



# Plymouth Housing



## What does Plymouth Housing do?

For 40 years, Plymouth has ended homelessness one person at a time. We provide permanent supportive housing to people who've experienced chronic homelessness. We operate 15 buildings in Seattle, which are home to about 1,100 residents a year.

## What is chronic homelessness?

Chronic homelessness describes individuals who 1) have experienced long-term homelessness and 2) have a disabling health condition. People experiencing chronic homelessness face additional challenges accessing services and maintaining housing. Chronic homelessness drives most of the public cost associated with homelessness. In 2020, about 29% of people experiencing homelessness in King County were chronically homeless, or 3,355 individuals.

## What is permanent supportive housing?

Permanent supportive housing is a model for ending chronic homelessness. "Permanent" means there is no time limit on our housing; residents are free to stay as long as they want, as in any apartment building. "Supportive" means we connect residents with individualized services they need to thrive, like medical care, substance use treatment, or family reunification. With this proven model, we have a 97% success rate at keeping people housed.

## Who are Plymouth's residents?

Plymouth residents have a wide array of personal histories, but they also have many things in common. Residents have experienced homelessness for anywhere from two to twenty or more years. Many are seniors, almost all live with disabilities, and about 15% are veterans.

## What is Plymouth's impact?

On an individual level, we transform lives. More broadly, we address our region's homelessness crisis, saving millions in public funds each year.

## Will Ballard Crossing have parking for residents?

Since very, very few Plymouth residents own cars, we do not plan for resident parking spots at any of our buildings. Instead, we select locations with good access to public transit, because that's how most Plymouth residents get around.



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## **How will Plymouth be as a neighbor to Ballard High School?**

We strive to be good neighbors. We believe that the process begins well before construction, so we've already met with BHS staff. As those conversations continue, we'll learn more about how we can best work together. Once the building is open, communication is key. As we do with neighbors to our other properties, we will maintain strong, proactive communication with the school. Ballard Crossing will have 24/7 front desk support, meaning that Plymouth staff will be accessible at any time of day. We also invite families and school groups to volunteer at Ballard Crossing once it opens.

## **What measures will Plymouth take to design this building with the safety and comfort of residents and neighbors in mind?**

The safety and comfort of our residents and the neighborhood is our top priority. As with all our buildings, Ballard Crossing will provide ample indoor community spaces for residents, so that the exterior of the building doesn't have to be their primary space to gather and socialize. In addition, all Plymouth buildings have extensive indoor and outdoor security camera system which are monitored at all times. Finally, the entrance to Ballard Crossing will be on 64th Street, not on the busier 15th Ave, which will be more pleasant for our residents and will also minimize any increased foot traffic along 15th Ave.

## **How will the residents for this building be selected?**

Right now, most new Plymouth residents come to us through the King County system Coordinated Entry for All. In this system, people experiencing homelessness make an appointment with the county to have their needs evaluated so they can be matched with an apartment at housing providers like Plymouth as they become available.

Plymouth also advocates with our funders to also allow for direct referrals from partner agencies. One benefit of referrals is that they often allow people experiencing homelessness to find housing in the same community. We're currently exploring partnerships with Ballard community organizations and hope to provide more details on those efforts soon.