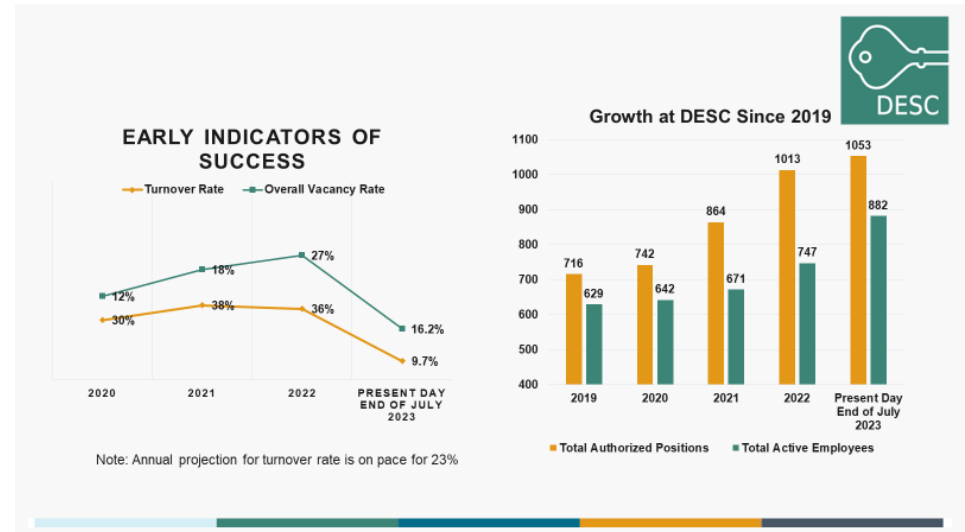


## DESC & SEIU Report on Workforce Wages

- Last year, DESC management and SEIU 1199NW represented employees embarked on joint advocacy journey to stabilize our work force.
- Thanks in large part to support from Council Member Mosqueda, the City Office of Housing, and the Mayor’s team, we are happy to report **significant progress has been made** in our ability to hire and retain workers, and in ensuring we’re working towards a wage that provides our workers the ability to live in the city they are serving without facing rent burden.



**There is still work to be done! We must maintain these improvements through accurate cost of living adjustments in all contracts moving forward. And we must acknowledge that this work is not yet completed.**

**We ask for your support in the following ways:**

- 1) Ensure funds needed to pass COLAs onto contracts administered by KCRHA are in the final city budget!**
  - CoC funding is a key component of DESC's permanent supportive housing financing. Seattle HSD has been providing inflationary adjustments on these contracts for several years.
  - Seattle's 2023 budget states that beginning in 2024, KCRHA will be responsible for inflationary adjustments for these grants.
  - It is imperative that we continue to receive increases on these contracts to keep up with rising costs.
- 2) Continue to invest in work force!**
  - Currently, to afford a studio apartment in the city of Seattle and not be rent-burdened, and individual must earn a minimum of \$81,160 annually. While our we’ve made significant progress towards this with a new wage floor of \$56,500, we are still significantly behind where we need to be.