DESC 15TH AVENUE W.
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Public Meeting
Sept. 21, 2022
6:30-7:30 p.m.
DESC HISTORY

- Founded in 1979, the Downtown Emergency Service Center (DESC) opened as overnight emergency shelter in Pioneer Square.
TODAY: DESC PROVIDES A VARIETY OF SERVICES FOR ADULTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS ACROSS SEATTLE.
DESC'S APPROACH TO HOUSING

HOUSING FIRST PHILOSOphy

- Housing is a human right
- Once people are housed, they are more likely to access critical services.
- Prioritize those most in need.

DESC

- This is permanent housing; people stay as long as they like.
- Individuals become tenants of our buildings.
  - They pay rent.
  - Sign a legally binding lease.
  - Same Renters Rights as any Seattle renter.
SERVICES FOR TENANTS

- Case management or support services on-site
- Meals and transportation assistance
- Community events or groups on-site
- Accessible building design
- Medical outreach
- Help with chores
TENANTS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

SAFETY ORIENTED:

- Secure entries
- Reception desk staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.
- Visitor check-in

CLIENT EXPECTATIONS:

- "Good Neighbor Policy"
- DESC staff response
- Tenant expectations and lease enforcement
TENANT OUTCOMES

- Those most in need, receive the services they need!
- Better access to medical and behavioural health care.
- Begins to reconnect individuals with the greater community and support networks.
COMMUNITY OUTCOMES

• 105 people will have a place to call home, and a community to thrive in!
• DESC staff help monitor neighborhood activity 24/7, 365 days a year; helping keep our tenants and the greater community safe.
• Residents will patronize local businesses.
• During construction, workers will patronize local businesses.
• Seattle taxpayers save money:
  • 3 days in Harborview = 1 month in King County Jail = 1 year in DESC Housing

SAVING MONEY, SAVING LIVES, SAVING FUTURES
DESC 15th Avenue W: Design Process & Timeline

- **May 2022** –
  - Site identified
  - Architects begin design development
- **September 2022** –
  - DESC applies for capital funding
  - DESC holds first Neighborhood Community Meeting
- **November 2022** –
  - DESC will hold second Neighborhood Community Meeting
  - DESC target for land closing
- **December 2022** – Public funding awards announced
- **March 2023** – Architect submits building permit
- **August 2023** –
  - Building permit issued
  - Construction begins
DESC 15th AVENUE W BUILDING DESIGN

- 105 studio units
- Level 1 spaces:
  - Reception desk
  - Consult rooms
  - Medical office
  - Lounge area
  - Conference rooms
  - Commercial kitchen and dining area

DESC 15th Avenue W building designed by SMR Architects
Volunteers prepare a Hobson Place apartment for its new tenant
THE NORTH STAR

Opened August 2022

Located in the Bitter Lake neighborhood of Seattle.
THANK YOU!

We welcome your questions and feedback, email;

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desc.org/15th-ave-west