



Fact Sheet

For over eighty-five years the Church Council of Greater Seattle has been an advocate for compassion, reconciliation, justice, and peace. One of the largest councils of churches in the nation, it provides critical direct services to the needy as well as a strong social witness for positive change.

year founded:	1919
our family of programs:	The Homelessness Project Self-Managed Housing Program The Sharehouse Youth Chaplaincy Program Seattle Ready4Work Friend-to-Friend Seattle Youth Garden Works Sound Youth/AmeriCorps Southwest Mental Health Ministry The Source
volunteers:	Over 1,500
service area:	Seattle and suburban King County
annual budget:	\$2.5 million
major revenue sources:	Over 300 organizations contribute to the total, including governmental entities (35%), foundations (25%), and churches (11%). Individuals (16%) and sales and special events (11%) account for the remainder.
staff members:	36
board members:	34
member congregations:	418 (Seattle and surrounding suburbs)
denominations:	15

solving homelessness

We tackle homelessness for families with children by providing 32 (soon to be 40) transitional housing units from Tukwila to Shoreline. Homeless single moms partner with case managers to find strength through education, job training, counseling, stable childcare, and affordable housing. 89% of families leaving the program move to permanent homes or apartments of their own.

CCGS Initiative: **The Homelessness Project**

We help individuals meet their housing needs and build strong supports for permanent housing solutions. By working with churches and other property owners over 60 homeless individuals learn to live and work together in shared housing arrangements each year.

CCGS Initiative: **Self-Managed Housing Program**

We provide free furniture to about 2,000 formerly homeless families and individuals annually. Because acquiring an apartment or home is only part of a solution to homelessness, our free furniture and household goods give families a leg up on creating a permanent solution to their housing needs. Over 50 partner agencies send participants to this critical program.

CCGS Initiative: **The Sharehouse**

building bright futures for youth

We provide spiritual counseling and support to dozens of high-risk youth aged 13-18 who are in detention and we help these young people transition back into the community. Youths involved in the program become less likely to drop out of school or be caught up in violence or drug and alcohol abuse.

CCGS Initiative: **The Youth Chaplaincy Program**

We work with 18 AmeriCorps volunteers each year, providing critical services in the community, including after-school enrichment, tutoring, and mentoring.

CCGS Initiative: **Sound Youth/AmeriCorps**

We empower over 50 underserved youth each year through garden-based education and employment. Youth who are homeless, abusing drugs, involved in gangs are taught gardening, retail, and teamwork skills. Through these positive activities, youths build self-confidence, connect to housing and job programs, and move toward self-sufficiency and positive community participation.

CCGS Initiative: **Seattle Youth Garden Works**

We help build bright futures for youth who are coming out of incarceration by providing adult mentors, job training, and job placement services. Our work is done

in collaboration with the State of Washington and the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Faith Based Initiatives.

CCGS Initiative: **Seattle Ready4Work**

providing pastoral care

We link over 150 volunteers of all ages annually with lonely residents in nursing homes, assisted living, and retirement communities. Together as friends, the volunteer and resident write letters, go for rides, and enjoy each other's company. The friendships that are built do more than fill time – they make life worth living.

CCGS Initiative: **Friend to Friend**

We work in south and west King County to minister to individuals and families impacted by serious mental illness and to help congregations develop programs to target this need.

CCGS Initiative: **South-West Mental Health Ministry**

Violent crime is an enormous problem in our cities. Whenever a homicide occurs, we gather religious leaders and community members for a service of healing and hope.

CCGS Initiative: **Service of Hope**

bringing religious groups together

For over 20 years we have produced the primary news medium for Seattle's progressive faith community. The Source is sent to thousands of households each month and is recognized as a vital part of the local religious community.

CCGS Initiative: **The Source**

advocating for peace and justice

We build support within the religious community for policies that will bring an end to global injustice and war and build a world of harmony and peace. The Church Council is a cornerstone of the community's peace and justice efforts.

CCGS Initiatives: **Peace and Justice Task Force, Palestinian Concerns Task Force, Interfaith Network of Concern for the People of Iraq, Cuba Friendship Committee, St. Petersburg Sister Church Program, Racial Justice Task Force, Mission, Music & Healing.**