

ADDRESSING HOMELESSNESS

All people living in Seattle are housed.

The Seattle Human Services Department (HSD) oversees the City's homelessness reduction investments through its oversight and collaborative role with King County Regional Homelessness Authority (KCRHA). Under this partnership, KCRHA uses City funding to provide homelessness services such as emergency shelter, rapid rehousing, and transitional housing. HSD also coordinates with KCRHA on its severe weather response to ensure unsheltered individuals have access to City facilities during severe or unsafe weather events. In 2024, expenditures on homelessness services totaled **\$153.8 million**.



HSD also began managing eviction prevention in 2024 as part of the City's multi-pronged approach to addressing homelessness. These contracts provide rental assistance, flexible funding, and short-term case management to help people avoid a housing crisis. **Funded at \$4.9 million** in 2025, this work is delivered by 11 agencies including YWCA, Chief Seattle Club, El Centro de la Raza, and St. Vincent de Paul.

HSD also engages directly with the Unified Care Team (UCT)—more than a dozen City departments working together to ensure Seattle's public spaces, sidewalks, and streets remain open and accessible to all—on outreach at prioritized encampment sites to help people move into safer spaces. HSD's primary role in the UCT is shelter outreach: a team of Regional

COMMUNITY PARTNERS: IN THEIR WORDS



As the largest family emergency shelter and services provider in King County, **Mary's Place** works with thousands of families with children facing or experiencing homelessness to help them find safe, stable, affordable housing. In their words:

“Funding from Seattle Human Services keeps the doors open at the Allen Family Center in south Seattle, one of the only drop-in centers focused on the unique needs of families experiencing housing insecurity.”

“The Allen Family Center offers housing services, including shelter referral, housing support, and social service navigation, and serves as a home base for the Mary's Place outreach team.”

Coordinators engage daily with unsheltered neighbors, works with KCRHA to secure same-day access to shelter beds, and connects people to resources that support stabilization and longer-term housing goals.

In 2024, **7,565 offers of shelter** were extended, and **1,884 were accepted**. To improve outreach and services acceptance, HSD's homelessness division led a

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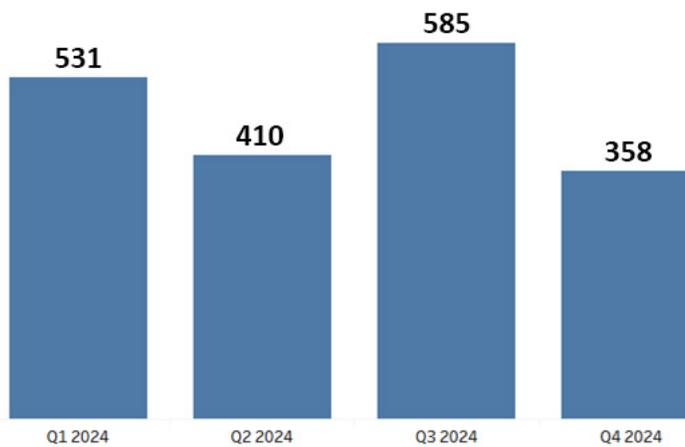
competitive process to fund a new service district-based outreach model. Nine agencies were awarded **\$5.9 million** to begin work in 2025. This new team-based model will align closely with the UCT to ensure all of Seattle’s communities have access to the following:

- Street-based Care Coordination
- Vehicle Residency Outreach
- Behavioral/Mental Health Outreach
- Population-Specific Outreach

HSD also collaborates with KCRHA to relocate, preserve, and launch new shelter programs. In 2024 this included the successful relocation of the Chief Seattle Club’s Eagle Village to maintain culturally attuned shelter options and beginning efforts to launch the new behavioral health-centered STAR Center shelter in 2025.

As Washington state mobilized to address the needs of incoming migrant communities, HSD led the City’s short-term humanitarian response by connecting **more than 200 asylum seekers to emergency housing**.

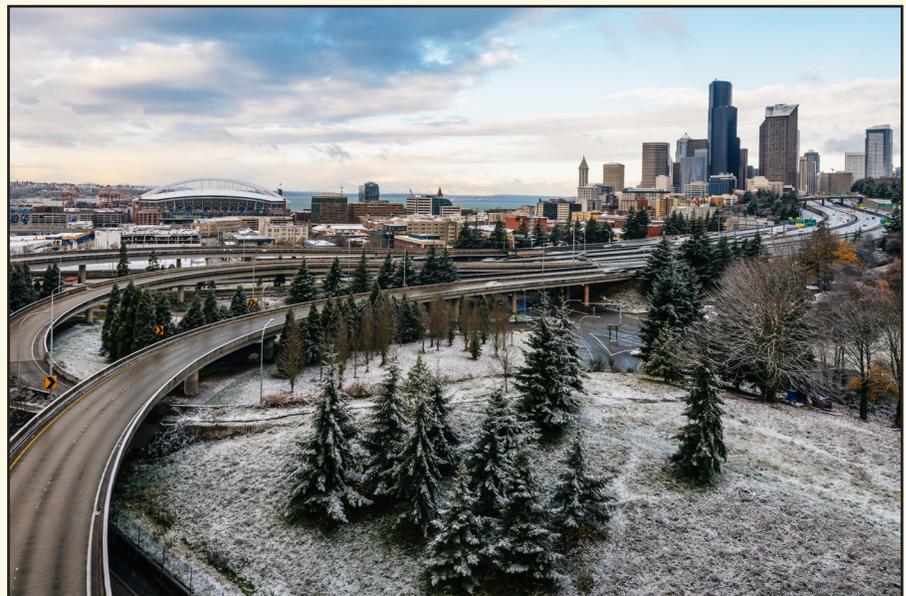
In July 2024, HSD entered into an agreement with the state’s Department of Social and Health Services, Office of Refugee and Immigrant Assistance, to support families and children under 18 through the Washington Migrant and Asylum Seeker Support (WA MASS) program. WA MASS connected more than 20 agencies to provide basic needs including case management, emergency housing, and transitional housing assistance.



Bringing People Indoors

Accepted offers resulting in referral to shelter. More information is available at the [Homelessness Action Portal](#).

SEVERE WEATHER RESPONSE



In January, a cold snap with freezing temperatures prompted KCRHA to activate Tier 3 severe weather protocols. Between January 11-17, emergency shelters operated by the Salvation Army opened at City Hall and Exhibition Hall, providing refuge to 1,650 people experiencing homelessness (duplicated).

Amid rising temperatures in July, KCRHA and the Unified Care Team (UTC) conducted outreach in the field to keep unhoused individuals safe, including setting up cooling tents, providing water, sharing information on cooling center locations, and making referrals into shelter.