

TENANTS UNION of Washington State

2023 ANNUAL REPORT





RESILIENT AND RISING TOGETHER

2023

ANNUAL REPORT

Founded in 1977, the TU carries on a proud legacy of work to make concrete improvements in tenants' living conditions and challenge and transform unjust housing policies and practices.

The TU is made up of low-income tenant member leaders across the state of Washington working to build a movement for housing justice. Complex problems like gentrification and displacement, lack of affordable housing, and unsafe or unhealthy housing conditions need creative, multilayered solutions that are grounded in the communities most impacted.

We bring low income renters to the forefront of these struggles by developing our leadership, celebrating the strength of our diversity, and amplifying our voices.

Over the last 46 years, the TU has provided empowerment-based tenant education to thousands of Washington renters, raised up hundreds of powerful tenant leaders and tenant councils, and increased tenant protections at state, county, and city levels. Our staff and board represent the communities we serve and are part of our tenant leadership.



In 2024, we are excited to introduce Terri Anderson, our Policy and Spokane Director, who is serving as our Interim Executive Director.

Terri has been with the TU for over 10 years and her extensive expertise in the field comes from decades of work with the communities we serve, including a long organizing partnership with the Spokane Indian Reservation. Terri's life experiences as a tenant and BIPOC woman drive her passion and commitment to serve those at risk of housing loss and her understanding of the social and institutional barriers in Spokane's housing climate. Through her leadership and legislative advocacy, the TU has developed deep partnerships with local community institutions, grown its capacity to respond to community needs in Eastern Washington, and elevated its strategy for policy change.

TENANTS RISING TOGETHER

THE TENANTS UNION HAS BEEN THE 911 FOR RENTERS.

We have 9 staff serving hundreds of thousands of renters in Washington State, and we continue to build the movement for housing justice by increasing capacity in our membership, staff, and tenant leaders. Your participation is everything!

Join the mailing list and get action alerts on rent stabilization and updates on our work.

Become a Tenants Union member.

We honor and uplift housing as a basic human right. We envision a world where everyone has a home that is a place of sanctuary and joy.

Membership is FREE and members are defined as people who:

- Share the Tenants Union's values and vision for housing justice according to our Principles of Unity;
- Plan to contribute time, money and/or expertise to the work of the Tenants Union; and
- Would like to identify as a member.



IN 2023, THE TENANTS UNION OF WASHINGTON STATE:







- Increased tenant counseling calls on average by 250-300% through the launch of our online intake form. In 2023, we responded to 2,170 hotline calls.
- Provided multilingual education to over 3,000 tenants through over 110 know-your-rights workshops and technical assistance calls with renters.
- Developed the leadership of BIPOC tenant leaders statewide, including an active membership base of over 250 individuals.
- Reached 410,600 individuals through our tenant rights website.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

CAPARAS Consulting City of Renton City of Seattle City of Spokane City of Tacoma **Empire Health Foundation Inatai Foundation** Joanne Alcantara LLC King County Bar Association **King County Legal Foundation of Washington** Right to the City Social Justice Fund **Spokane County** Suguamish Indian Tribe **United Way of Spokane County**

And Individual Donors, who gave a total of over \$33,000!



Housing is a human right.
We are building power for all tenants in Washington State.

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