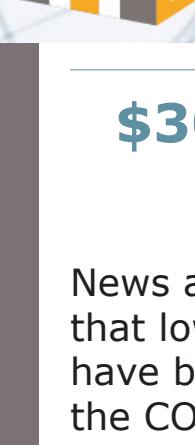


# The Blueprint

August 2020



ImagineHousing  
building eastside communities

## \$300,000 Emergency Rental Assistance Fund Opened in July

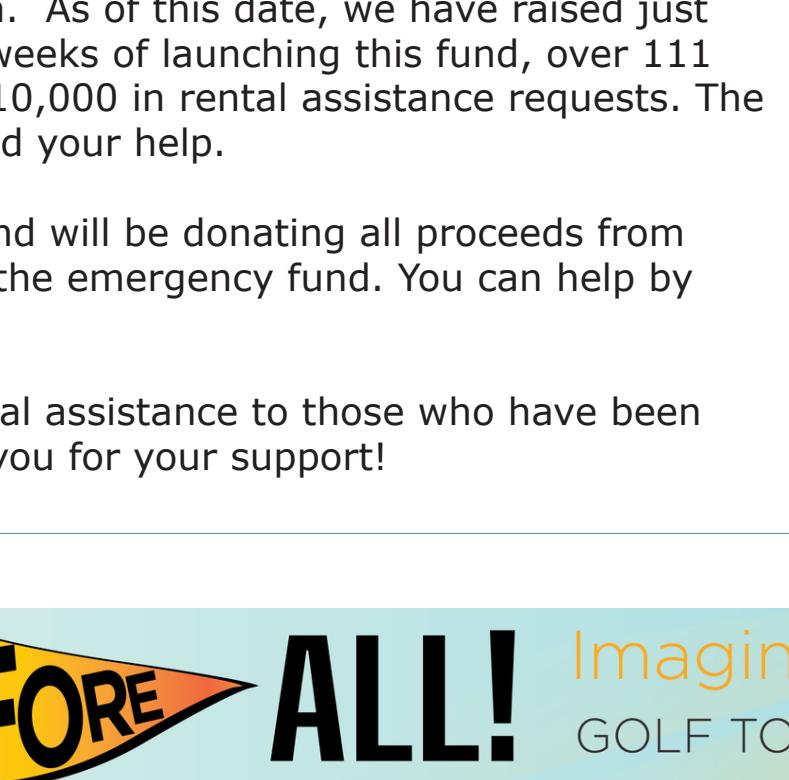
News across the nation shows that low-income communities have been the hardest hit by the COVID-19 virus and the resulting economic slowdown. Imagine Housing households are no exception and need our community's help.

When it became clear in June that our residents were still struggling to find rental assistance through traditional sources, we launched an emergency Rental Assistance

Fund with a goal of raising \$300,000. Our partner, Eastside Assistance Fund is administering the program. As of this date, we have raised just over \$180,000. In the first three weeks of launching this fund, over 111 residents applied totaling over \$110,000 in rental assistance requests. The need is great and we urgently need your help.

We still have \$125,000 to raise, and will be donating all proceeds from our upcoming golf tournament to the emergency fund. You can help by contributing today.

Funds will only be used for rental assistance to those who have been affected by the pandemic. Thank you for your support!



[GIVE NOW](#)

## HOMES FORE ALL! Imagin GOLF TO

**HOMES FORE ALL!** ImagineHousing GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Golf Club at Newcastle  
Monday, August 31  
[ImagineHousing.org/HomesForeAll](http://ImagineHousing.org/HomesForeAll)

**REGISTER NOW**

Support your community and join us this August 31st to for 18 holes of golf at the scenic Golf Club at Newcastle in the first-ever Imagine Housing Golf Tournament.

All proceeds from this event will support the newly created Imagine Housing Emergency Rental Assistance Fund (RAF) for our residents.

Not a golfer? Join us from the comfort of your phone and bid on some exciting virtual auction Fun Packages from August 22nd through the 30th. Registration for the virtual auction is free!

## Partner Spotlight



30  
years of  
helping kids  
thrive

Eastside Baby Corner (EBC) has been a partner of Imagine since 2012. Founded by nurse practitioner Karen Ridlon in 1990, the operation has expanded from volunteers working out of her home, to a nonprofit with three hubs, distributing 110,000 basic need items to families annually.

We had the chance to sit down with Helen Banks Routon, Director of Development and Community Relations, the first staff member hired in 2008. Despite operations evolving over time, she says EBC continues to help families with basic need items through partners – ensuring families are stable, safe, and housed.

"Partnering with a housing provider who offers case management is a great way to stay connected with families over time" she shared, "it maximizes our impact in supporting kids on the Eastside. We recognize the importance of supporting families living in subsidized housing...being able to provide diapers, shoes, or school supplies promotes the well-being of children and reduces stress for the caregiver, ensuring stability."

Last year, Imagine distributed 155 packs of diapers each month through EBC. On average, this saves a family \$1,000 annually. "That savings is significant for low-income families – they can meet their rent, pay utilities, and have transportation to keep their job. We recognize the benefit of this when working with Imagine. If Imagine has housed a family, let's keep them housed! We recognize we are one of the cogs in the system of keeping families stable and truly self-sufficient".

We are so grateful for the continued support EBC has provided to ensure families with children receive the basic needs items they need to maintain stability, and honored to partner with them.

## Imagine Housing Residents Flex Their Green Thumbs

Imagine Housing residents who enjoy flexing their green thumbs are enjoying the warmer weather and the chance to grow both flowers and produce in their own communities.

Grace Place, our senior community on Mercer Island, recently expanded its hugely popular outdoor garden with refreshed planters.

Grace Place's Case Manager, Will, provided an educational class and flowers for the residents on the grand opening of the garden in May. The

residents love tending to this little slice of heaven in their community.

At Velocity, one of our communities in Kirkland with a rooftop garden, residents enjoy cultivating plots of peppers, sunflowers, tomatoes, beans, carrots, and lavender. Several of the residents can the items at the end of the season to give to other residents in the community.

These gardens and outdoor community spaces where residents can safely social distance are an important part of community wellness.



Cassie, Imagine Housing volunteer, picking up EBC supplies

## Our Contact Information

Imagine Housing  
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(425) 576-5190

[www.ImagineHousing.org](http://www.ImagineHousing.org)

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[stability in the HEROES Act!](#)

[Register for FREE Now](#)

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