



Snohomish County
County Executive's Office
Aaron Reardon
County Executive

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Roll-out of “Everyone at Home Now”:
Snohomish County Plan to End Homelessness by 2016
at Everett Station
Thursday, June 1, 9 a.m.**

U.S. Senator Patty Murray, Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon and Philip F. Mangano, Executive Director of the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USICH) join the Homeless Policy Task Force and to launch, “Everyone at Home Now”: A Strategy for Ending Homelessness in Snohomish County by 2016.

On June 1, with the launch of this comprehensive action plan to end homelessness, Snohomish County begins its journey from individuals, families and children sleeping in the streets and in cars, to safe and affordable housing for all.

“Everyone At Home Now’s” is a 10-year plan to provide safe and affordable housing for everyone in Snohomish County. The plan calls for the creation of 2500 new units of affordable housing for the homeless, increased permanent housing coupled with the support services necessary to sustain housing long-term, more services to prevent homelessness and the political will at every level of government to champion the need for every person to have safe, affordable and appropriate housing. The kick off event is the first opportunity to publicly demonstrate that will.

Senator Murray a long time advocate in finding solutions to meet local community needs on issues of housing and supportive services for homeless individuals and families through her role as a U.S. Senator.

Over the past decade, Snohomish County Executive Aaron Reardon has taken a strong leadership role in the development and participation of the Homeless Policy Task Force. “We cannot accept, nor afford the social and financial cost of homelessness in Snohomish County,” says Executive Reardon. “More than just housing, this Plan offers people hope and opportunity to achieve beyond what would have been possible if still homeless.”

Revitalized by President Bush, the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness is led by Executive Director Philip F. Mangano (appointed by the President in March 2002). To forward

the Administration's commitment to end chronic homelessness, the Council has encouraged the creation of over 215 jurisdictional 10-year plans that are lead by Mayors and County Executives and combine public and private sector partners, innovation, and investment to achieve results. "Today with the unveiling of this Plan, the quality of life for everyone – housed and homeless alike – will improve in Everett and Snohomish County as they join the National Partnership to accomplish a mission," says Executive Director Mangano.

"Two years in development, the plan is a labor of vision, passion, and commitment," says Chris Brandt, past Chair Steering Committee of the Homeless Policy Task Force and VP of Operations Volunteers of America Western Washington. It calls for new and renewed effort by community leaders, housing developers, nonprofit agencies, government, and citizens to step up to the task of ending rather than managing homelessness."

Jerri Mitchell is the current Chair of the Snohomish County Homeless Policy Task Force and Christine Brandt, is the current Chair of the 10-year Implementation Plan committee, the second phase of the Everyone at Home Now planning and implementation process to end homelessness in Snohomish County.

What: Roll-out of "Everyone at Home Now":

When: Thursday, June 1, 9-10 a.m.

Where: Everett Station, 3201 Smith Avenue, Everett, WA
Directions

I-5 north to Pacific Avenue, left on Pacific, right on Smith Avenue.

I-5 South to Exit number 194 - US-2/Everett Avenue. Take the Everett Avenue ramp towards the City Center. Turn right onto Everett Avenue. Turn left onto Cedar Street. Turn right onto Pacific Avenue and right onto Smith Avenue.

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