

Executive Director's Board Report May 12, 2022

Celebrations



Our Open House was a huge success! We have received so much positive feedback on the format, the food, and the immense work the DRC has accomplished in the past few years to expand after a time of extreme uncertainty and contraction in the larger society. Woo hoo, thank you for helping make this happen! Plus, our youth candidate for the Board was there and wowed everyone she spent time with – yay, Eloise!

Programs Snapshot

As you review our operations stats report for Q1, you'll notice that we opened over 500 ERPP cases between Jan-Mar. It's worth noting that we received over 1,000 notices in this same period, however there are many that either self-resolve with rent paid just a few days late or by other unreported means. Over 250 resolutions were reached using our mediation services and under 100 certificates were issued (allowing landlords to pursue eviction).

Fundraising News

We are so grateful to a new funder, the Pacific Mountain Workforce Development agency in providing us with federal ARPA funds to help us to create a new job within the organization, as part of a program seeking to get more of our community members placed in permanent positions. With these funds, we are able to have the new Facilitation, Contracts and Grants position's costs covered for the first 12 months!



Staffing Updates

Isaid Orozco ddeparts at the end of July in order to attend law school in Seattle and in December Chad Stead plans to step down from his role in order to go back to school for a focus in accounting. That means that we are actively in a hiring process both for a Housing Manager and Resolution Specialist positions. At this time, I have 10 candidates that have made it through the first round of review. Phone interviews will take place Monday, May 16 and in-person interviews will follow shortly thereafter.

Stewardship

Washington State Supreme Court is one of the relationship building areas for Resolution Washington and our very own DRC of Thurston County is grateful to have great ongoing connections with two of our justices, Chief Justice Steven Gonzalez and Justice Debra Stephens. Shared stewardship of these connections – both by staff and by our Board of Directors - works. Here's a note received from Justice Stephens that illustrates this:

"Thank you for your kind note, and please accept my apologies for missing the DRC Open House on April 24th. Unfortunately, both my husband and I fell ill and were out for a week. Happily, we're on the mend and back to work. I continue to be amazed by the work you all are doing, including on the housing justice project – and like you, I really appreciate Dawn Marie and her excellent AOC team! Though I missed the Open House, I won't miss the opportunity to donate to the cause. Please keep me in the loop on future events."

