

# STRENGTHEN HOME OWNERSHIP IN THURSTON COUNTY

AUGUST 2015

*The purpose of this letter is to bolster home ownership in Thurston County.*

*Increased home ownership translates to:*

- *Lower crime rates*
- *Improved health and well being*
- *Increased civic investment*
- *Higher individual wealth and assets*
- *Stronger neighborhoods and schools*
- *Community-wide economic benefits*

*Home is not just the building where we live, but also the community that surrounds and supports each of us. When a family moves into their own home, they pay taxes and contribute to the economic base of the community. They typically vacate rental housing that can then be made available to someone in need of affordable housing.*

*Even with limited inventory of homes on the market, Thurston County continues to offer relatively affordable prices, and has many families interested in becoming first time home buyers. With education and counseling prior to purchasing a home, they can become knowledgeable buyers, and stable and secure homeowners. These families deserve the benefits of home ownership, which will be multiplied throughout our neighborhoods, schools and businesses.*

*The undersigned have developed this community letter to encourage new partnerships to create more opportunities for successful home ownership.*

*We call on each member of the community to endorse this effort and help us to increase housing supply, create a collaborative information network for interested home buyers, and promote home buyer education and counseling prior to purchase.*

*Helps us make dreams possible. Join us today!*

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