

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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# Plymouth Housing Announces Start of Work on Ballard Crossing

*New housing is part of Office of Housing pilot program to rapidly scale up permanent supportive housing in Seattle*

**SEATTLE – May 19, 2021 – [Plymouth Housing](#)**, a nonprofit with a mission of eliminating homelessness, today announced that construction has begun on a new permanent supportive housing (PSH) building at the northwest corner of 15<sup>th</sup> Ave NW and NW 64<sup>th</sup> St in the Ballard neighborhood, north of Seattle’s downtown. The development, known as Ballard Crossing, is being constructed by Inland Group and will be operated by Plymouth Housing. Ballard Crossing will provide 79 studio apartments for single adults who have experienced chronic homelessness. Plymouth Housing’s model of permanent housing, coupled with wraparound supportive services, gives residents the solid footing they need to rebuild their lives and leave homelessness behind.

The new building is part of a City of Seattle Office of Housing pilot program designed to scale up production of permanent supportive housing for those Plymouth Housing serves. The “PSH pilot” emphasizes three outcomes: to double the historic number of PSH units produced in a given year; to accelerate these projects’ time to completion; and to test new strategies to reduce the cost of producing the housing, according to a city spokesperson.

Plymouth Housing celebrated the commencement of construction virtually with a [video](#) shared with supporters and the public. The video includes remarks from Seattle City Councilmember Dan Strauss, Mike Stewart with Ballard Alliance and Jennifer Muzia with Ballard Food Bank.

“We look forward to celebrating the grand opening of Ballard Crossing in 2022. The 79 new affordable housing units can’t come too soon for those currently living without a home in our region. We value our partnership with the City of Seattle and its Office of Housing on this project, and we are proud to be part of the PSH pilot program. Plymouth Housing recognizes the many supporters of this project, especially those community members who gave their input, attended informational meetings and voiced their support for the inclusion of permanent supportive housing for people experiencing homelessness. Plymouth Housing looks forward to being a part of the Ballard community,” said Paul Lambros, Plymouth Housing CEO.

“By taking bold steps, the PSH pilot is rapidly and cost-effectively scaling up the production of new, affordable, permanent housing for our neighbors experiencing—or at extreme risk of—homelessness. The start of this project proves that innovation, resources, and strong partnerships can make a difference for both individuals and our entire community. Congratulations to Plymouth Housing and Inland Group for advancing to this critical milestone and extending Plymouth Housing’s strong record of positive change to a new neighborhood in our great city,” said Mayor Jenny A. Durkan.

Plymouth Housing's model has proven to be successful. Over four decades, the organization has served thousands of residents. 59% of Plymouth Housing residents are 55 or older and 97% live with at least one disability and/or significant health concern. In addition to a "housing first" approach, the organization utilizes trauma informed care and harm reduction principles to support its residents. As a result, more than 97% of residents succeed in maintaining a permanent home after leaving homelessness.

"The COVID-19 pandemic underscored the connection between health and housing as well as the importance of acting in accordance with research, data, and science. When it comes to our unhoused neighbors, national research shows that permanent housing is the evidence-based solution to homelessness. Our PSH pilot was designed to double down on this evidence-based solution, and we are delighted that work on Ballard Crossing has started and is on track to deliver 79 units of new homeless housing approximately one year from now," said City of Seattle Office of Housing Director Emily Alvarado.

Like all of Plymouth Housing buildings, Ballard Crossing will feature on-site 24-hour staffing and front desk, on-site nursing and medical care, intensive support from Housing Case Managers and a sense of place and community for residents.

"We know that in order for us to successfully address the homelessness crisis plaguing our region we have to provide permanent supportive housing for our neighbors suffering from chronic homelessness," said King County Councilmember Jeanne Kohl-Welles. "I'm pleased to support Plymouth Housing's Ballard Crossing project and am confident it will provide services necessary to help some of our most vulnerable neighbors exit homelessness once and for all."

"We have always held Plymouth Housing in high esteem for the support and assistance they provide toward some of the most vulnerable members of our community. We at Ethan Stowell Restaurants are proud to work alongside Plymouth Housing in addressing the issue of homelessness and we are greatly looking forward to their joining our Ballard neighborhood," said Ethan Stowell, CEO & Founder of Ethan Stowell Restaurants.

The building is set to be complete in 2022. Ballard Crossing is Plymouth Housing's first building in the neighborhood and is part of a multi-year effort to construct permanent supportive housing buildings in other parts of the city and region including the Uptown, Central Area, and First Hill neighborhoods in Seattle, and the Eastgate neighborhood in Bellevue, WA.

### **About Plymouth Housing**

*Plymouth Housing's mission is to eliminate homelessness and address its causes by preserving, developing and operating safe, quality, supportive housing and by providing adults experiencing homelessness with opportunities to stabilize and improve their lives. Plymouth Housing follows the "Housing First" philosophy, operating on the principle that people cannot improve their lives until they have a safe, stable place to live.*

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