



NEWSLETTER: NOVEMBER 2020

Gratitude

Dear Sujata,

It most certainly is an interesting year! Life changes, almost daily it seems, as we strive to assure the safety and health of the women we serve. While there is a lot of uncertainty, one thing remains constant — our community cares! People are giving what they can to support others. The enduring support from generous donors, philanthropic foundations, and local governments makes us grateful each day.



Our appreciation runs deep — for your support during our hotel stay, cheering us on at our new shelter, [Helen's Place](#), for [nutritious meals](#) delivered daily, and [donations of essential items](#) that continue to pour in. I am reminded that while our work is often difficult, it is also rewarding — a client who is now staying in Helen's Place, cried tears of joy to have her own bed and space to store her personal items. Shelter. Safety. Stability.

I've found that one of the most essential things we need through these tough times are connections to others. The women in shelter become like a family — caring for one another, just as we care for our loved ones.

While we may not be able to spend Thanksgiving with whom we expected, we are all sharing hopes and dreams for a better world. Wishing you that special connection — either near or afar, in-person or online — and a time to feel the love of a caring community.

Happy Thanksgiving! Stay safe, stay healthy.

Alisa Chatinsky
Executive Director



**Denise has a home to call her own...
But that didn't come easy**

Denise had been without a home for three years, before she came to The Sophia Way in January. She was able to rest at the Emergency Shelter and found resources with the help of her case manager at the Day Center.

Denise worked diligently on her own and with her case manager to find housing she could afford. She made phone calls and rode the bus to many appointments. Despite living through the challenges of the pandemic, Denise never gave up. Her persistence paid off, when in late September, her case manager gave her some good news. An apartment had just become available! Denise could not have been happier and is very grateful for a place to call her own. Thanks to the generosity of the community, Denise was able to set up her apartment with towels, blankets, and other household goods.

Help women find a home of their own

Our Shelters & Programs



**Helen's Place (Kirkland)
Emergency Shelter**

- Open 24/7
- 40 single sleeping beds
- Shower and laundry
- Nutritious meals
- Case management
- On-site mental health services



**Sophia's Place (Bellevue)
Day Center**

- Open Wed, Thurs, Sat, Sun; 8 am to 3 pm
- Breakfast and lunch, showers and laundry
- Access to service providers



**Sophia's Place (Bellevue)
Extended-Stay-Shelter**

- Stays for up to six months
- All meals, showers and laundry
- Case management

Upcoming Events



November 17 | 4 to 5 pm

Join us at a virtual meeting to learn about:

- Rising homelessness in our community
- The Sophia Way's mission and programs
- How you can get involved as a meal donor, supporter, and more
- Volunteering opportunities for you and your family and friends

[Sign up](#)



November 19 | 4 to 5 pm

**The Silver Tsunami is here...
our community is not prepared.**

Denise Malm, MSW, Wallingford Senior Center, will share how homelessness is impacting seniors and why the community must support those without a home to find safe housing with support systems in place for them to age with dignity and grace.

[Register](#)

Community Conversations is your space to listen and learn, share and discuss issues that contribute to and impact homelessness.

Help Us Help Women



[Nourish](#)



[Volunteer](#)



[Donate In-kind](#)

New In-person Donation Center

Located at 222 112th NE, Bellevue WA
(The entrance is on the east side of the building facing the 405 freeway)

Donations are accepted every Thursday
from 12 to 3 pm

[Sign up](#) to choose a date and time to
drop-off items. Questions? Email
volunteer@sophiaway.org



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