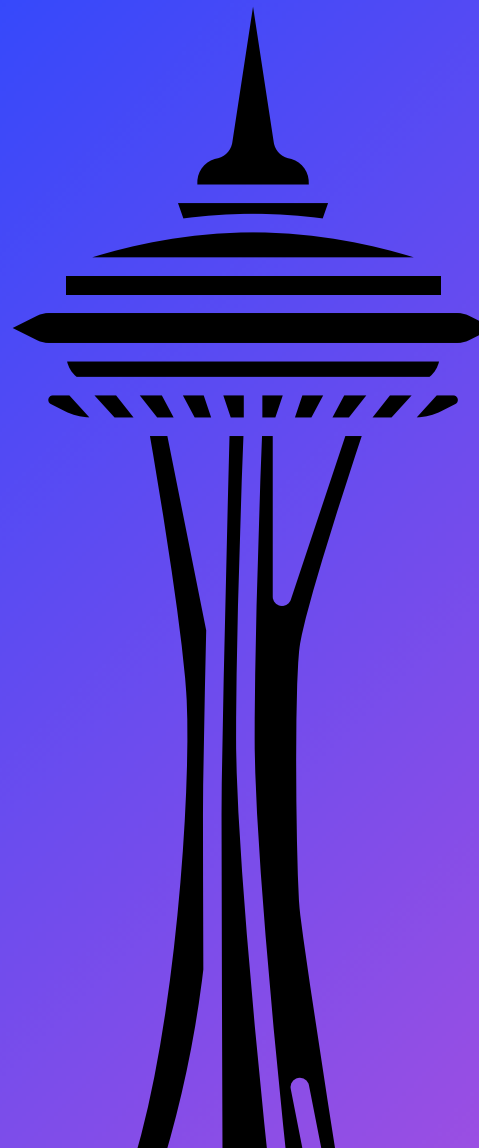
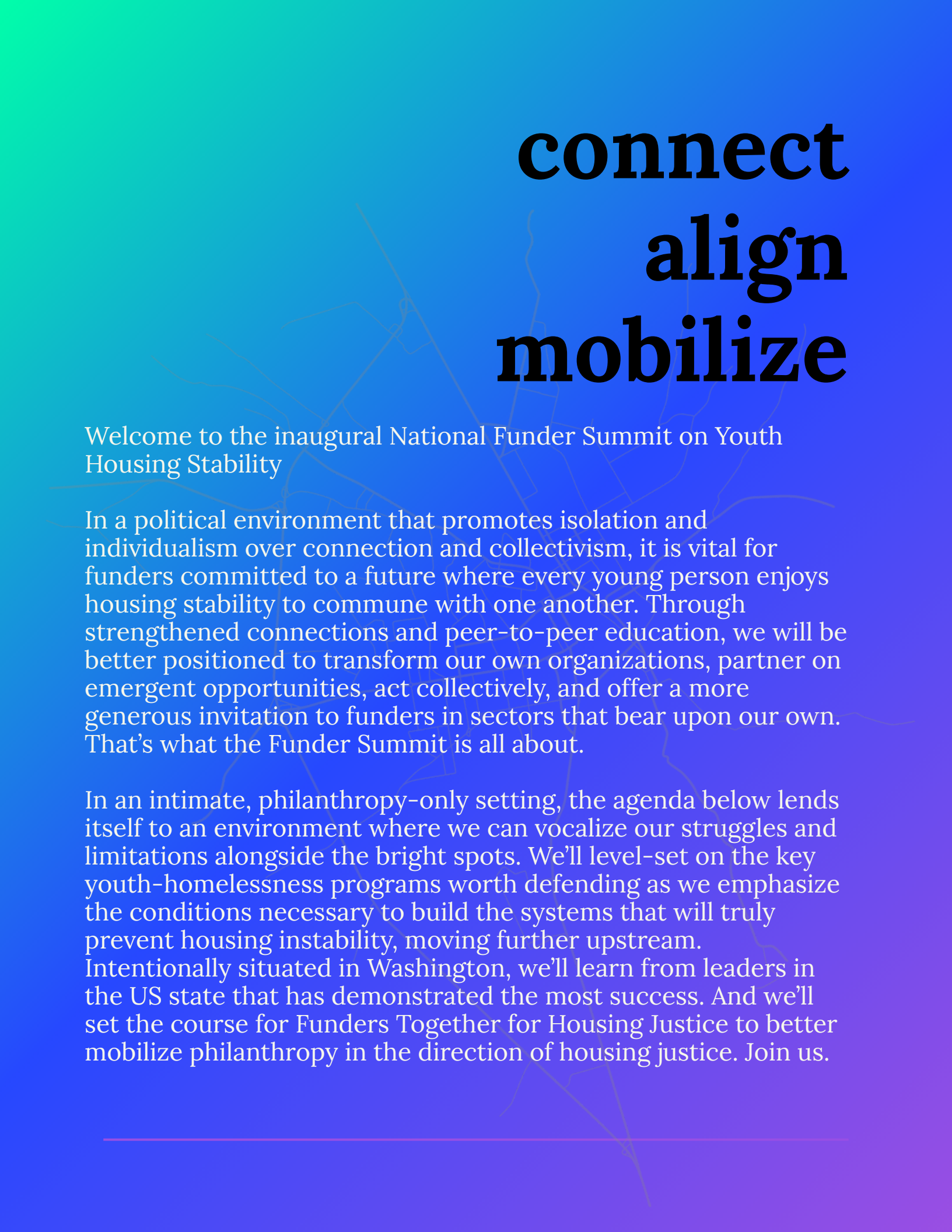


National Funder Summit on Youth Housing Stability

August 4-6, 2026 | Seattle, WA

Funders
Together
FOR HOUSING JUSTICE





connect align mobilize

Welcome to the inaugural National Funder Summit on Youth Housing Stability

In a political environment that promotes isolation and individualism over connection and collectivism, it is vital for funders committed to a future where every young person enjoys housing stability to commune with one another. Through strengthened connections and peer-to-peer education, we will be better positioned to transform our own organizations, partner on emergent opportunities, act collectively, and offer a more generous invitation to funders in sectors that bear upon our own. That's what the Funder Summit is all about.

In an intimate, philanthropy-only setting, the agenda below lends itself to an environment where we can vocalize our struggles and limitations alongside the bright spots. We'll level-set on the key youth-homelessness programs worth defending as we emphasize the conditions necessary to build the systems that will truly prevent housing instability, moving further upstream. Intentionally situated in Washington, we'll learn from leaders in the US state that has demonstrated the most success. And we'll set the course for Funders Together for Housing Justice to better mobilize philanthropy in the direction of housing justice. Join us.

agenda at-a-glance

Tuesday, August 4 | 6-8 pm PT

Welcome Party & Networking Reception

Join us for heavy hors d'oeuvres and refreshments as we greet each other and set the stage for our collective learning and strategizing. The reception will include a semi-structured networking activity: don't skip it!

Wednesday, August 5 | 9-4:30 PT

8-9 am | Registration opens, breakfast served

9-9:30 | Welcome, introductions, framing

9:30-10:15 | Plenary Discussion: Block & Build for Youth Housing Stability

The 2026 landscape of youth homelessness prevention and response under the framework of [Block & Build](#). More information below.

10:30-12:00 | Breakout Discussion Tables

Choose two of four topical discussions inspired by innovations from your peer funders. More information below.

12:00-1:00 | Lunch served onsite (no programming over lunch)

1:00-1:15 | Whatever it Takes: Homelessness Prevention & Diversion

Enjoy this TED-style talk on youth homelessness prevention. More information below.

1:15-2:15 | Youth Housing Justice in 2050

Discussion activity on what it takes to halve youth homelessness in a quarter-century.

2:30-3:45 | Plenary Discussion: A Bigger Tent: Cross-Sector Synthesis for Youth Housing Stability

3:45-4:20 | Tying it All Together: Full-Group Discussion

4:20-4:30 | Wrap-up, adjourn

Dinner on one's own

Thursday, August 6 | 9-11:30 PT

The Story of Washington: How Washingtonians Reduced Youth Homelessness and What You Can Replicate

Convening with Seattle grantee partners | Shuttle provided to offsite location.

program details

opening plenary

Block & Build for Youth Housing Stability

Before we can expand our imagination of what's possible to promote housing stability for youth, we must understand where we are. Our opening plenary will provide an overview of the landscape of federal policies affecting youth experiencing homelessness, national initiatives supported by philanthropy that hold promise, and opportunities to support interventions at the state, regional, and local levels. We will categorize all of the above in the “block and build” framework, a tool that helps us determine the policies whose resistance is still worth funding alongside the systems we must build for the long term to achieve housing justice.



Rachelle A. Matthews
Funders Together for
Housing Justice



Casey Trupin
Raikes Foundation

program details

concurrent roundtables

Employment Isn't Enough: Integrating Housing Supports into Youth Workforce Programs

Completion of educational and workforce training opportunities is a critical pathway to economic mobility and increasing long-term housing stability for young people, yet accessing and completing these opportunities is challenging for youth who are experiencing or at risk of homelessness. To address this challenge, Tipping Point funded several youth workforce/education programs across the San Francisco Bay Area to integrate housing supports into their models while strengthening their connections with local homelessness response systems. This work challenged assumptions that view employment as the primary pathway to housing stability, highlighting instead the importance of embedding housing supports within workforce/education programs so that youth experiencing housing instability can fully participate and succeed.



**Lara
Tannenbaum**
Tipping Point
Community

Youth Housing Stability After the Win: What Philanthropy Must Do Next

Across the country, funders are investing in efforts to prevent youth homelessness, yet a key challenge often emerges after policy victories: implementation. In Los Angeles, community organizing has helped generate hundreds of millions of dollars in new public investments through initiatives like Measure J, supporting housing stability, youth development, and alternatives to incarceration. These investments are beginning to show results—youth arrests and incarceration in Los Angeles County are now at historic lows, high school graduation rates are rising, and youth homelessness in Los Angeles has declined significantly in recent years. In this roundtable, leaders from Liberty Hill Foundation's housing justice and youth justice teams will share how they are working to bridge housing and youth ecosystems by building the movement infrastructure needed to implement these policy wins. Participants will explore how philanthropy can play a catalytic role in aligning coalitions, integrating youth voices into housing policy, and ensuring that community organizations that helped win these victories are also shaping their implementation. The conversation will offer practical lessons for funders seeking to strengthen youth housing stability through cross-sector collaboration and community-centered governance.



Mike Dennis
Liberty Hill
Foundation



Lisa Small
Liberty Hill
Foundation

program details

concurrent roundtables

Investing in Youth Leadership: Lessons learned from long-term, systems-strengthening support

In 2021, the Los Angeles Continuum of Care received a \$15M Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) award, a significant investment in LA's youth rehousing system that brought together youth-serving public and nonprofit partners alongside youth advocates to collaborate on a comprehensive community plan. While the YHDP planning process sparked new collaboration, experience from other recipient communities had shown challenges in continuing to catalyze change through this collaborative beyond the award period. Based on these learnings, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation and Cedars-Sinai came together to leverage the momentum of YHDP and grow the leadership of youth with lived experience through a long-term investment in an infrastructure that could sustain, resulting in youth now as trusted partners to system leaders. Five years and over \$6M in philanthropic investment later, where are we now? What have we learned about the role of youth leadership and collaboration in making meaningful reductions in youth homelessness? Join LA-based funders in discussion as they share an update on the LA Emissary, and invite peer funders – who helped shape this initial investment – to elevate ways to collectively build on the work moving forward.

What If Philanthropy Designed a Housing Voucher for Foster Youth?

This session offers a behind-the-scenes look at the design and launch of a new philanthropic initiative focused on housing stability for young people transitioning out of foster care. In many communities, youth aging out of care face steep barriers to finding—and keeping—a safe, stable place to live, and public programs too often can't meet the full need. Together with partners, we've built a three-year housing stability model that pairs rental assistance with tailored supportive services. It borrows what works from a housing voucher approach, then goes a step further—adding individualized, practical support so young people can sustain housing and build real momentum toward independence.

Now that funding is in place, we're excited to share the design journey—and what we expect this model to make possible. We'll walk through how it came together, the core assumptions behind key choices, and the big questions we're still pressure-testing in real time. We'll cover topics like subsidy levels and duration, supportive service design, landlord engagement, and what it will take to build a path to sustainability beyond philanthropic dollars.



Emma Heffernan
Conrad N Hilton
Foundation



Andrea Ilouljian
Cedars-Sinai



Tracey Stewart
Colorado Health
Foundation



Roweena Naidoo
Mile High United Way

program details

TED-style talk

Whatever it Takes: Homelessness Prevention and Diversion

Whatever it Takes-Youth (WIT-Y), empowered by Orange County United Way, is an innovative, youth-driven program aimed at preventing and ending homelessness for youth and young adults in Orange County, CA. The program provides flexible funding as a one-time intervention to remove barriers to safe, stable housing outside of the homelessness response system. Certified providers are trained in utilizing diversion-style, creative housing conversations with young people, paired with flexible funding when needed, to explore and actualize opportunities to keep young adults housed and/or create new opportunities for housing.



Kristine Peters
Orange County United Way



Becks Heyhoe-Khalil
Orange County United Way

Afternoon Discussion

Youth Housing Justice in 2050

It's 2050. Despite terrifying headwinds, homelessness among youth and young adults has dropped by half nationwide. How did that happen? This is an opportunity to imagine beyond today's constraints. Suspend disbelief for a moment and think boldly about what it would have taken to cut youth homelessness in half.

program details

Afternoon Plenary

A Bigger Tent for a Stronger Movement

Having enjoyed a day assessing the national youth-homelessness landscape and uplifting promising strategies at the state and local levels, we will explore what it takes to move these conversations outside of the confines of housing/homelessness. In conversation with philanthropic leaders who primarily occupy adjacent movements - including youth justice, child welfare, and youth organizing - we will identify the most generous invitation for others to step into the movement for youth housing justice. In turn, we'll point out what we can learn from the progress of other formations to strengthen our own and break down silos toward a unified vision for youth wellbeing.



Maegan Scott
Funders Together for
Housing Justice,
Wayfinding Partners



Angela LoBue
Conrad N. Hilton
Foundation



Laura McCargar
Funders' Collaborative
on Youth Organizing



Michaela Pommells
Youth First Justice
Collaborative

program details

Day 3: Thursday, August 6

The Story of Washington: Lessons from Advocates & Funders on What Made Progress Possible

9:00-11:30 am PT | 2100 24th Ave, S. Seattle, WA 98144

A one-way shuttle will depart from the Sheraton Grand Seattle at 8:30 am

A principal rationale for hosting the Summit in Seattle, Washington State has demonstrated what is possible for philanthropy to work in coordination to support public and nonprofit partners across various systems to dramatically reduce youth homelessness. This is the story of how. Featuring key local partners in conversation with influential WA funders, we will identify the conditions that produced such success, along with their shortcomings, to elevate anything and everything that is replicable elsewhere.

Speakers:

- **Aaron Yared** is Director of Policy & External Affairs at Building Changes, where he works on policy and advocacy strategies to advance equitable housing stability for children, youth, and families in Washington State. Public Building Changes materials describe his role as leading advocacy for programs and policies that support equitable housing and note that, in a prior role as Senior Housing Policy Specialist, he helped increase the Washington Youth and Families Fund to \$5 million.
- **Cacey Hanauer-Sutton** is Executive Director of the Washington State Department of Commerce's Office of Homeless Youth. Commerce announced her as OHY's new executive director in 2025, noting more than 20 years of direct service to youth and young adults experiencing housing and behavioral health challenges, including prior work with Tacoma Housing Authority and the Arlington Drive Youth Campus.
- **Jim Theofelis** is Founder and Executive Director of NorthStar Advocates. Jim began serving young people and families as a Seattle street outreach worker in 1979 and developed a long-standing commitment to "Unconditional Care," rooted in the belief that all children and youth deserve a safe, nurturing environment to grow and thrive. Jim was the founder of the Mockingbird Society and has helped lead numerous youth homelessness efforts, including chairing the Office of Homeless Youth's Advisory Committee.
- **Sheila Babb Anderson** is President, Housing & Homelessness at Campion Advocacy Fund, where she leads advocacy and philanthropy efforts aimed at ending homelessness in Washington State. Sheila brings deep government and public policy experience, including prior service on U.S. Senator Patty Murray's staff, most recently as Deputy State Director.
- **Yvonne-Monique Aviva** is Executive Director of The Mockingbird Society. She was appointed in January 2026. Yvonne-Monique is a multi-disciplinary leader with experience across foster care, homelessness, mental health, and education systems change, having previously worked at Friends of Youth where she had served as Senior Director of Residential and Foster Care Services.
- **Rhea Yo, J.D.**, is Executive Director of Legal Counsel for Youth and Children. Rhea represents children, youth, and caregivers in child welfare, guardianship, custody, education, and civil legal aid matters, and brings prior experience from Legal Advocates for Children and Youth in California and D.C.'s Children's Law Center.

Thank you to our sponsors!

