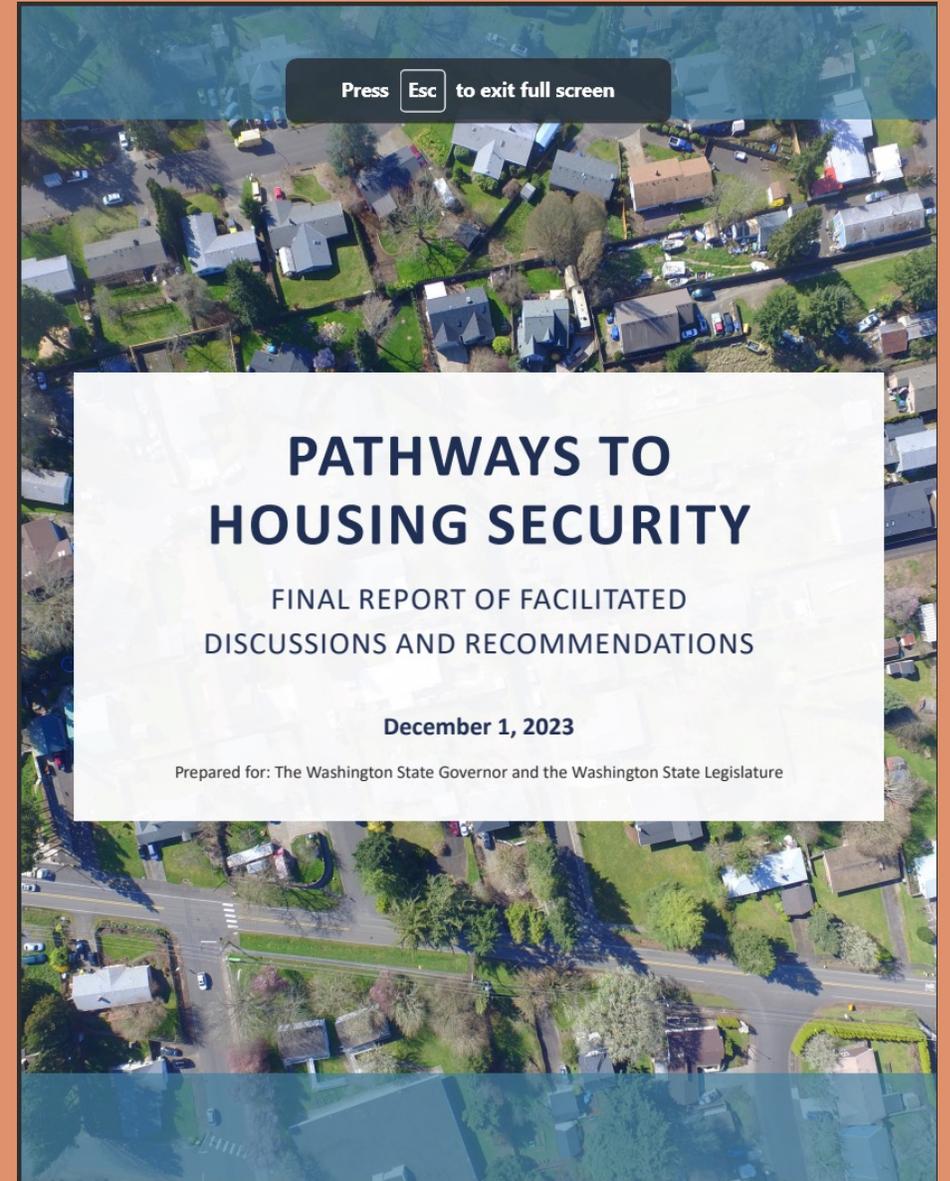
# The Report

## Project Homepage:

[Pathways to Housing Security in Washington | The William D. Ruckelshaus Center | Washington State University \(wsu.edu\)](#)

## Final Report:

[Recommendations-Pathways-to-Housing-Security-2023.pdf \(wsu.edu\)](#)



**A Long-term  
Strategy**

**Core Elements**

**Foundational Themes**

Conceptual Shifts

Guiding Principles

Recommendations

# Foundational Themes

Understanding Homelessness and Housing Instability

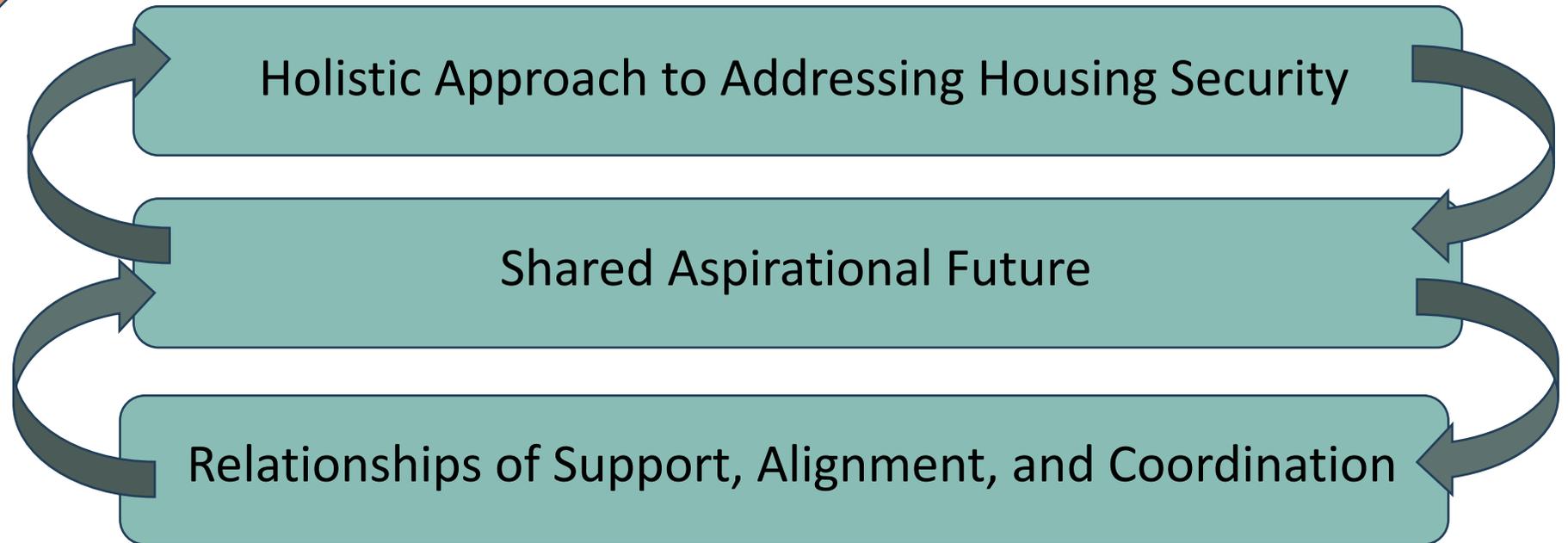
Recognizing the Complexity of Housing Security

Matching the Response to the Need

Tending to the Apparent Conflicts of the Response

State Partnerships with Tribal Governments

# Conceptual Shifts



# Guiding Principles

- Guide ongoing decision making
- Serve across sectors, roles, localities
- Balance flexibility with consistency
- Navigate aspects that seem contradictory or adversarial
- Contribute to a comprehensive approach
- Enable periodic assessment

**Guiding Principle A:** Foster productive narratives around housing security and homelessness.

**Guiding Principle B:** Mobilize a multi-sector response to advance housing security.

**Guiding Principle C:** Respond to the holistic and interdependent nature of housing security.

**Guiding Principle D:** Design the response to housing insecurity around what people and communities need to thrive.

**Guiding Principle E:** Undo the harm of structural racism and other forms of systemic disadvantage that produce housing inequity.

**Guiding Principle F:** Employ a sense of urgency about both meeting immediate needs and initiating steps for long-term progress.

**Guiding Principle G:** Amplify the influence of those most affected by homelessness and housing instability.

**Guiding Principle H:** Create conditions that reduce competition and facilitate cooperation.

**Guiding Principle I:** Address the inability of the housing market to meet housing needs.

**Guiding Principle J:** Sustain the response to housing insecurity through stability in infrastructure, relationships, and appropriately scaled resources.

**Guiding Principle K:** Prepare to adapt to changing circumstances, unanticipated disruptions, and new knowledge.

# Areas of Recommendation

Opportunities for State Partnership with Tribal Governments

Set the Strategy Up for Success

Respond to the Continuum of Housing Needs

Respond Holistically to People's Needs

Bolster Systems and Workforce Capacity and Stability

Foster Accountability, Manage Performance,  
and Adapt Over Time

## Recommendation 12

**Circumstances of Precarious Housing:** Expand investments that stabilize individuals or households with circumstances of precarious housing.

### Key Actions

**Bridging Support:** Bridging grants or loans for unanticipated expenses

**Supports Matched to Needs:** Access to available services and resources related to the specific circumstances that make it difficult to sustain stable housing

**Eviction Mitigation:** Comprehensive strategies to mitigate reasons for and impacts of impending eviction for tenants, neighbors, and property owners/managers

**Respond  
Holistically to  
People's Needs**

### Opportunities Across Scales

**Internal:** Supports Available to Employees

**Core Function:** Support/Referrals Available to Clients, Grantees, Constituents

**External:** Partnerships, Advocacy, Influence

# Stabilize Precarious Housing

## Bridging Support

## Potential Actions

- HR policies to support rather than penalize when signs of insecurity affect performance
- Build relationships to help anticipate when shared clients may face destabilizing events (e.g. healthcare, employment assistance)
- Partner with local banks to develop loan programs
- Augment current housing assistance to extend eligibility and navigation after placement

## Guiding Principles

**D:** Design the response to housing insecurity around what people and communities need to thrive.

**C:** Respond to the holistic and interdependent nature of housing security

**B:** Mobilize a multi-sector response to advance housing security.

## Conceptual Shift

Shared Aspirational Future

## Connected Recommendations

**11. Person-Centered Navigation** Evolve current case management and care navigation into a cross-sector system that responds to the specific needs of individuals and households and follows them longitudinally as those needs evolve.

**10. Holistic Eligibility** Reconfigure eligibility criteria to help people access the supports they need over time to synergistically stabilize their housing, health, behavioral health, and socioeconomic circumstances.

# Precarious Housing

# Eviction Mitigation

## Potential Actions

- Provide Ongoing Support for Stability.
- Fund Mitigation Between Tenants and Property Owners
- Implement strategies that Insulate Property Owners Against Financial Loss.
- Build Relationships Across Organizations in Housing Assistance and Rental Housing.

## Connected Recommendations

**4. Housing Options:** Expand the supply, variety, location, and quality of supported options and pathways for... housing, to better match people to their types and level of need and to their preferences.

**5. Supply of Affordable Housing:** Adopt strategies that align homelessness services and housing assistance with increasing the supply of affordable housing for rental and ownership. Allocate more funds to be used for operations and maintenance to preserve the current stock of subsidized and affordable housing.

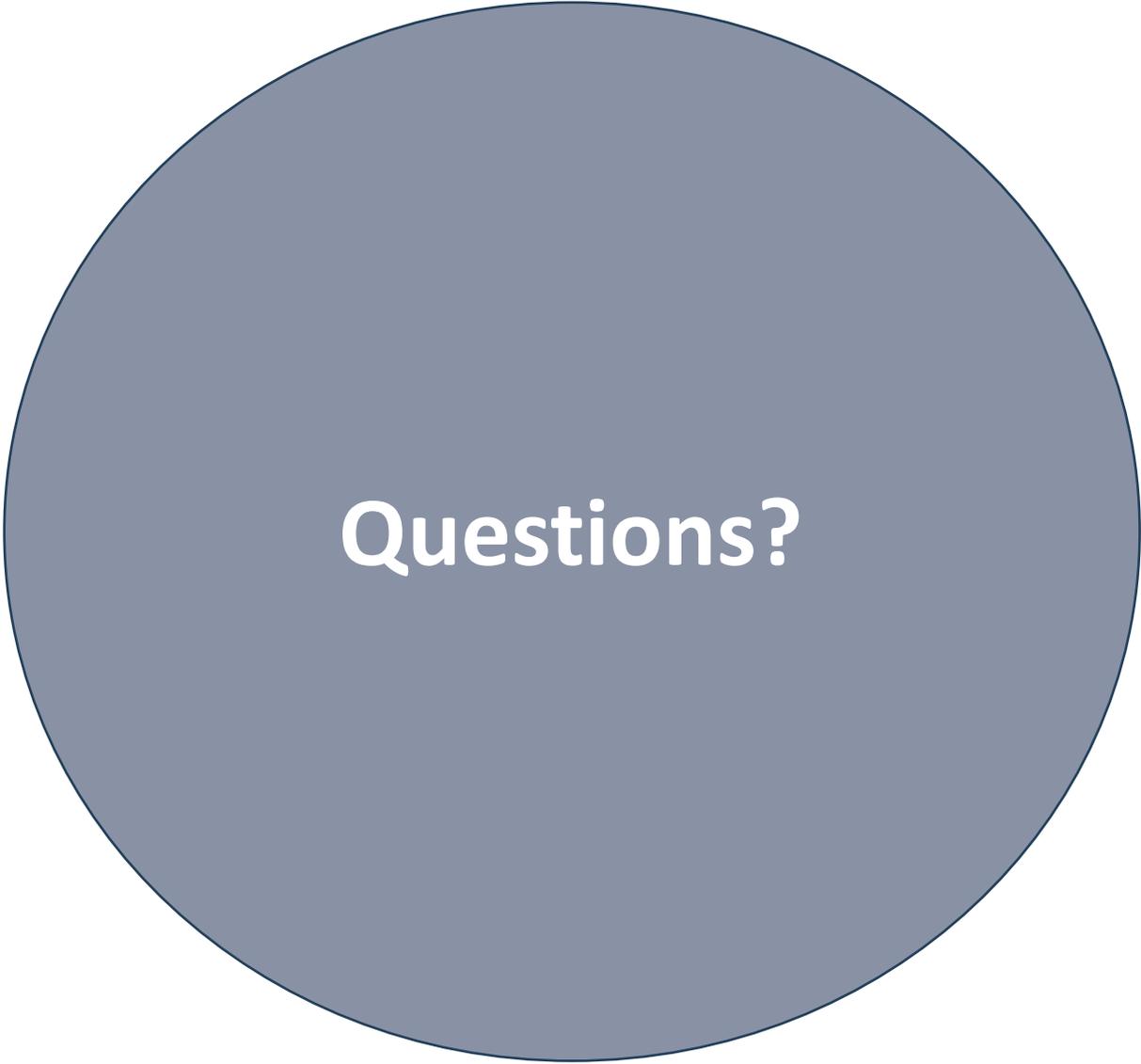
**7. Geographic Variability:** Accommodate the ways in which housing challenges manifest differently in different places.

## Guiding Principle

- B:** Mobilize a multi-sector response to advance housing security.
- H:** Create conditions that reduce competition and facilitate cooperation.
- I:** Address the inability of the housing market to meet housing needs.

## Conceptual Shift

System of Support



Questions?

*How could your organization or community contribute to stabilizing precarious housing?*

# ACTION IDEAS

<b>KEEP</b>	<b>START/CHANGE</b>	<b>STOP</b>
<p><i>What is your organization or community doing that you need to continue doing?</i></p>	<p><i>What does your organization or community need to start doing (a new effort or a change to a current effort)?</i></p>	<p><i>What is your organization or community doing that you can or should stop doing?</i></p>

*How could your organization or community contribute to stabilizing precarious housing?*

## **COMMIT** to one of your action ideas...

*By the next 3 years, our goal would be...*

*By the next 3 months, we would need to...*

*In the next 3 weeks, my first step will be to...*

**CONNECTIONS** *Take note of people with whom you plan to follow up to exchange information and resources, to explore a collaboration, or just to stay in touch.*

# Contact Us

Attend A Workshop

<https://ruckelshauscenter.wsu.edu/2024-housing-security-discussions/>

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