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## What We Do

**Washington Youth & Families Fund (WYFF):** Created by the Washington State Legislature in 2004, this public-private partnership comprises state public dollars, which Building Changes leverages with matching private dollars. WYFF funds services for homeless youth and families statewide, such as case management, housing-related expenses and transportation assistance. Building Changes provides grantees with technical assistance and evaluation to improve the effectiveness of those services.

**Schoolhouse Washington** seeks to improve housing stability and advance educational success for Washington's nearly 40,000 students who experience homelessness. Through this partnership, we help local communities better serve students experiencing homelessness by fostering collaboration between schools, housing nonprofits and other community organizations working to combat homelessness. We develop and advocate for effective practices and policies statewide.

**Family Homelessness Initiative:** Building Changes leads the Family Homelessness Initiative in King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. The 2009-2020 Initiative is strengthening the ability of local government and nonprofits to deliver a high-performing, data-driven homeless response system that will help families find housing more quickly.

## About Us

Building Changes is a nonprofit that tests new approaches and advocates for more effective use of public funds to address youth and family homelessness in Washington state. We pull together government, nonprofits and school districts to strengthen our state's response to homelessness.

## Our Expertise

- Grantmaking
- Technical Assistance & Capacity Building
- Measurement, Learning & Evaluation
- Policy & Advocacy

### 2018 Policy Priorities

Building Changes believes everyone in Washington can be stably housed. We support policies that will help children, youth, and families leave homelessness behind.

- Create affordable homes by investing at least \$106 M in the Housing Trust Fund.
- Ban discrimination based on a renter's source of income (HB 1633 or SB 5407).
- Secure and increase funding for programs that prevent and end homelessness (HB 1570).
- Build a continuum of homelessness prevention and support through the Department of Children, Youth, and Families.
- Improve data collection on youth homelessness (HB 1630).
- Support efforts to strengthen how systems respond to youth and families experiencing homelessness.