

## Community Engagement Chat: Connecting with the Unhoused Population

Josh Castle from the Low-Income Housing Institute in Seattle, WA, joined this Engagement Chat to share strategies for connecting with unhoused members of our communities. Josh explained why and how middle neighborhoods are affected by this issue and shared information on *tiny home* solutions being implemented in Seattle plus strategies for building support in the community and maintaining connections with individuals. Sincere gratitude to Josh for joining us for this important conversation! The discussion was deep and the topic complex but here are a few takeaways:

- It is important to develop clear goals for communication
- Sweeps don't work
- Create opportunities to connect and build a support system
- Create a coalition with representatives from different facets of the neighborhood including businesses, local government, residents, nonprofits, churches, schools, and individuals in need of housing
- Build relationships with family and friends who may be able to help share resources and information with unhoused individuals
- Community engagement must be big and broad: use every method to reach members of the community including fliers and neighborhood canvassing, social media campaigns, and broad outreach to businesses, nonprofits, churches, and schools.

[Click here](#) for more information on LIHI's Tiny House Villages.