

**“Through The Lens Of Domestic Violence: A Look At  
Housing and Homelessness”  
Seattle Central Library, 9/17/10**

**Panel Bio**

**Linda Olsen**

Linda Olsen is the Housing Program Coordinator for the Washington State Coalition Against Domestic Violence (WSCADV). She is currently working on a Domestic Violence Housing First Model pilot project funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Prior to working for the WSCADV, Linda was a Sr. Planner for the City of Seattle’s Human Services Department. Prior to this, she was the Executive Director of the Eastside Domestic Violence Program, a King County domestic violence agency that provides support to domestic violence victims, along with rental assistance, emergency shelter, and transitional and permanent housing assistance.

**Linda Weedman**

Linda Weedman is the Director of Resident Services at the King County Housing Authority. King County Housing Authority owns and manages nearly 9,500 apartments, townhouses and single-family homes affordable for low-income households (excluding areas within the city limits of Seattle and Renton). Housing often includes a variety of on-site social services and other assistance programs. In addition they manage 10,000 Section 8 vouchers for low income households.

**Linda Rasmussen**

Linda Rasmussen is the Associate Director for Homeless Initiatives at the YWCA of Seattle, King County and Snohomish Counties. The YWCA implements various housing and supportive services programs throughout King County, including the Landlord Liaison Project, developed by King County’s Committee to End Homelessness. The Landlord Liaison Project is a partnership among landlords and property managers, participating service providers, and people with barriers to accessing housing. The goal of the Landlord Liaison Project is to successfully house homeless individuals and families who could not otherwise access housing due to rental barriers. Ms. Rasmussen is also a past Executive Director of the Domestic Abuse Women’s Network in South King County (1991 – 1995).

**Ciara Murphy**

Ciara Murphy is the Director of Domestic Violence Program at The Salvation Army. Ciara oversees the Domestic Violence Community Advocacy Program, the enhanced DV shelter (Catherine Booth House) and the transitional housing program (Hickman House). Ciara is also an attorney licensed in the state of Washington.

**Valerie Kendall**

Valerie Kendall is the Program Director at the Downtown Action to Save Housing (DASH). DASH serves households in Bellevue and King County through strategic alliances, public-private partnerships, advocacy, policy influence and fundraising. DASH partners with social service agencies to help those transitioning out of homelessness and also builds and operates homes and apartments serving adults, families, seniors and individuals with disabilities.

**Emily Nolan**

Emily Nolan is the Grantmaking and Evaluation Manager at Building Changes. Building Changes administers the Washington Families Fund and has developed innovative and effective housing and social service programs for chronically ill and disenfranchised people. From creating service-enriched housing for people living with HIV/AIDS, to consulting with social service agencies, housing providers, and government agencies across the country and U.S. territories, Building Changes has also successfully secured homes and services for high-risk families in Washington State.