

A Sample of Quotes from Press Conference with Senator Patty Murray, March 21, 2011, held at LIHI's McDermott Place:

“I am deeply concerned that the House of Representatives has eliminated this program in their budget and we are fighting very hard to try to get the money back in. That’s why we’re here today.” Senator Patty Murray.

“The programs they have here are so wonderful. It’s designed to help you get on your feet and maintain a place where you won’t be homeless no more.... It’s truly a blessing. I get on my knees and pray every night for being here.” Michael, resident.

“This is definitely a place to start getting back on your feet which I’m kind of starting to. I want to thank you Senator for making this possible.” Thomas, resident.

“I became homeless for the first time for a year at the age of 69. My land lady didn’t like the fact that I was sneaking veterans that could be quiet into my apartment at night... so they could just sleep peacefully, take a shower, do whatever you need to do to for 4 or 5 hours to re-civilize yourself before being homeless again.....This is a soldier’s heaven. This is the VA’s version of heaven. Nothing compares to this place. I can’t believe I’m here and I just want to thank you.” Bud, resident

“These guys served our country. They fought for all of us. They shouldn’t be on the streets. We should be doing everything we can to give them the services they need to be in stable housing to get back on their feet because they still have a lot more to give. I know our country is struggling right now with the budget that needs to be balanced, and we need to balance it--but not on the backs of people who have paid the price already. So I’m working very hard back in DC to get this HUD-VASH program back.” Senator Patty Murray

“The One Night Count that just took place in January found 2,442 people sleeping outside. And Veterans are over-represented in the homeless population. President Obama and the VA Secretary have announced a 5 Year Plan to end homelessness among veterans. I think we would all support that. But the way to make that happen is to have housing such as this and to have programs like HUD-VASH vouchers.” Sharon Lee, LIHI Executive Director