

COCOON HOUSE

Breaking The Cycle of Homelessness

IMPACT REPORT

W I N T E R • F E B R U A R Y 2 0 2 0



JOURNEYS at COCOON HOUSE

Since our founding in 1991, Cocoon House has worked to meet the needs of homeless young people in Snohomish County. Over the years, these needs have grown and evolved, but our goal has remained the same - to stay as responsive as possible to our community so that youth and their families in crisis have the supports they need to thrive.

Snohomish County has long experienced a lack of housing programs for young adults, and we designed The HUB - our new multiuse headquarters - with these challenges in mind. Years in development, Cocoon House now celebrates the launch of Journeys, our permanent supportive housing program for young

adults ages 18-24. With 20 units of new housing on The HUB's third floor, Journeys has nearly doubled Snohomish County's ability to help meet the affordable housing needs of homeless young adults, as well as provide a next step for teens who need more support but have aged out of our under 18 housing.

During our first month of welcoming new tenants, we are already seeing a community develop. Tenants are meeting with case managers to work on a variety of goals - from employment, to sobriety, to navigating legal needs. Tenants have participated in weekly resident meetings and have enjoyed community meals that are helping to build essential peer support networks.

Instead of focusing on survival, tenants are now able to explore personal interests and hobbies. We know the program is making an impact when we see residents like Ivy enjoy time in one of the neighborhood-style pods, communal spaces for lounging, cooking, and connecting. She is now spending free time creating art and experimenting with new mediums and techniques.

When the time comes for residents to exit the program, they will leave with a positive rental history and the financial resources they need to successfully sign a new lease. Tenants can sign up for a rental savings account which can be used for renting their next apartment. This will drastically remove barriers and obstacles young adults face when trying to access market rate rental units, and enable them to continue to benefit from housing and financial stability.

Our new Journeys program is a milestone in the growth of Cocoon House, and we are so grateful to our generous community of supporters who helped bring this large vision to reality. We look forward to many resident successes in the new year!



Our first tenant, who had been couch surfing since turning 18, held his new keys and looked at his door. He said "this is my door," and breathed a sigh of relief, realizing he had achieved stability. After all of the dreaming and hard work it took to launch Journeys, this was a truly special moment when it all came together.

- Sarah, Director of Programs - Housing



CEO Update

Dear Friends,

As we enter into a new decade, I'm amazed when I look back on how far we've come as an agency! For Cocoon House, 2019 was a year that will be remembered as a time when the spirit of community truly mattered, and when a common vision for the success of young people was held far and wide. It was a year filled with unique challenges, new opportunities into previously uncharted areas of service, and a real commitment to elevate the voices of the young people and families we serve. At every step of the way, staff and youth were met with partnership and support from a deeply committed community.

We are humbled by the generosity that individuals, corporations, foundations, civic leaders, and others show toward Cocoon House's mission. One example of passion and intentional leadership in supporting efforts to break the cycle of youth homelessness is reflected in our collaboration with Starbucks.

Over the past few years, our relationship with Starbucks has blossomed. In addition to financial support and product donations that help ensure our programs are sustainable and successful, Starbucks continues to make strong investments in time and heart. Employee volunteers came together to help us get The HUB ready for our move-in day, coordinated supply and gift drives, provided behind-the-scenes support to help make our annual gala an unforgettable experience, and hosted several employment and barista training events resulting in new job opportunities for young people. In November, for the second year, Starbucks locations across Snohomish County participated in National Homeless Youth Awareness Month to help amplify our mission and draw attention to youth homelessness.

Starbucks is one example, and there are many, many more. This year we celebrated with the Woman's Book Club of Everett as they reached their 125th year as an organized entity. The Woman's Book Club honored Cocoon House by creating a diverse and robust library for the young people we serve.

We are so proud of the collective work of our community. I invite you to learn more about the impact we've made together over the past few months, and to view the link to our annual report. I hope you'll take a moment to reflect on the importance of social and corporate responsibility, and help us celebrate each and every community partner that helps drive success for Cocoon House youth and families!

This new year is the beginning of many new opportunities to come together to support youth and families in our communities. Thank you for being such a valuable part of the Cocoon House mission!

Respectfully,

Joseph Alonzo, CEO
Cocoon House



THURSDAY, MARCH 26, 2020

NOON - 1:30 PM

Edward D. Hansen

Conference Center

EVERETT, WA

Tickets: \$30

Suggested Donation: \$150

RESERVE YOUR SEAT TODAY AT:

WWW.COCOONHOUSE.ORG/BUTTERFLY

RSVP by March 18th to ensure seating!

VIEW OUR
**ANNUAL
REPORT**

HERE:

[www.cocoonhouse.org
/media-publications](http://www.cocoonhouse.org/media-publications)



WE STAND WITH ALL COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN, RELIGIONS,

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

MONTHLY GIVING

A monthly gift allows us to continue the work we do. Your donation makes an impact towards our mission to break the cycle of homelessness.

MATCHING GIFTS

Does your company match gifts? Contact Cocoon House for assistance to see if a matching gift may apply!

FLUTTER TOURS

Come and tour Cocoon House! This one-hour tour will provide you with a general overview of the programs and services offered at Cocoon House.

REQUEST A SPEAKER

Community education is a vital component of our work, and we welcome every opportunity to get the word out about what we do and how we can work together.

HOST A FUNDRAISER

Set up your own Cocoon House fundraising page & share your link with others through e-mail, social media, or any other way you communicate with your friends and family!

LEGACY GIFTS

Gifts of stock and other securities are a popular way to give to charity. Gifts of securities include not only publicly traded stocks, but gifts of mutual funds, Treasury bills & notes, corporate and municipal bonds, and stock in non-publicly held companies.

INVESTOR HIGHLIGHT

Snohomish County Clothing and Textile Advisors

Clothing and Textile Advisors of Snohomish County (CTA) is an organization of women who have a passion for sewing and a desire to support a variety of groups within the local community. "The CTA membership enthusiastically applauds Cocoon House for the services provided to young people of Everett and Snohomish County," said Anne Monge, CTA Member. For many years, CTA would bring hundreds of holiday gift stockings for the youth and families Cocoon House serves. Following a conversation with Cocoon House staff, CTA volunteers learned that their sewing skills would be able to support beyond the holiday season. The women of CTA now support Cocoon House throughout the year by sewing drawstring backpacks, fleece hats, diaper bags, in addition to gift stockings. Cocoon House is thankful for the support of Clothing and Textile Advisors of Snohomish County and its members.



The Assistance League of Everett is a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization whose philanthropic programs promote the well-being and self-esteem of children, teens and adults in Snohomish County. For years, the Assistance League offered the youth of Cocoon House vouchers to us at their Thrift Store. The vouchers allowed youth to obtain items necessary for gaining and maintaining employment, and in some cases, to furnish their first apartment. In 2018, The Assistance League and Cocoon House deepened their partnership by introducing SOS Kits to our collaboration. SOS Kits assist individuals and families who are in a period of housing transition by providing bedding, dishes, pots and pans and other essentials as part of that next step in starting over. We are thankful to collaborate with the Assistance League to better serve our young people and families.

This year, the **Woman's Book Club** in Everett celebrated their 125th birthday. In honor of this momentous occasion, the Woman's Book Club established a library at The HUB at Cocoon House. As their President, Alice Baird, said in 1894: "...we do not mean to let a year go by without doing at least one good thing for our city." They wanted to honor this spirit of engagement, and spent several months searching for the perfect "birthday present" they could give to the community in honor of their club's storied past. They felt that creating a Cocoon House library was the perfect choice to commemorate their rich history, while providing young people with books of many genres to explore and enjoy, and we couldn't be more appreciative.



COCOON HOUSE

3530 Colby Avenue
Everett, WA 98201

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT COCOON HOUSE?

FEBRUARY AND MARCH

Flutter Tour
March 21, 2020

Butterfly Celebration
March 26, 2020



APRIL AND MAY

Flutter Tour
April 18, 2020

Flutter Tour
May 16, 2020

JUNE AND JULY

Celebrating PRIDE
June 2020

**Youth Summer
Programming**
Begins in June

Flutter Tour
June 20, 2020

VISIT WWW.COCOONHOUSE.ORG/EVENTS
TO SEE ALL UPCOMING EVENTS AT COCOON HOUSE!