



Washington Families Fund Moderate-Needs Family Profile

The Washington Families Fund is a public-private partnership that seeks to expand the availability of supportive housing by providing stable, long-term funding to agencies with the best models for ending family homelessness and strengthening communities throughout Washington state.

The Washington Families Fund Moderate-Level Service Model places an emphasis on activities that promote employment opportunities and stronger children's services, in addition to core case management support. Since 2005, Washington Families Fund programs have served 940 Moderate-Needs Families—composed of 1,103 adults and 1,755 children. The profile below represents the average Moderate-Needs Family served by the Fund and is based on composite data collected for families entering the program over five years.

- The head of household is female, 31 years old, and single.
- She has a high school diploma or greater.
- The average age of her two children is 6 years. Her school-age children have attended two schools in the year prior to entering a Washington Families Fund program.
- Prior to entering Washington Families Fund housing, she was most likely living in an emergency shelter or temporarily staying with family or friends. The family has experienced a great degree of residential instability and has moved more than two times in the past two years.
- She has experienced domestic violence from someone she knows and reported a disabling condition, such as mental health or chemical dependency, when she entered the program.
- The family's main source of income is state welfare benefits; a small percentage of families are working.

After completing a Washington Families Fund program:

- 73 percent of families secured a permanent home.
- School stability improved by 80 percent, and 73 percent of children stayed in the same school.
- The number of families who were employed increased by 53 percent, and income from employment increased by 27 percent.

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TYPICAL HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD:

Female: 92%

Average age: 31 years

High school diploma or greater: 66%

Average of 2 children, age 6 years
(more than 50% are 5 years or younger)

Prior residency:

Emergency shelter: 31%

Temporarily staying with family
or friends: 25%

Moved more than two times in the past
two years: 82%

Experienced domestic violence: 66%

Disabling condition: 34%

TANF recipient: 66%

Working: 24%

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TOGETHER

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Families Fund**
A Public-Private Partnership



Washington Families Fund High-Needs Family Profile

The Washington Families Fund is a public-private partnership that seeks to expand the availability of supportive housing by providing stable, long-term funding to agencies with the best models for ending family homelessness and strengthening communities throughout Washington state.

The Washington Families Fund High-Level Service Model is intended for agencies that serve chronically homeless families who are experiencing co-occurring disorders and multiple barriers. This model focuses on permanent supportive housing with intensive wrap-around services. Since 2008, Washington Families Fund programs have served 69 High-Needs Families—composed of 78 adults and 105 children. The profile below represents the average High-Needs Family served by the Fund and is based on data collected through baseline assessments of 57 families—composed of 66 adults, 88 children, and an additional 35 children living away from the household—over one year.

- The head of household is female, 33 years old, and single.
- She has two to three children, including at least one child living away and an open Child Protective Services (CPS) plan.
- She has been homeless 10 times in her lifetime and has been “doubled up” living with others 16 times in her lifetime.
- She has experienced a high incidence of trauma, most likely physical or sexual violence.
- She has one or more indicators of mental health conditions, including anxiety, moderate or severe depression and impaired mental health functioning.
- She has received treatment for substance abuse.
- She may have a criminal history, including a felony conviction and time spent in jail or prison.
- She is not currently employed and reports a disabling condition that prevents her from working.
- The family’s main source of income is state welfare benefits. Most families are in debt.

85 percent of High-Needs Families have three or more barriers to obtaining housing and services, including:

Substantial histories of homelessness and residential instability:

- Average number of times homeless in lifetime: 10
- Average number of times doubled up in lifetime: 16

Significant rates of trauma, health issues, and substance abuse:

- Experienced physical or sexual violence: 93%
- Mental health condition: 70%
- Chronic or ongoing medical problem: 63%
- Received substance abuse treatment: 63%

High occurrences of child separation and CPS involvement:

- At least one child living apart: 42%
- Open CPS plan: 25%

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