

Home Trust News

Home Trust of Skagit

www.hometrustedskagit.org

June 1, 2017

Home Trust Attends NWCLT Gathering

Home Trust of Skagit sponsored and took part in the 18th Annual Northwest Community Land Trust (NWCLT) gathering in Winthrop May 15-17.

Home Trust staff joined dozens of representatives with community land trusts from Washington, Oregon, Montana, and California to network and discuss topics like fundraising for long-term support of community land trusts, using data to communicate stories that result in supporting sustained funding, adapting to keep up with ever-changing needs of a community, strengthening partnerships with Habitat for Humanity, legislative advocacy, and working with lenders.

Executive Director Jodi Monroe, who serves on the NWCLT board of directors, said being with other directors gave the group a renewed sense of mission and service that helps entire communities through shared equity. The group also discussed continuing strategies to secure funding through housing models to prudently increase homeownership roles.

“We’re a diverse group committed to



Representatives from community land trusts from the Northwest gathered in Winthrop May 15-17.

assisting families in permanent affordable homeownership,” Monroe said.

Highlights of the workshops Home Trust staff attended included ensuring that volunteers understand that they are appreciated in the advancement of the CLT mission, expressing the importance of how a CLT positively impacts a community and finding the energy to keep going. Speakers also stressed cooperation among those with different political viewpoints to advance the common goal of affordable housing for all.



Executive Director Jodi Monroe stands outside U.S. Rep. David Reichert's office in Washington D.C. Monroe met with lawmakers and their aides to stress the importance of maintaining funding for affordable housing.

Home Trust lobbies for Affordable Housing in Washington D.C.

Executive Director Jodi Monroe visited Washington D.C. May 8-11 to address solutions for affordable housing.

Monroe and more than 100 affordable housing advocates reached out to lawmakers such as U.S. Senators Patty Murray and Maria Cantwell, and U.S. Representatives Suzan DelBene, Dave Reichert, among others.

Monroe worked to convince policymakers to support Housing

and Urban Development funding and to positively impact shared-equity programs, like community land trusts.

“All HUD funding must be preserved,” Monroe said. “That impacts lower-income families to have the ability to buy a home in Skagit County.”

Monroe said she will nominate homeowners as resident ambassadors to advocate for affordable housing.

Channel Cove Spring Clean-Up

Home Trust of Skagit will host a spring clean-up at Channel Cove for all residents from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, June 3. Home Trust will haul away residents' clutter at no charge. Hamburger and hotdogs will be provided. All members are invited to come out. Contact Bill at (360) 428-0014 for more information.

Annual Retreat Date Scheduled

The Home Trust of Skagit board of directors will hold its annual retreat from 4 to 8 p.m., on Thursday, June 15, at the Skagit Transportation Center, in Mount Vernon. All board members are asked to attend. EDASC will facilitate.

Fundraising Gathering Set

Set the date. Home Trust will hold a fundraising event from 6 to 10 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 19, 2017, at Maple Hall, in La Conner. Details will be forthcoming.

Orientation Meetings Set

The next Home Trust orientation meeting will take place at 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 27, at Washington Federal in Mount Vernon. Sign up by calling (360) 428-0014.

Channel Cove Resident Receives United Way Award



Channel Cove resident Echo Arsenau, along with her project peer leaders group, Financial P.E.O.P.L.E. (People Empowering Others by Providing Leadership & Education), received a volunteer of the year award from the United Way, at the organization's LIVE United Rally on April 27 at Swinomish Casino. The award celebrates an individual or organization that represents and reflects a contribution of volunteering, time, effort, and effectiveness. Arsenau and her fellow volunteers assist low-to-moderate income individuals and families to access local financial institutions, bringing stability to the diverse populations of Skagit County.



Home Trust staff and board members and their families supported Habitat for Humanity's Raise the Roof fundraising auction on May 1 at Max Dale's, in Mount Vernon.



Home Trust of Skagit is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization dedicated to helping Skagit County residents earning less than 80 percent of the county area median income purchase their own home. We are located at 612 S. First Street, in Mount Vernon. Mailing address is P.O. Box 2444, Mount Vernon, WA 98273. Contact Executive Director Jodi Monroe or Community Outreach Coordinator Bill Craig at (360) 428-0014, or by e-mailing info@hometrustedofskagit.org, to donate or for more information.