

EASTSIDE INTERFAITH SOCIAL CONCERNS COUNCIL (EISCC) GENERAL MEETING

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 - Noon-1:30 PM - Virtual

- **Opening Prayer – Rev. Patty Ebner**
- **Introductions – The 35 attendees verbally introduced themselves**
- **Reports –** The following written reports were submitted in lieu of verbal reports to prioritize time for the panel.

EISCC Legislative Report – Jean Harris

- This session of the Washington legislature had many successful bills passed to support our social action agenda. Most recently signed by the governor was SB5096 Capital Gains Tax and HB1297 Funding the Working Families Tax Credit. To see the complete list, check the Faith Action Network website: fan@fanwa.org.
- Currently in D.C., support is needed for HR 1280 - The George Floyd Justice in Policing Act. Write your Congressional Representative and ask for their support on this resolution.
- FAN's annual Spring Summits will be held via Zoom on Sundays, May 23 and June 6 from 2-4 p.m. Please sign up for either to help set next year's FAN legislative agenda.

Eastside Human Services Forum (EHSF) – Tony Copes

- Next EHSF Board Meeting will be held on June 24

- **General Meeting Presentation Topic – Eviction - Panel organized by EISCC Board Member, Elizabeth Maupin, M.Div. The following organizational representatives addressed the services offered by their organizations:**

Eastside Legal Assistance Program (ELAP) - Christopher Lovings

- Serves those whose income is below \$36,000 a year. They provide housing clinics and legal advice. Their lawyers can help people who need to break a lease.

Housing Justice Project – Tram Tran-Larson

- Usually housed in the King County Court House (Seattle or Kent)
- Limited representation and advocacy, can provide legal advice for folks that have received an eviction notice or any harassment or threats from their landlord.
- Serves those already in the eviction process.
- Starting a court-watcher program to ensure that commissioners are held accountable in the way they are interpreting the new laws. Public presence helps with decision process.
- Recruiting volunteers while all sessions are on-line.
- Contact Tram at tramt@kcba.org for information on how to be an observer.

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PRESENTATION NOTES (continued):

King County Eviction Prevention Rental Assistance (EPRAP) – Kimberly Dodd

- Programs are serving landlords and tenants needing financial support
- Phase 1 serves landlords who have at least 5 tenants/properties who are behind in rent (at the current time, 4,000 landlords have applied for assistance)
- Phase 2 serves tenants who can register and will learn quickly if their landlord has already applied on their behalf

King County Eviction Prevention Rental Assistance (EPRAP) – Kimberly Dodd (continued)

- Phase 3 services BIPOC community. EPRAP is seeking to partner with non-profits and churches that can serve as contractors/partners. Interested communities can apply to participate.
- \$40M of available \$140M has already been distributed.

Eastside for All & Eastside Renters in Crisis – Debbie Lacy

- Brings groups together to hear and respond to needs of renters, primarily through advocacy at the local level, working with city/county officials and housing providers. They are also bringing training to low income Eastside renters interested in being advocates for change. Link to Eastside Renters in Crisis: <https://eastsideforall.org/eastside-renters-in-crisis/>. Upcoming event -- **Addressing the Eviction Crisis: Policy Options & Solutions | May 19, 6-7:30pm**. RSVP here: <https://data.transitriders.org/forms/addressing-the-eviction-crisis/>

Seattle King County Coalition on Homelessness - Saleena Salango

- Spoke of the recent slate of mutually reinforcing bills to provide a ramp out of the moratorium to prevent wholesale evictions. SB 5160 (Kuderer) provides right to counsel for tenants facing eviction and requires repayment plans that are reasonable. HB1236 (Macri) only just cause evictions. Expands response time from 20 days to 90 days to allow people time to find new housing. HB1277 (Ormsby) expanded document recording fee provides for rental assistance beyond the immediate crisis period.

Attain Housing - Jesse Perrell

- Stable Home program eligibility:
 - Dependent children, under the age of 18, live in the household at least 50% of the time.
 - The household is renting in or moving into one of the following Washington cities and within King County: Kirkland, Bellevue, Woodinville, Redmond, Sammamish, Issaquah, Duvall, Carnation, Kenmore, or Bothell.

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PRESENTATION NOTES (continued):

Attain Housing (continued):

- The household does not earn more than 80% of King County Area Median Income.
- We try to avoid publishing the \$2K limit and don't specify it anywhere publicly. Currently households can get assistance twice, or have received \$2k of assistance from us, over the course of 3 years.
- Applications can be received via telephone or submitted on line.

Hopelink - Lucy Pyeatt

- Provides rental and financial assistance to all individuals and families who are in the North and East King County service area and have an income at or below 200% federal poverty level or 50% area median income. Also work to connect clients to other relevant programs such as energy assistance, food bank, employment coaches, financial coaches, etc.
- Households are eligible for up to \$3000 (3 months rent limit) in rent or other bills/charges that threaten to destabilize the housing security
- Call the nearest Hopelink Service Center in Shoreline, Kirkland, Redmond, Bellevue or Carnation for appointment information. www.hopelink.org

Muslim Community Resource Center (MCRC) - Nickhath Sheriff

- Has spent \$750,000 on rental assistance.
- Serves the Puget Sound, Eastside and beyond, BIPOC.
- Consider all needs of the communities they serve, including housing in motels when other housing is not available
- Provide medical services via telehealth, medical prescriptions, food, clothing, emotional support and hygiene items
- Provide sufficient rental support to keep people in their homes

Other service providers in attendance at the meeting offered the following information:

- **Sophia Way - Alisa Chatinsky** – spent \$40,000 on rental assistance
- **Issaquah Community Services - Lori Birrell** – can assist with \$600 in rental assistance 2 times a year.
- **Bellevue Life Spring - Laura Delmendo** – full base rent up to 3 months.

Community Announcements

- ✓ Jean Harris – Faith Action Network (FAN) is having their Spring Summit on May 23rd or

June 6th

- ✓ Donna Lurie – NAMI on Eastside – hosting their Youth Summit on May 23rd – Registration required to attend free event
- ✓ Nickhath Sheriff – Vaccination Clinic being held at MAPS on Saturday, May 15 from 10a-1p – ages 16+ and above are welcome – registration helpful but not required
- ✓ See attached flyers for more detail on these and other events

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Housekeeping

- ✓ Reports and Events announced at the General Meeting are to be submitted within 5 days of the monthly meeting to eastsideinterfaith@gmail.com with the following in the subject line: Announcement for Distribution. They will be distributed to the EISCC email distribution list with the two week meeting reminder of the subsequent month's general meeting.
- ✓ The next EISCC General Meeting will be held on June 8th with the topic of Coordinated Entry

Closing Prayer – Steve Roberts

In Service,

Rev. Patty L. Ebner
EISCC Board Secretary

EISCC BOARD MEMBERS 2020-2021—President: Steve Roberts Belpres.; **Past President:** Linda Hillesheim, Unity of Bellevue; **Secretary:** Rev. Patty Ebner, First Congregational Church, Bellevue, **Treasurer:** Warren Marquardson, Church of Latter-Day Saints; **Eastside Human Services Forum Rep.:** Tony Copes, Newport Presbyterian. At Large: Farida Hakim Muslim Community Resource Center (MCRC), Elizabeth Maupin, Spirit of Peace, Rev. Mark Griffith, St Luke's Lutheran

EISCC Mission Statement--Members of Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council (EISCC) believe we are guided by the moving of God's spirit in our community to work together in a spirit of caring and celebration. We honor and respect each other's religious heritages, welcome and pray for each other, and share information about pressing community needs. We provide a forum to educate, advocate, initiate, coordinate, and support through task forces and other means, to work for the common good, and to address human needs and improve the quality of life of the citizens living in the Eastside communities.