

Geographic Distribution

Describe below **how the assistance will be distributed throughout the geographic area** and how this geographic distribution is consistent with the needs of low-income families.

Assistance is distributed in a variety of ways for us to meet the needs and diversity of our families.

We send information to our families through mailings on a quarterly basis. Our newsletter is mailed to all Samish households regardless of where they live, and our webpage is available to anyone with access to the internet.

For our Native Elders, developing community relationships with agencies that have Tribal Outreach and Assistance has been and continues to be critical in providing information and assistance to this population. This one on one approach has been effective in helping our elders understand the services we provide and how such services can be effective for them.

We provide services in ten (10) counties throughout Western Washington Clallam, Island, King, Kitsap, Pierce, San Juan, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom.

We have developed partnerships within our 10-county service area, explaining to other providers who we serve and how to contact us for information regarding the various housing services offered.

We are also a part of Skagit, Island and Whatcom Counties Coordinated Entry System- a system designed for all populations that aligns the Single Adult, Family, and Youth into a seamless, collaborative, county-wide platform for housing and service delivery to homeless households. Our focus is on Native households.

The main objectives of this system are to:

- Reduce the length of time a family is homeless and permanently house them as quickly as possible, using Rapid Re-housing and linkages to supportive services.
- Build upon existing community-based infrastructures to serve homeless families, leverage resources, and provide more targeted and cost-effective interventions.

Because of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and our lack of ability to see our clients face to face, it is our goal in 2021 to become ambassadors in using technology to work with our families to help them reach their housing goals. We also plan on becoming a part of the Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) in San Juan County. This will be another resource in helping us identify families in those areas that could benefit from our program.