

Dear Friends,

We honor and recognize Black excellence and the contributions that Black people make every day in our community, culture, and way of life. We celebrate their achievements that create change – past, present, and future. These contributions lift us all and inspire us to do more.

The Sophia Way is dedicated to equity for all. Each day we promote economic empowerment, housing and household stability, resilience, and mental wellness as vital elements to thriving – for our staff, clients, and the community. We believe success is possible with active leadership, engaged community, meaningful teamwork, and bold collaboration. Together, we will engage and help all in the community thrive.

Please join us in celebrating Black excellence – today, tomorrow, and all year! We welcome you to [share](#) what you are doing, reading, and watching in recognition of Black culture, talent, and achievements.

In unity,



Dietra Clayton
Managing Executive Director



Zee Peters
Executive Director
Development & Engagement



Sophia Hernandez
Executive Director
Finance & Operations



Stories of Hope

Mary is enjoying the independence that comes from having her own home again.

Mary lost her house a year ago and came to Helen's Place for shelter. She had limited income (from Supplemental Security Disability Income), which was insufficient to afford market-rate housing. Her case manager helped her apply for a one-bedroom apartment at a senior housing complex that she could afford. She



also received move-in cost support through The Sophia Way's Client Assistance Fund.

Clementine achieved both her goals last month!

Clementine was at Sophia's Place before moving to Holly House (The Sophia Way's transitional housing program). With guidance from her case manager, she worked on her goals to get a driver's license and find a job.

"I am very grateful. I had the most help in the shortest amount of time. My case manager came through for me."

Ravenna could not work due to a disability and needed support finding an affordable apartment. At Sophia's Place, her case manager helped her search and find a place she could call her home.



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Meet Bellevue Mayor Lynne Robinson



Mayor Robinson will share how the City is working with community partners to provide the supportive services and housing options

that are needed for everyone in our community, including the vital services provided by The Sophia Way to support unhoused women on the Eastside. She will also discuss how the City is supporting those living without homes and what the future of housing development might look like for Bellevue.

Your support helps women thrive

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