Fair Chance Housing

May 23, 2017



The Issue

- Over the last two decades, there has been a rise in the use of criminal background checks to screen prospective tenants.
- Increased number of landlords with rental advertisements that indicate "no felons" or "clean record required".
- Approximately 30% (173,714) of Seattle residents over the age of 18 have an arrest or conviction record and 7%, or 43,428 people, have a felony record.
- Each year, an average of 1,400 women and men return home to King County once released from the Washington State Department of Corrections.

Barriers to Housing

Family Reunification

Problem: Nearly half of all children in the U.S. have one parent with a criminal record.

Addressing homelessness

Problem: 1 in 5 people who leave prison become homeless soon thereafter.

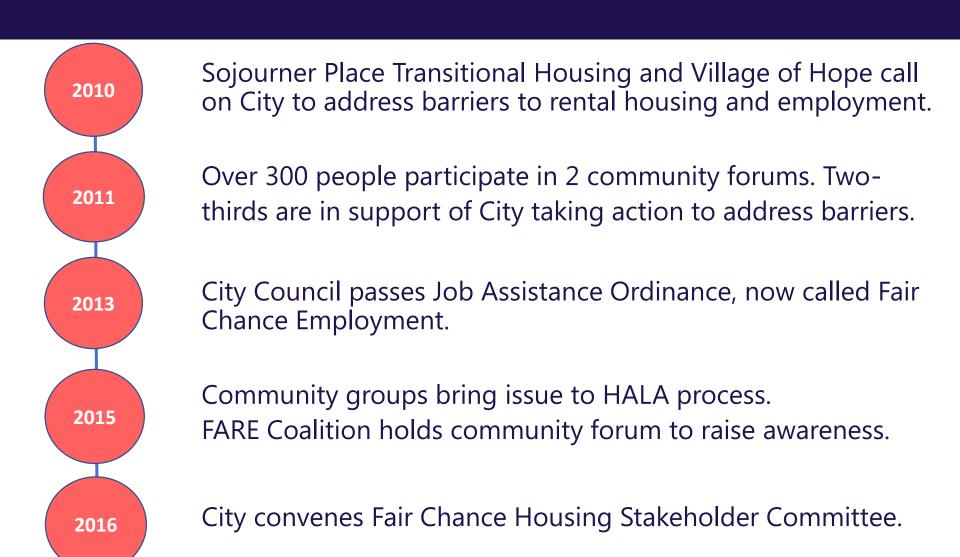
Racial equity

Problem: Racial disparities in the criminal justice system and racial bias in tenant selection lead to compounded impacts for communities of color.

Public safety

Problem: Housing instability leads to increased recidivism.

Community-Driven Call to Action



Fair Chance Housing Committee

Hana Aličić, Tenant's Union

Marcel Baugh, Seattle Human Rights Commission

Derrick Belgarde, Chief Seattle Club

Rod Brandon, Seattle Housing Authority

Cameron Carl, Seattle Goodwill

Augustine Cita, Urban League of Metropolitan Seattle

Eric Ellman, Consumer Data Industry Association

Mahnaz Eshetu, Refugee Women's Alliance

Sean Flynn, Rental Housing Association of Washington

Andrew Kashyap, Racial Disparity Project

Marcenia Milligan

Joe Puckett, Washington Multifamily Housing Association

Sue Selman, Bellwether Housing

Nick Straley, Columbia Legal Services

Hilary Young, Pioneer Human Services

Kira Zylstra, AllHome

Fair Chance Housing Committee

Meeting 1. January 2016

Overview. What is your current experience with criminal record screening?

Meeting 2. August 2016

Racial equity and Ban the Box disparity study

Meeting 3. September 2016

Building a legislative framework. What should be included?

Meeting 4. October 2016

Building a legislative framework. What should be included? (continued discussion)

Meeting 5. December 2016

OCR shared draft proposal for feedback/response.

Meeting 6. January 2017

OCR shared updated draft proposal for feedback/response.

Community Voices