HELPING HOMELESS STUDENTS SUCCEED

This year community members joined with Project Cool for Back to School to support 1,417 students experiencing homelessness, by collecting and purchasing school supplies to fill a cardboard box. Through Project Cool, many volunteers, teachers, parents, and students need to choose and connect with hundreds of families. We sent 235 pre-K students, 671 girls and boys from kindergarten through 8th grade, and 575 middle and high school students off for their first day of school with the supplies they needed to fit in and learn.

Volunteers helped students and teachers register, vote, and have a say about public policies and budgets that affect their lives. We are deeply grateful to the following sponsors for their generosity:

Our collective work happens because coalition members and supporters take action all year: speaking up in Olympia and at city hall, helping people register, vote, and have a say about public policies and budgets that affect their lives. We are deeply grateful to the following sponsors for their generosity:

THANK YOU!
Thanks to all who fuel our advocacy, education, and organizing work-year-round—make up our independent voice well informed and strong! This year, in addition to helping voters register in time for the Presidential election, we told eligible voters about how Sound Transit 3 would expand mass transit as well as create affordable housing at light rail stations.

We work to make sure that every eligible voter can exercise this fundamental right, regardless of where they live. At night or at home, you can get to a ballot drop box:

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## Table 1: Summary of January 29, 2016 One Night Count of people homeless in King County, WA

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Shelter Type</th>
<th>Total Count 2016</th>
<th>% Increase 2015-2016</th>
<th>Housing Status Count</th>
<th>Total Count 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>4,505</td>
<td>19%</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3,772</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional Housing</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>828</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelter</td>
<td>1,188</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,042</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unsheltered</td>
<td>2,275</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Single males</td>
<td>1,783</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheltered</td>
<td>2,275</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Single females</td>
<td>621</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Couples with children</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>2,004</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Homeless Veterans</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Transitional</td>
<td>1,042</td>
<td>20%</td>
<td>Unaccompanied Minors</td>
<td>2,004</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheltered</td>
<td>962</td>
<td>6%</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,042</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Key Findings:

- **Increase in People Without Homes**: The one-night count in January 2016 revealed an increase of 19% compared to the previous year. This increase is significant and highlights the ongoing challenge of homelessness in the region.

- **Increase in Unsheltered and Sheltered Homeless**: The number of people counted as unsheltered increased by 20%, and those in shelters increased by 6%, indicating a growing need for shelter and support services.

- **Homelessness Persistence**: For the fourth consecutive year, the count showed that more than 75% of the total increase reflected people found in areas we have historically counted.

- **Counting Improvement**: The One Night Count is a unique community organizing project grounded in the daily and nightly work of our members. We have improved our methods to more accurately capture and compare the number of people experiencing homelessness.

- **Community Engagement**: We surveyed social workers, outreach workers, and clinicians who specialize in working with people who have serious and persistent mental health issues, serious health problems, or behavioral health disorders. These staff members are well-equipped to recognize the signs of homelessness.

- **Data Quality**: Our count is designed to capture the most accurate and comprehensive data possible to understand the nature and scope of the problem.

- **Community Organizing**: We draw on the knowledge and experience of our members to identify areas with a high need for services and to develop effective outreach and care strategies.

- **Focus on Vulnerable Groups**: The count includes the needs of vulnerable groups such as youth and veterans, as well as families with children.

- **Data Analysis**: We provide detailed tables and figures to help stakeholders understand the trends and make informed decisions about resources and interventions.