

PROMOTING EQUITY THROUGH HOUSING JUSTICE

Affordable housing is intrinsically linked to racial and social justice, serving as a cornerstone for equitable communities. Historical and ongoing discriminatory practices, such as redlining, segregation, and housing discrimination, have perpetuated racial disparities in housing access and affordability. These inequities have profound consequences, contributing to wealth disparities, neighborhood segregation, and limited economic opportunities for marginalized communities. According to the National Low Income Housing Coalition, people of color are disproportionately affected by housing insecurity, with Black and Hispanic households experiencing higher rates of housing cost burden and homelessness compared to white households. By advancing policies and initiatives prioritizing fair and equitable housing opportunities, we can work towards dismantling systemic barriers, promoting inclusive communities, and advancing racial and social justice.

WHAT THE DATA SAYS

RACIAL DIVERSITY

Tacoma is one of the most racially diverse cities in WA, where 41.5% of residents are people of color.¹

TACOMA DISPARITIES

Due to systemic factors, Black households in Tacoma have the lowest median income compared to all other races/ethnicities.²

DIVERSITY IS KEY

Residents of diverse neighborhoods are able to interact on a daily basis – they harbor less prejudice and racial stereotypes, can better handle diverse working environments, are more culturally sensitive, and have more expansive social networks.

SEGREGATION

Residents identifying as Black experience the highest levels of segregation in Pierce County.³

COST-BURDENED

Households led by a person of color have a higher rate of cost-burden than White households in Pierce County.⁴

TACOMA'S HILLTOP

In 1970 census tract 617 in south Hilltop was 60.6% Black, by 2000 it was 35.4% Black, and by 2020 it was just 21.5% Black.⁵

EVICCTIONS

Hilltop has the highest eviction risk in Tacoma, along with high eviction risks in South and East Tacoma.⁶



SOCIAL JUSTICE

Advancing Equity and Justice Through
Affordable Housing Initiatives

SUPPORT HOUSING JUSTICE FOR ALL

Addressing housing discrimination, promoting equitable development practices, and investing in anti-displacement strategies can advance racial and social justice goals, ensuring equitable access to housing for all.

FIND MORE INFORMATION

- [City of Tacoma "Analysis of Systemic Disparities in Achievable Housing Options" \(2021\).](#)
- [National Alliance to End Homelessness: Homelessness and Racial Disparities](#)
- ["South Sound Housing Affordability Partners Middle Housing Project: Racial Equity Analysis."](#)
- [City of Tacoma Anti-Displacement Strategy \(2024\).](#)
- [Alliance for Housing Justice](#)
- [WA Low Income Housing Alliance: Roadmap to Housing Justice](#)

HOW TO HELP

Advocate for fair housing policies, support community-led efforts to combat gentrification and displacement, and engage in anti-racist initiatives to promote housing equity.



PARTNERS SUPPORTING HOUSING JUSTICE FOR ALL



**Tacoma
Urban League**



**MI
CENTRO**



**ASIA
PACIFIC
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CENTER**

AFFORDABLE HOUSING CONSORTIUM

The Affordable Housing Consortium is effecting change through community education, advocacy, and the provision of resources to advance the development and preservation of housing that is affordable, accessible, and free of discrimination. Because everyone deserves a place to call home.



1, 2. Nov, 2021. BDS Planning and Urban Design and EconNorthwest. "Analysis of Systemic Disparities in Achievable Housing Options City of Tacoma".
3, 4. June 2023. Berk. "South Sound Housing Affordability Partners Middle Housing Project: Racial Equity Analysis".
5, 6. 2024. City of Tacoma. "Anti-Displacement Strategy".