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a catalyst
for ending homelessness

October 28, 2009

Vote YES on Prop 1 to Renew the Housing Levy!



The November 3rd General Election is right around the corner, and one critical item on the ballots of Seattle voters is the renewal of the [Seattle Housing Levy](#). For nearly 30 years, the Housing Levy has helped create affordable homes for homeless and at-risk families and individuals. Building Changes knows first-hand how important the Levy has been in ending homelessness, as it has provided critical capital funding for agencies supported by the [Washington Families Fund](#). For example, since 2005, Wellspring Family Services has received funding from the Washington Families Fund to provide support services to families living in seven units at Croft Place, affordable townhomes owned by the Delridge Neighborhoods Development Association. Housing Levy funding was integral to making Croft Place such a beautiful place to live and an ideal place for families to transition out of homelessness back into the community.

Building Changes Expands Reach With \$1M Federal Grant

As a recent recipient of a two-year \$1 million federal Recovery Act Strengthening Communities Fund grant, Building Changes is now positioned to expand its consulting and grant making work across the state's 31 neediest counties.



“What many people don’t realize,” says Building Changes Consulting Services Manager [Mark Putnam](#), “is that there is a close link between job loss and homelessness. This grant supports the work we do in emphasizing jobs and increased income for people experiencing homelessness.” Not only that, but Building Changes will use it to reach a broader group, such as single adults and teenagers, in addition to families.

A portion of this award will go toward grant making that helps small agencies providing services to the neediest clients *expand their capacity*.

In addition to focusing on things like leadership, stronger state-wide networks, and how agencies sustain themselves

Building Changes 2008 Annual Report Available



2008 was a pivotal year of change for Building Changes... [Read our 2008 Annual Report to learn more](#)

When You Need Innovative Solutions... Ask an Expert



Building Changes has been providing results-based consulting services to nonprofit and government agencies since 1992.

[Download our Consulting Services Brochure](#) to learn more about our services and how we can help you.

Double Your Investment

Thanks to a generous challenge grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, your gift to Building Changes will be matched — **dollar for dollar!**

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financially, support from Building Changes could come in the form of a technology grant that allows case workers to run through self-sufficiency calculators with their clients and make a realistic plan to help them get back on their feet. Or, Building Changes may provide expert advice on how clients can access local job training programs—programs in which homeless people are frequently excluded.

[Read more >>](#)

[Read our Press Release, FAQ, and related news coverage >>](#)

Washington Families Fund Highlighted in Raikes Speech to Seattle Chamber of Commerce

In a speech to the Seattle Chamber of Commerce on September 24th, Jeff Raikes, CEO of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, spoke of the foundation's most important local project -- ending family homelessness. Raikes spoke of the work of the Washington Families Fund led by Building Changes.



[Watch the video >>](#)

[Read the speech and related news coverage >>](#)

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