



**White Center  
Community  
Development  
Association**

SOUTHWEST  
**YOUTH & FAMILY  
SERVICES**



**Embargoed until 8 a.m. PST on Thursday, January 22, 2026**

## **Community Roots Housing and White Center Community Development Association Celebrate the Grand Opening of Canopy Apartments and White Center HUB**

New affordable homes and community resource campus bring stability, connection, and opportunity to White Center

**January 22, 2026 (SEATTLE)**—[Community Roots Housing \(Community Roots\)](#) with [White Center Community Development Association \(WCCDA\)](#) today announced the official opening of Canopy Apartments and the White Center HUB, a long-envisioned affordable housing and community services campus rooted in partnership with the local residents.

The development (located at 10821 8th Ave SW Seattle, WA 98146) delivers 76 new affordable homes, including 59 apartments with two to four bedrooms, serving households earning between 30% and 60% of area median income. Twenty-four of the homes are set aside for large families of four or more people. Canopy Apartments responds directly to the region's shortage of deeply affordable, family-sized housing and reflects years of community-led planning and collaboration.

Adjacent to the housing, the two-story White Center HUB opens as a vibrant neighborhood anchor designed around “Hope, Unity, and Belonging.” Operated by the WCCDA, the HUB brings together trusted local organizations offering health, youth, food, and family services. The tenants include Southwest Youth and Family Services, HealthPoint, FEEST Seattle, and the YES! Foundation. The new space allows these organizations to expand their programming through an onsite medical and dental clinic, a coffee shop, recording studio, event hall, commercial kitchen, maker space, playground, and gathering areas designed to bring people together.

“Canopy White Center is an example of what the future of affordable housing can look like,” said Colleen Echohawk, CEO of Community Roots Housing. “When affordable housing is shaped by shared vision, we can truly meet the needs of the community. This project goes above and beyond an affordable place to call home; it’s a place where White Center families can put down roots and access the resources they need to thrive.”

“The White Center HUB and Canopy Apartments are the result of years of White Center community members organizing and forming partnerships. This project is built by and for the people who call White Center home,” said Aaron Garcia, Executive Director of the WCCDA. “We brought affordable housing together with childcare, small business space, and essential services so families can stay rooted, build stability, and help shape what comes next together.”

The project reflects White Center’s long-standing advocacy for development that meets local needs and protects the neighborhood’s cultural fabric amid rising housing costs. King County responded to this need and is a committed partner in bringing the White Center HUB to life, supporting the community’s vision from its earliest stages through long-term investment and

coordination. The County provided early funding to help community leaders plan, organize, and build the foundation for this ambitious development, and later leveraged publicly owned land to make the project possible — transitioning the site from interim family shelter use, to a food bank and public health clinic, and now affordable housing and community space.

“The White Center HUB is a celebration of community leadership and what’s possible when affordable housing is shaped by the people it’s built to serve,” said King County Executive Girmay Zahilay. “King County made early investments, stayed at the table, and brought together housing, climate, and equity resources to help turn a community vision into a permanent home for families and neighbors in White Center. This project shows how affordable housing, rooted in place and culture, strengthens communities and creates lasting stability.”

Community Roots Housing developed the project in close partnership with the White Center Community Development Association, residents, and community stakeholders, ensuring the campus reflects neighborhood priorities and strengths. Southwest Youth and Family Services also played an integral role in the HUB’s creation, helping guide what services it would provide based on community needs and input.

Leasing activity for the building has been exceptionally strong. Applications opened in October 2025 and as of January, 84% of the apartments are occupied with applications or leasing pending on 9 of the 12 remaining units.

On Saturday, January 24, 2026, at 11:30 a.m., the organizations will host an official ribbon-cutting ceremony featuring special guests Congresswoman Pramila Jayapal, King County Executive Girmay Zahilay, and Washington State Director of Commerce Joe Nguyen. A community breakfast will follow on Sunday, January 25, 2026, at 11:30 a.m., welcoming residents, neighbors, and community members to celebrate together.

The official opening of Canopy Apartments follows a significant year for Community Roots, which delivered 311 new affordable apartments and broke ground on an additional 84 new units in 2025. The nonprofit also distributed more than \$250,000 in rent relief to 150 Community Roots Housing households in the region.

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## **ABOUT COMMUNITY ROOTS HOUSING**

Everyone has the right to a quality, affordable home. At Community Roots Housing, this truth drives our work. By embracing community-led development and engaging in deep-rooted partnerships, we’re fostering vibrant, equitable communities where everyone has access to safe, affordable, and welcoming homes. Today, with 44 apartment buildings and over 2,400 residents, we continue our commitment to build community with and for people. Learn more at [communityrootshousing.org](http://communityrootshousing.org).

## **ABOUT WHITE CENTER COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION**

The White Center Community Development Association (WCCDA) is a place-based nonprofit organization in unincorporated King County. The mission of the WCCDA is to envision a community of diverse, empowered, and connected residents coming together as stewards of the land, the

people, and the natural assets of White Center. The WCCDA is working to eradicate poverty and build a vibrant economically diverse community.

#### **ABOUT SOUTHWEST YOUTH AND FAMILY SERVICES**

Southwest Youth & Family Services (SWYFS) is a leading resource for low-income families and youth in southwest King County. Since 1979, SWYFS has continually adapted to the changing landscape of the region while remaining dedicated to offering education, counseling, youth, and family development services within a welcoming environment. For nearly 40 years Southwest Youth and Family Services has been providing critical services in the communities of southwest King County, including southwest Seattle, White Center, South Park, Burien, and SeaTac.

#### **ABOUT HEALTHPOINT**

HealthPoint is a community-based, community-supported, and community-governed network of non-profit health centers dedicated to providing expert, high-quality care to all who need it, regardless of circumstances. Founded in 1971, we believe that the quality of your health care should not depend on how much money you make, what language you speak, or your health status. We believe that everyone deserves great care. For over 50 years, we've continually reinvested in new facilities, expanded services, and recruited expert providers to enhance quality of care. Today, we have 20 locations serving over 100,000 patients. Patients benefit from a coordinated system that includes medical care, dental care, pharmacy, naturopathic medicine, behavioral health care, and social services.

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