

Representatives from  
Seattle University at  
HHAD; I'm second  
from left along with  
Graham Pruss, Liz  
Fenn and Hannah  
Hunthausen. Photo by  
Catherine Hinrichsen.



# Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day 2014

Olympia, WA

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#HHAD2014

# About HHAD

- Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day is one of the biggest annual advocacy events in Washington.
- On January 28, 2014, **more than 600 people** migrated to the capitol building in Olympia to advocate for affordable housing.



Watch this recap video  
of HHAD 2013! (Produced  
by Firesteel.)



# My HHAD

- I attended HHAD for the first time this year (2014) as part of Seattle University's Project on Family Homelessness.
- Although it was my first time attending, I had no problems getting involved in all of the activities throughout the day. I participated in advocacy workshops and meetings with legislatures, and spoke with representatives from many other organizations around the state who are working to end homelessness.
- I had a really meaningful day, and met a lot of people unified in this cause.

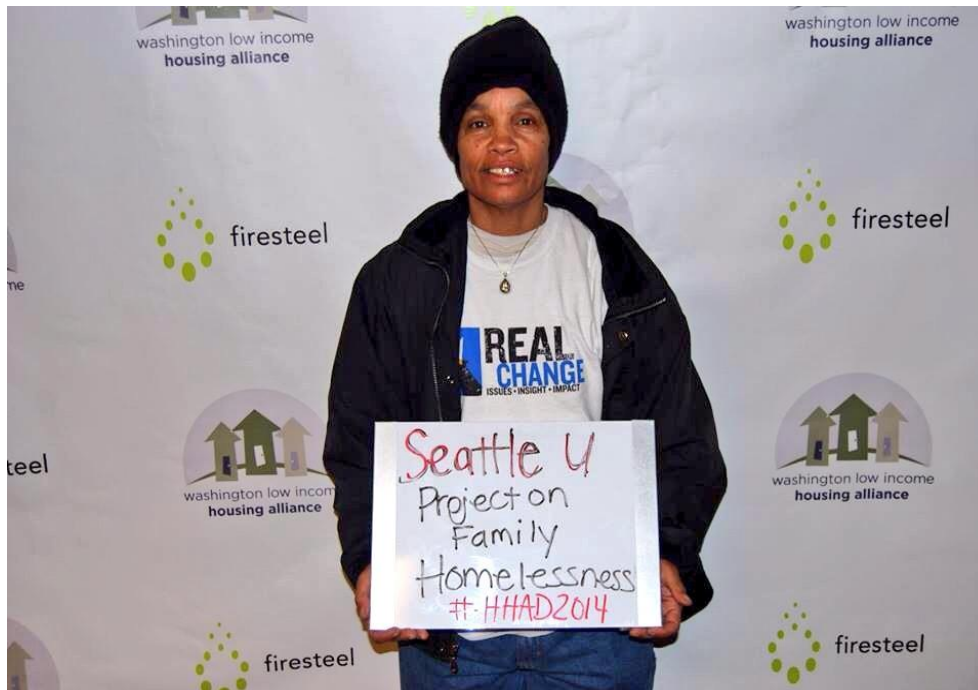


My Seattle University colleague, Graham Pruss, right, and me.

# Why Should We Care?

(As stated by the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance)

Everyone should have the opportunity to live in a safe, healthy, affordable home.



Real Change vendor of the year, Sharon Jones, attends HHAD 2014 to advocate for affordable housing.

- It should be possible for working people to afford a home and still have enough left over for the basics like groceries, gas and childcare.
- Children deserve a chance to succeed in school and in life, which all begins with their families being able to afford a decent place to live.
- It's better for society, the environment, and families if people can afford to live close to where they work.



# Who Should Attend HHAD?

Anyone who believes everyone deserves a safe place to call home!



## Housing & Homelessness Advocacy Day

Advocates at HHAD 2014. Images courtesy of Washington Low Income Housing Alliance.

- HHAD is for advocates, those personally affected by homelessness, people who live in communities with homeless individuals, people of faith, people in the social services sector, people who care, people who want to make a difference.... anyone can attend HHAD!
- HHAD is about advocating for the human right that is housing. Homelessness affects us all!

# Morning Call to Action

- At HHAD, the most important thing you can do is talk with a legislator as they work on debating a variety of bills that affect people in our communities.
- Before sending people off to talk with legislators, HHAD kicks off with a morning call to action, where personal stories of the struggles of homelessness are shared in order to ignite purpose in the hearts of all those sitting in the room.



Advocates at the Morning Call to Action, HHAD 2014. Photo courtesy of Washington Low Income Housing Alliance.

# Advocacy Workshops



Here, I stand with Graham Pruss of Seattle U and long-time advocate and lecturer **Nancy Amidei**, who led an "Advocacy 101" workshop at HHAD 2014. We were practicing her folder trick-- with our advocacy messages facing out for all to see.

- After the morning call to action, advocates can attend workshops to better prepare for talking with legislators about bills that affect those facing homelessness.

Photo courtesy of Catherine Hinrichsen.



# Advocacy Workshops

- At the workshops, advocates learn about pertinent bills, strategies for speaking with legislators, and key talking points to utilize.
- At HHAD 2014, I attended workshops on advocacy both online and in person. There were many different workshops to choose from.



Here, I stand with Graham Pruss of Seattle U and **Joaquin Uy**, who led a social media for advocacy workshop at HHAD 2014 as a staff member of the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance. Photo by Catherine Hinrichsen.



# Rally For Homes

- Another important part of HHAD is the Rally for Homes on the steps of the capitol building.
- This rally gives advocates a chance to look around and see that they are not alone in caring about housing. The capitol steps are cloaked in a sea of red, as all advocates at HHAD are given a red scarf. The image that results is incredible and powerful.



Advocates gather on the capitol steps for the Rally for Homes, HHAD 2014. Photo by Haley Jo Lewis.

# Rally For Homes

A sea of red on the capitol steps during the Rally For Homes, HHAD 2014. Nearly every district was represented, and more than 600 advocates attended.



Photo by Haley Jo Lewis.

# Meeting with Legislators

- Meeting with influential people is one of the best parts of HHAD. Getting to have your voice heard by the people that have the power to make a real difference is such a great experience!
- Meeting with legislators is important, and it is also good for people like **Senator David Frockt** and **Representative June Robinson** to see all the people on HHAD who care about housing issues.



Here, Senator Frockt and Representative Robinson stand at the Rally for Homes at HHAD 2014. Both were speakers during the rally. Photo courtesy of Washington Low Income Housing Alliance.



# Meeting with Legislators

On the way to a meeting with a legislator, our group ran into **Governor Jay Inslee**.

Here he is amongst advocates at HHAD 2014, telling us about a boy's personal story of homelessness that had recently touched him. It was really empowering to hear the governor speak on this issue, especially on a day like HHAD.

Photos courtesy of Catherine Hinrichsen.



**Speaker of the House Frank Chopp** listened to our plea for change, and shared stories with us on his work to end homelessness. He is one of the most influential people in Washington State working on this issue, and it was a great opportunity for us to have the chance to speak with him.

# Get Involved in HHAD!



- Our society is hurting. Homelessness affects our communities and those who live in it, and is an unjust economic crisis that grows worse every passing day.
- By participating in Housing and Homelessness Advocacy Day either physically or virtually, you are letting your government officials know that it is time to make changes in the way our people are treated.
- No one should be un-sheltered, and **you can be the voice that makes sure that change is made** by participating in HHAD!

Advocates  
on HHAD  
2014. Image  
courtesy of  
Washington  
Low Income  
Housing  
Alliance.

# Can't Attend? Get Online!

- You can still be a part of HHAD! With [social media](#) it is now possible to participate in advocacy on HHAD (and every other day!) from your computer.
- Using hashtags on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook, people are able to participate in conversations at #HHAD2014.
- You can also use social media to educate your existing networks on homelessness advocacy year round!
- Like and share pages that advocate to end homelessness such as:
  - <https://www.facebook.com/WLIHA>
  - <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Housing-Development-Consortium/380722458612595>



A Seattle University student shows her support for HHAD on the Seattle University's Project on Family Homelessness Instagram page on HHAD 2014.



# What You Can Do Right Now

- If there's one thing I learned at HHAD 2014, it's that it's so easy to get involved. Make your voice heard!
- Find out when important legislation is being passed. **Vote!** Contact your legislators via phone, email, snail mail, or social media! [Become a Registered Voter of Washington Here!](#)
- Join Firesteel! A blog to stay involved and informed on important legislation being made to end homelessness. [Click here!](#)
- Sign up for Action Alerts to stay involved through the Washington Low Income Housing Alliance. [Click here!](#)

