While reflecting on the last year, I am reminded of a story about a great warrior of the past. When his army landed on the enemy's beach, they faced a daunting force in front of them, and the soldiers wanted to run away. The leader said to them “Oh my warriors, where would we flee? Behind us is the sea, before us, the enemy. There is no way forward but in our courage and perseverance.”

In 2021, the armies of ACHD battled a war against the COVID-19 pandemic. We opened our doors, we sanitized, we stayed six feet apart, we used our masks, we battled stress, and we made it! We were able to use our knowledge and skills to serve our community, and show our resilience.

The ACHD team has battled 2021 and not only made through, but has emerged with strength, sense of humor, and passion. I am deeply grateful and immensely proud of our staff. I know together, with our courage and perseverance, we can build a bright and shining future for our community.

With hope for a beautiful 2022 for you and your loved ones,

Hamdi Abdulle, Executive Director
EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP

Hamdi Abdulle
Executive Director

Bilan Aden
Associate Director

EVICION PREVENTION & RENTAL ASSISTANCE

Bree Nicolello
Director of Special Projects

Sophia Lopez
Operations Manager

Shirwa Aden
Senior Case Manager

Abukar Yousuf
Data Analyst

Mustafe Abdi
Case Manager

Abdilahi Ainan
Case Manager

Makaila Moeurn
Case Manager

Liban Barre
Case Manager

Fregenet Kebede
Data Analyst

Hafsa Abdulle
Case Manager

Shukri Ugas
Case Manager

HOUSING & SOCIAL SERVICES

Aden Hussein
Chief Housing Manager

Alexandra Dillard
Evictions Case Manager

Asad Abdi
Seniors Program Manager

Ifrah Faisal
Community Outreach Liaison

Yussuf Artan
Evictions Case Manager

Ilhan Ibrahim
Evictions Case Manager

EDUCATION

Ruwayda Abdi
Youth Sports Manager

Lidiya Gebre
Education Programs Manager

Daud Ali
Workforce Development Manager

Ethiopia Alemneh
Youth Mentorship Coordinator

Nafiso Samatar
Youth Mentorship Coordinator

OPERATIONS

Teri Reid
Director of Finance & Operations

Rachel Perlot
Director of Fund Development & Food Access
On September 25, 2021, we received the devastating news that our beloved colleague Liban Barre had been a victim of gun violence.

Liban grew up in the African Diaspora immigrant and refugee community in South King County; he was about to fulfill his dreams of enrolling at Washington State University. He wanted to go into politics, so that he could build a brighter future for his community.

All of us at ACHD mourn Liban's loss. We hope that his family will get the solace and justice they deserve.

"Liban was an outgoing guy, a natural leader. He was always willing to roll up his sleeves and help, always saying yes. He was a passionate organizer and advocate who cared deeply for his community and the world around him." - Asad Abdi
Our Mission:
To provide opportunities for African Diaspora immigrant and refugee communities, families, and individuals in King County to attain health and housing stability, economic development, high-quality education, and access to legal services.

Our Vision:
An informed African immigrant and refugee community that is engaged in the holistic development of their families, communities, and environment.
ACHD spent hundreds of staff hours in 2021 connecting community members with utility bill assistance via their utility providers. In anticipation of the conclusion to the utilities moratorium, staff helped community members navigate complex online portals, followed up on application progress, and advocated for community members to receive financial support. 192 households were connected to over $154,000 of utility relief.

Securing dependable housing is a vital element of ensuring that the African Diaspora community in King County thrives. Staff at ACHD work tirelessly to connect community members with landlords and mitigate any cultural differences that come up. Our housing assistance program is the core of our mission, from which all of our other programs emerge.

Community elders were the very first donors to ACHD - they are always a priority in our work! Our Senior Enrichment Program provides community elders with holistic case management, hot meals, and group exercise classes.

We know that families need their basic needs met in order to thrive. ACHD provides food assistance, wraparound case management, and connection to services for all of our program participants. Our dedicated staff speak 12 languages, and we work to provide culturally- and linguistically-relevant services for everyone who comes through our doors.
ACHD launched our workforce development program to help the African Diaspora community access family-wage careers in high-demand, rapidly-growing industries like aviation, construction, maritime, and green energy. The program includes mock interviews, "dress for success" sessions, and direct connection to hiring managers. In 2021 100% of program participants were hired by a Port-related employer by the end of the program.

Thank You to our Workforce Development Partner:
Our pilot year of the Delridge Farmers Market was a smashing success! The program supports small businesses owned by BIPOC entrepreneurs, gets healthy culturally-relevant food into the hands of food-insecure families in immigrant and refugee communities, and creates a popular community event centered around local food in a food apartheid zone. The market guarantees sales for all farmers by purchasing any leftover produce and distributing it to community elders.

Thank You to our Market Host:

Thank You to our Market Sponsors:
ACHD has worked with King County as a Large Landlord Contract Manager on the Eviction Prevention and Rental Assistance Program since mid-2020. The program helps cover rent costs for tenants experiencing COVID-related hardships. ACHD's program distributed more than $26 million in rent payment assistance in 2021, serving almost 2,000 households throughout King County and preventing countless evictions.

**HOUSEHOLDS SERVED**

- Black/African American/African: 51.1%
- Hispanic: 11.9%
- Asian: 8.5%
- Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander: 5.2%
- Native American: 2.5%

**1,900+ HOUSEHOLDS**

**6,000+ PEOPLE, INCLUDING 3,000+ CHILDREN**

Thank You to our Eviction Prevention Partner:
Our 2021 after-school programming was aimed at cultivating all facets of education. From tutoring to sports to a weekend camping trip, we want to ensure the youth in our community are able to learn and grow into vibrant, healthy lives.

Thank You to our Education Partners:
COVID-19 RESPONSE

By hosting pop-up vaccine clinics and providing culturally-relevant interpretation and education, ACHD helped hundreds of people get vaccinated against COVID-19 in 2021. Vaccine clinics providing first and second doses, boosters, and pediatric doses were a staple at the Delridge Farmers Market and multilingual staff were always on hand to provide interpretation and support.

Thank You to our COVID-19 Response Partners:

- Public Health Seattle & King County
- City of Seattle Fire Department
- BDY’s Eye Medical
2021 was a critical year for community development work at ACHD. We built strategy, increased internal capacity, and moved the needle towards our community's goals of building generational wealth, strengthening small businesses, and creating a high-quality space for elders, children, and community to thrive.

For more information on our community development work, or for details on how you can get involved, email rachel@achdo.org.
2021 By the Numbers

2021 Budget

Income: $8,268,256
Expenses: $2,241,517
Basic Needs Support: $247,133
Rental Assistance Paid: $26,621,180

BASIC NEEDS SUPPORT

Small Business Support: $23,907
Other/Emergency Support: $21,013
Transportation Support: $15,250
Utility Support: $172,958

2021 Staff Members: 25
Languages Spoken by Staff: 12

Total 2021 Rental Assistance: $26,621,180

2021 in Numbers

Total 2021 Rental Assistance: $26,621,180

AFRICAN Community Housing & Development
WHERE WE SERVE

Over 50 Zip Codes Across King County

Nearly 30% of ACHD participants live in the City of Seattle.

In 2021, average rent in the City of Seattle increased by 23%.

Over 50% of those served by ACHD in 2021 were families with children.

46,728 households in King County expressed need for eviction prevention services between July - Dec 2021.

14+ languages are spoken by ACHD participants.
Albertsons Foundation
All In WA
Best Start for Kids
The Sheri and Les Biller Family
Foundation
Children & Nature Network
The Boeing Company
City of Auburn
City of Des Moines
City of Seattle
City of Tukwila
The Deupree Family Foundation
Education for All
Group Health Foundation
King Conservation District
King County
PCC Community Markets
Port of Seattle
Puget Sound Energy
Raikes Foundation
Satterberg Foundation
School's Out WA
Seattle Foundation
Verity Credit Union
WA Department of Commerce
WA Equity Relief Fund for
Nonprofits
WA Office of the Superintendent of
Public Instruction
Washington State Microenterprise
Association
YMCA
4Culture

THANK YOU!
LEARN MORE & GET INVOLVED AT WWW.ACHDO.ORG

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