

Stable housing leads to success in the classroom.

Children learn better when their homes are safe, stable, and healthy.

The **Student and Family Stability Initiative (SFSI)** is a collaborative program led by the King County Housing Authority in partnership with the Highline and Tukwila school districts and the nonprofit organization Neighborhood House. SFSI addresses student and family homelessness by pairing **short-term rental and eviction prevention assistance** with housing case management, financial counseling and employment navigation.

Leveraging KCHA's Moving to Work flexibilities, SFSI was launched in the 2013-14 school year as a promising practice to address family homelessness in Highline Public Schools. In 2017 the program expanded to the Tukwila School District, and SFSI is now available in 32 public schools—21 elementary schools, six middle schools, and five high schools across the two neighboring districts, spanning five cities in south King County.



1,759

students (8.5%) experienced homelessness in the Highline (8%) and Tukwila (12%) school districts in 2024.

SFSI helps families get back on their feet so kids can focus on learning in their classrooms.

OUTCOMES

28

families rehoused in 2024

438+

families rehoused to date

SFSI Program Components

- 🏠 **Qualified families receive short-term rental assistance.** Enrollment is based on a family's likelihood of sustaining housing after the initial assistance.
- 🏠 **Families receive additional financial assistance** as needed for move-in costs or other expenses that would otherwise prevent them from securing or maintaining housing.
- 🏠 **Neighborhood House provides employment navigation services** for parents who are under-employed or who need training. Better jobs mean they're better able to maintain housing.
- 🏠 **Neighborhood House helps residents negotiate with landlords,** draw up budgets, and address other barriers to housing stability.
- 🏠 **The program uses flexible funding sources to help with additional expenses,** such as bus passes, that allow parents to get to work and keep their jobs.