

# Homeless Remembrance Project

The Tree of Life  
&  
Leaves of Remembrance



# Project Timeline

## **2003-2007**

Inception  
Outreach  
Initial Funding

## **2008-2010**

Conceptual Design Process  
Community Outreach  
Funding  
City + Neighborhood Coordination

## **2011**

First Installations of Leaves of Remembrance

## **2012**

Dedication of Tree of Life  
Continuing Installations of Leaves at existing and new sites

## **2013-2014-2015....**

Continuing to create Community and to Honor King County homeless people who've died

## Homeless Remembrance Project

There is currently no established place in the world to remember and honor people who've died while homeless. The absence of such a place is a source of great pain to the homeless community and its supporters. In 2003, WHEEL (Women's Housing and Equality Enhancement League), a grassroots organizing effort of homeless and formerly homeless women, established a Homeless Remembrance Project Committee, which grew out of Women in Black vigils to remember homeless people who've died outside or by violence in King County--more than 400 people in the past eleven years. Together with a broad spectrum of supporters, WHEEL and the Homeless Remembrance Project Committee have worked to establish public places of gathering, beauty and remembrance to honor homeless people who have died in King County.

The Homeless Remembrance Project Committee has built broad, far-reaching support with people from all walks of life and across many neighborhoods: in the faith community, among social service providers, and with designers, artists and funders. We have achieved many victories in the past eight years. In 2005, AIA-Seattle selected our project as the "Design Challenge" for their Annual Honor Awards; entries were displayed in the lobby of Seattle City Hall. That same year, Seattle City Council unanimously passed a resolution supporting the Homeless Place of Remembrance on public land. We have partnerships with the Seattle Department of Parks and Recreation, Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT), and the Seattle Department of Neighborhoods (DON), which funded our Conceptual Design Process (with a DON Small and Simple Fund matching grant) and is providing support and partial funding for construction (through its DON Large Project Fund matching grant).



The concept of the Homeless Remembrance Project is twofold: a "Tree of Life" gathering place and sculpture in Victor Steinbrueck Park and "Leaves of Remembrance" embedded in sidewalks throughout Seattle. It is unique in its approach to raising awareness about homelessness through a public art project that has both a permanent presence and an ongoing outreach activity. It raises awareness of the struggles of the homeless community and the essential dignity of those struggles, while fostering a cooperative approach to ending homelessness.



[www.fallenleaves.org](http://www.fallenleaves.org)

June 11, 2011

*First Installation of Leaves of Remembrance  
Noel House/Bakhita Gardens*













October 21<sup>st</sup> 2012

*Tree of Life Dedication*











## **Installations to Date - June 2014**

Bakhita Gardens (Noel House) (2nd & Bell)	16 Leaves
Angeline's (3rd & Lenora)	20 Leaves
Service Center (3rd & Virginia)	11 Leaves
Seattle Justice Center (5t & Cherry)	17 Leaves
Downtown Emergency Service Center (3rd & James)	18 Leaves
Compass Center (65 S Washington)	15 Leaves
Real Change (96 S Main)	11 Leaves
Seward Park PCC (Wilson Ave)	1 leaf
Seattle Mennonite Church (3120 NE 125th)	21 Leaves
Ballard Commons Park (22nd NW & NW 57th)	<u>25 Leaves</u>

155 Leaves

# THE HOMELESS REMEMBRANCE PROJECT

warmly invites you to our

## Memorial Day "Call to Community" Celebration at our "Tree of Life" in Victor Steinbrueck Park



For nine years the homeless women of WHEEL/Women in Black, together with community supporters, have worked to develop public gathering places (and art) to celebrate life, to promote healing and peace, to build community, and to remember homeless people who've died in King County. Our Homeless Remembrance Project is twofold:

**Bronze "Leaves of Remembrance,"** with names, in sidewalks (109 Leaves so far in six neighborhoods), and a beautiful "Tree of Life" sculpture and gathering place in Victor Steinbrueck Park, north of Pike Place Market.

### PLEASE JOIN US at a MEMORIAL DAY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION

2-4 PM MONDAY, MAY 27<sup>TH</sup>, 2013

AT the "Tree of Life" in the NE corner of Victor Steinbrueck Park (Western and Virginia, north of Pike Place Market)!!

Our "Call to Community" event will be a very brief ritual to remember and honor homeless people who've died this year in King County, and then we'll come together as a community of hope, with music and food. Bring your friends & family!

#### FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT WHEEL:

(206) 956-0334 or [wheelorg@yahoo.com](mailto:wheelorg@yahoo.com)

[www.homelessremembrance.org](http://www.homelessremembrance.org)

[www.fallenleaves.org](http://www.fallenleaves.org)

or friend "Homeless Remembrance Project" on FACEBOOK!







Homeless Remembrance Project







We are a community, homeless and housed together.

## June 21st Summer Solstice Celebration



Tree of Life, Day View



Tree of Life, Night View



Leaves of Remembrance



Personal stories

For nine years, the Homeless Remembrance Project—a collaborative effort of homeless women, faith community leaders, designers, artists, social service providers and other friends—has worked to create places of hope, healing, and beauty to honor and remember homeless people who've died in King County. Our concept is twofold: The Tree of Life, in Victor Steinbrueck Park, is a sculpture with space for community gathering, hope, and healing; to recognize that we are one people, homeless and housed together, and we can end homelessness. Leaves of Remembrance on Seattle sidewalks bear the names of those who have died, and at the site ~~Fallen~~ Leaves we share their stories.

Search

- [Home](#)
- [Tree of Life](#)
- [Leaves of Remembrance](#)
- [How to Help](#)
- [News & Events](#)
- [Background](#)
  - [Women in Black](#)
  - [Concepts](#)
  - [Community for Action](#)
  - [Project Committee](#)

### Categories

- [News](#) (11)
- [Uncategorized](#) (1)

### Recent Posts

- [Standing in the Light: Summer Solstice celebration](#)
- [2013 Winter Solstice Vigil December 21st](#)
- [Sunset Ceremony Tuesday, July 23, 2013](#)
- [Call to Community \(text\)](#)
- [Memorial Day 2013: Gallery](#)

### Recent Comments

### Related Sites

- [Homeless Remembrance Project on Facebook](#)
- [Leaves of Remembrance](#)



Homeless  
Remembrance  
Project

Like 596



# Leaves of Remembrance

Every Person Matters



## Robert Hansen: 1951–2010

October 31st, 2011 | Author: [LeafAdmin](#)

### Robert Hansen 1951–2010

Robert Hansen was known and loved by many people: as a [Real Change vendor](#), as an [activist](#), and as a [friend](#). He helped others by standing up for what he believed in, by mentoring others, and in countless small personal ways like petting a customer's dog while she was shopping.

Robert died April 28, 2010, sleeping in his truck, two days after being released from hospital with orders for bed rest. A public memorial service May 14 filled the plaza in front of City Hall with friends from Real Change, Seward Park, Nickelsville, SHARE/WHEEL, and City Hall itself. Seward Park PCC, where Robert sold Real Change for many years, donated funds to dedicate a vendor learning lab to Robert in the new Pioneer Square offices of Real Change. The Real Change announcement of his death received 45 comments.

In life, Robert was interviewed by the Seattle Times, the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, and the New York Times. His death was covered by [KPLU](#) and the [Seattle Times](#), as well as [Real Change](#), the [Seward Park PCC newsletter](#), and [Sally Clark of the City Council](#).

[Eulogy from Tim Harris](#)

Robert Hansen has a Leaf of Remembrance at [Seward Park PCC](#) dedicated September 18, 2011.



Robert Hansen (right) at Nickelsville



Robert Hansen from KPLU  
medical care story



Flowers for Robert Hansen at  
Seward Park PCC



Real Change Vendor of the Week

Search for:

Search

### Categories

- | [Locations](#) (10)
- | [Names](#) (155)
- | [News](#) (21)

### Pages

- | [Words of Blessing by Rev. Pat Simpson](#)
- | [History of the Homeless Remembrance Project](#)
- | [How You Can Help](#)
- | [Who We Are](#)
- | [Contact Us](#)
- | [Request a Leaf](#)

### Related Sites

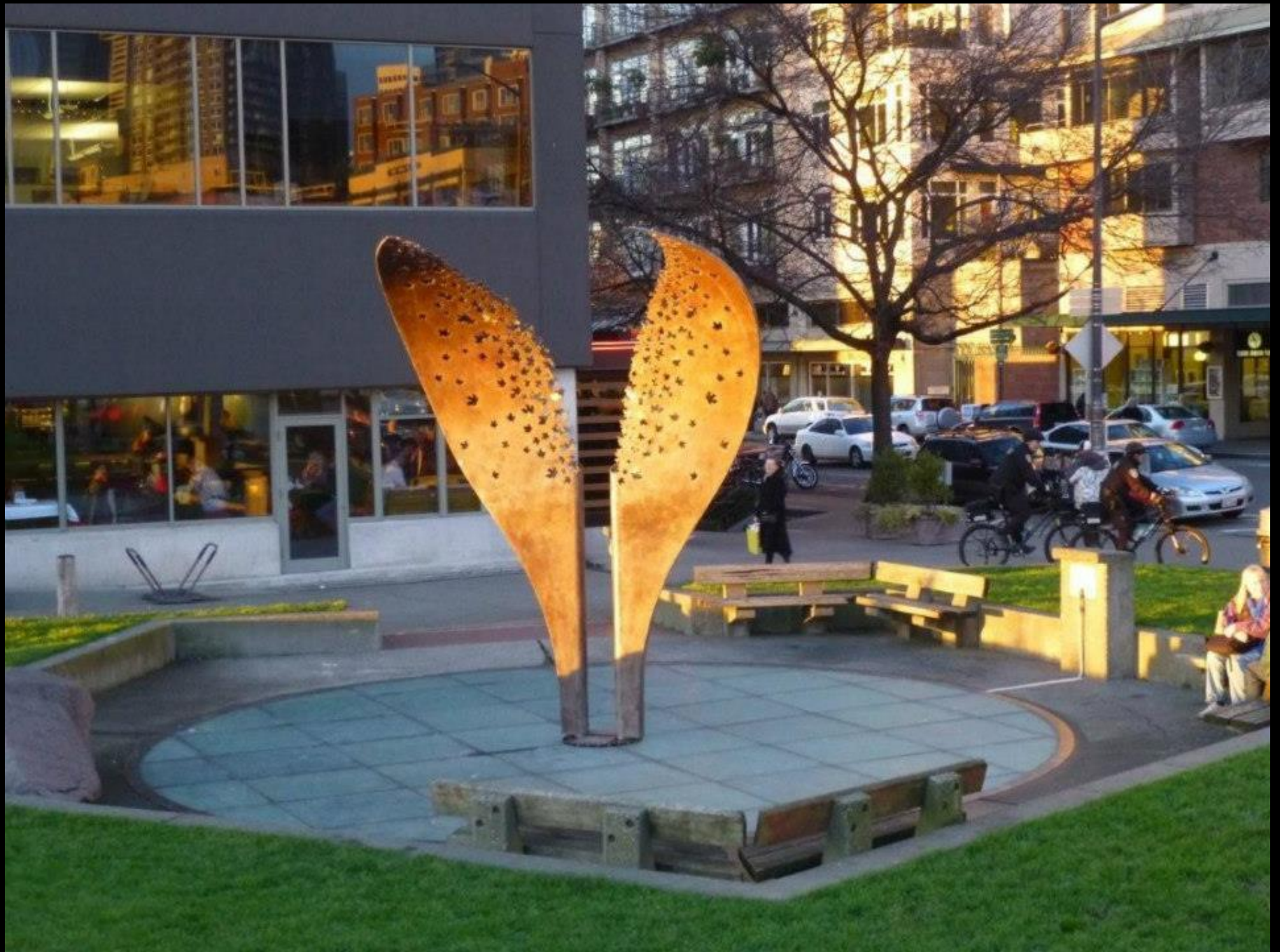
- | [Homeless Remembrance Project](#) The main site of the Homeless Remembrance Project, with much more about the Tree of Life.
- | [Mary's Place](#) The only day center where homeless women can go with their children & co-sponsor of Women in Black.
- | [WHEEL](#) WHEEL (Women's Housing, Equality & Enhancement League) is a grassroots organizing effort of homeless







PHILIP KEENE  
1960 - 2013



**Installations to Date - June 2014**

Bakhita Gardens (Noel House) (2nd & Bell)	16 Leaves	
Angeline's (3rd & Lenora)	20 Leaves	
Service Center (3rd & Virginia)	11 Leaves	
Seattle Justice Center (5t & Cherry)	17 Leaves	
Downtown Emergency Service Center (3rd & James)	18 Leaves	
Compass Center (65 S Washington)	15 Leaves	
Real Change (96 S Main)	11 Leaves	
Seward Park PCC (Wilson Ave)	1 leaf	
Seattle Mennonite Church (3120 NE 125th)	21 Leaves	
Ballard Commons Park (22nd NW & NW 57th)	<u>25 Leaves</u>	
		155 Leaves

**Proposed Installations in 2014**

Dutch Shisler Sobering Center (1930 Boren)	19 Leaves	
Central Library	25 Leaves	
University Safeway	1 Leaf	
University Temple United Methodist Church	<u>10 Leaves</u>	
		55 Leaves

---

---

---





A close-up photograph of a hand holding a metal plaque shaped like a maple leaf. The plaque is engraved with the name and dates of a person. The background is a textured, greyish surface.

DAVINA GARRISON  
1963-2005