

a tiny home
for good.

A Tiny Newsletter

Winter 2021



ANDREW LUNETTA
Executive Director

I was meeting a potential supporter at our Bellevue homes on a cold December morning. I was early so I knocked on Eddie's door, a longtime tenant at Bellevue and now board member. He welcomed me in and promptly dove into updates. From medical appointments to insurance paperwork to food access, Eddie had been, unbeknownst

to me, taking care of business. He wrapped up with, "That Josh, he's a God send." Josh, our new Tenant Navigator, has quietly and confidently made himself a key part of Eddie's support system. And, turns out, he's playing the same role for half a dozen of our other tenants.

I arrived to one of our job sites to assist the team with a foundation placement. Jules, our Project Manager, called in the whole crew, Executive Director and all, knowing we'd need all hands on deck. When the concrete arrived, I was pleasantly surprised to find that Jules and James, a longtime tenant and a carpenter on our team, had it completely under control. I just pushed the concrete as directed and smiled knowing I had a team around me capable of bringing a home to fruition.

And then there is this newsletter; The paper you hold in your hands right now. It's the coming-out party, so to speak, for Katie, our newly minted Director of Development. She's already knocking it out of the park sharing tenant stories, updating progress on site, and identifying and pursuing new resources for us.

Ultimately, the growth of our team translates to two things—better service for our existing tenants and faster, higher quality builds for our future tenants. Over the next month we'll be sharing on our social media about our team and the essential role that each member plays. Thanks for following along.

OUR TEAM



**DALE SPICER* AKA
Mr. Dependable**
Grounds Manager



DOLPHUS JOHNSON*
Janitor



JAMES SEVIGNY*
Carpenter



JULES WELLNER
Project Manager



JOSH SEIERSEN
Tenant Navigator



KATIE WEAVER
Director of
Development

*Denotes a tenant of A Tiny Home for Good

MEET RICKY

Ricky just celebrated his 54th birthday.



Ricky lost his home at 18 when his parents died. He worked odd jobs—roofing, siding, plumbing, painting—but struggled with stable employment.

For decades, Ricky alternated between the shelter and living on the street, collecting cans to get by. It wasn't until the winter of 2019, after he fell asleep in a building and got frostbite which resulted in losing three of his toes, when he was ready to accept housing.

But not just any housing.

He was insistent that he be housed by A Tiny Home for Good. He had developed a relationship with Andrew over the years and had seen that the tiny homes were safe, clean, and each dedicated to one tenant.

After some hemming and hawing and waiting for a unit to become available, Ricky moved into

one of our tiny homes late this past summer. We're thrilled to report he's settled right in.

If you're fortunate enough to visit Ricky, you'll note the large drawing table gracing his front window. Since moving in, Ricky has unleashed his creative side and discovered a love for coloring. Guests are given the honor of selecting a piece of art for Ricky to work his magic on with the promise of completing the piece by their next visit.

We like to think that having a place to come home to allows our tenants' true colors to shine.

About a month after moving in, Ricky was visiting the Brady Faith Center. He was mid-conversation with Executive Director Kevin Frank when he suddenly remembered "Oh! I forgot to make my bed!"

A simple, but telling exclamation.

After years of not knowing where he might rest his head at night, Ricky has a bed that's all his own in a space he takes pride in.

The first step to a better life starts with home. It's the foundation upon which everything else can be built.



Ricky with one of his masterpieces



A small sample from Eddie's impressive garden

OUR MISSION

A Tiny Home for Good, Inc. supports those facing homelessness by providing affordable, safe, and dignified homes and fostering strong community partnerships to ensure tenant stability.



Jeanette's kitchen oozes warmth and friendship



Dale, always willing and eager to lend a hand

FROM HOMELESS TO HOPEFUL

Katie, here.

I'd like to ask you to partake in a little thought experiment. What comes to mind when you hear the word homeless? How do you feel when you see a homeless person on the street?

Be honest. There's no one around to judge.

You might think dangerous, lazy, poor, addict. You might feel a complex combination of annoyed, shame, disgust, pity, or hopelessness...like there's nothing you can do to help.

Or, perhaps you are a more kind and noble soul than myself and pass no judgement.

But these are perceptions and feelings that I've wrestled with and re-examined before getting involved in this work. Since meeting Andrew and joining A Tiny Home for Good, I've had the privilege of getting to know our tenants and have been repeatedly humbled by their friendship and generosity.

I've had the honor to sweat alongside Dale while putting up a fence. A harder working or more reliable person I've never known.

I've been gifted squash and cucumbers out of Eddie's thriving garden. A green thumb I can't help but admire.

I've been welcomed at Jeanette's kitchen table and offered refreshments on a hot day. A naturally hospitable person I can stand to learn from.

These are complex, multi-faceted people just like you and me, but who have faced homelessness, for one reason or another. Maybe they lacked the love, comfort, and support of a family we often take for granted. Maybe they suffered from mental illness, or were simply beaten by the odds stacked against them.

Somewhere along the journey they lost their way home. A Tiny Home for Good exists to help these people find their way back to a safe, respectful home and a community who will fight to ensure they are supported in whatever way they need. But, we can't do it without you.

MAKE A DONATION

We appreciate your continued support.

a tiny home for good.

1222 South Avenue
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UNDER CONSTRUCTION



Foundation Placed on Ostrander

Taking advantage of a break in the weather, we were able to get the foundation poured for what will be a fully accessible two-bedroom home on West Ostrander.

Many hands make light work. Thanks to our whole crew plus Jules' brother, Tristan, for helping out!



Green Street Build Wrapping Up

We're into finishes and final detail work on our two-unit Green Street property.

The first floor is fully accessible with a ramp and wider doorways. We anticipate both units will be ready for move-in by the end of February.

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