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a catalyst
for ending homelessness

February 2, 2009

[Danny Glover to be Keynote Speaker at May 5th Luncheon](#)



Please join us on **Tuesday, May 5, 2009** for Building Changes' Annual Luncheon to End Homelessness. Danny Glover, Acclaimed Actor & Producer and

Leading Social Activist, will be our keynote speaker.

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[What's The Buzz?](#)



The Nine Lives of the Second Chance Act, What Works: Washington State's Homeless Grant Assistance

Program, and more. Check out our **agency blog** for fresh insights and commentary from Building Changes staff. [Read more >>](#)

[Our Numbers Have Changed](#)



Building Changes has new phone and fax numbers! Our new main phone number is **(206) 805-6100**, and our fax number is **(206) 805-6101**. In addition, all staff members now have direct dial phone

[Washington Families Fund Awards \\$3.5 Million in New Grants to Help Reduce Family Homelessness Statewide](#)

In December, the Building Changes Board of Directors approved eight grants totaling \$3,531,595 to service-enriched housing providers throughout the State of Washington. Grants were made in the following counties: Cowlitz, King, Pierce, Snohomish, and Spokane. Unique to this round is nearly \$1 million in first-time grants in Cowlitz County, a county where there is not only a high level of poverty but also where homes and businesses have sustained millions of dollars in damages due to recent flooding.

To date, the Washington Families Fund has granted nearly \$13 million to 36 projects across the State, supporting 522 units of service-enriched housing. [Read more >>](#)



Housing Hope in Snohomish County was awarded \$715,000 to provide services to homeless pregnant teens and young parents in its New Century Village housing complex.

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numbers.

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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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Connecting Veterans to Services

On November 13th, appropriately near Veteran's Day 2008, the Washington State Department of Veteran Affairs (WSDVA) and Building Changes hosted a panel discussion, which was attended by Washington Families Fund grantees and other members of the housing and service provider community. One goal the Washington State Department of Veterans Affairs shares with both county and federal veterans service programs is to educate shelter providers, community mental health providers, outreach workers, and veterans' family members about available programs, resulting in increased referrals to the VA for covered services.

One of our panelists, Kathy Gerard of the federal Homeless Women Veterans Program, had a lively discussion with audience members, many of whom happened to be female veterans.

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