

Aging in Place

Critical Home Repair

program update (January 2026)

background

Tacoma/Pierce County Habitat for Humanity's Aging in Place program provides critical home repairs and modifications for low-income senior and disabled Veteran homeowners in Pierce County. Since June 2020, this program has served **261 households** (501 people), allowing seniors and veterans living with disabilities to age safely and affordably in their own homes. Aging in Place consistently **serves 50-55 households each year**.



eligibility

Applicants seeking assistance for Aging in Place must meet all of the following criteria:

- be a Pierce County resident
- own and occupy the home they live in
- intend to remain in the home for at least three years
- be age 60+ or a disabled veteran of the US Military
- have a household income at or below 80% of the area median
- be current on mortgage, property taxes, and homeowner's insurance
- demonstrate a need for home repairs or modifications deemed critical for health and/or safety

Veterans and home modifications

Military veterans, while not necessarily in more need of home repairs than the general population, may face unique challenges that can lead to housing instability.

- Older veterans are 7% more likely than civilians to have a disability that requires home modifications as they age
- 79% of veterans are homeowners, compared to 62% of non-veterans
- 91% of veterans say it is important for them to stay in their homes if they require long-term care
- 55% of veterans report needing bathroom modifications to age in place themselves or provide care for a loved-one at home

Nearly one-quarter of all US military veterans need financial assistance to make home modifications necessary to continue living in their homes as they age. ~ AARP, May 2024



Veterans - stories of impact

With assistance from Owens Corning and the Home Depot Foundation, Tacoma/Pierce County Habitat for Humanity's Aging in Place program was able to serve three veteran homeowners this past fall:

Nancy - Nancy served in the Army in the 1970s and was stationed at Gray Army Airfield on Fort Lewis (now Joint Base Lewis-McChord). She worked in logistics and was responsible for supplying parts and materials for maintenance on Hueys and other helicopters. During her four years in the Army, Nancy learned how to make decisions and get things done under pressure. Afterward, she went on to earn a business degree and worked in successive managerial roles in manufacturing. With help from a grant from Owens Corning, Tacoma Habitat's Aging in Place program replaced the roof on Nancy's and her husband Gerald's home last fall.



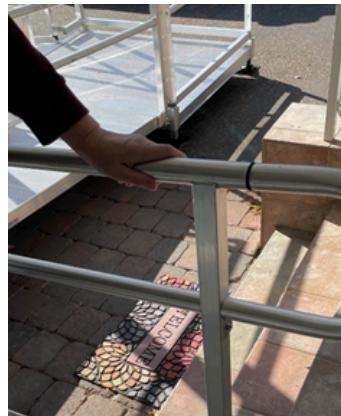
Mark - After serving four years as a heavy vehicle and truck mechanic in the Army, Mark moved back in with his father to become his caretaker until his father passed away at age 93. With help from a grant from The Home Depot Foundation, Tacoma Habitat's Aging in Place program was able to replace the aging roof on Mark's home.



"When shingles started blowing off the roof, I was afraid I wouldn't be able to renew the insurance." ~ Mark

"Being a woman in the military in the seventies was difficult, but there were officers who saw my potential and mentored me." ~ Nancy

Connie - "Connie," who asked that her identity not be disclosed, is a Navy veteran who entered the service right out of high school. She eventually met and married a fellow sailor and chose to step back from her military career in order to raise a family. Recently relocated to the Pacific Northwest to be near her children and grandchildren, Connie needed accommodations made to her front porch due to worsening arthritis. Tacoma Habitat's Aging in Place program installed a ramp with a handrail accessible from both the ramp and stairs to meet Connie's needs as she ages.



"I loved my time in the service and all of the opportunities it gave me." ~ Connie

AGING IN PLACE

BY THE NUMBERS

January 2026

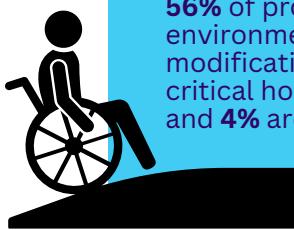
IMPACT

Aging in Place has served **261 households**, impacting **501 people**, since the program began in 2020. Aging in Place consistently serves **50-55 households** annually.



PROJECT TYPE

Accessibility ramps are involved in **45%** of all Aging in Place projects.



56% of projects are environmental modifications, **40%** are critical home repairs, and **4%** are both.

AVERAGE AGE

The median age of Aging in Place clients is **73**



FEMALE HEAD OF HOUSEHOLD

57% of Aging in Place clients are senior women living independently



RACIAL DIVERSITY

41% of Aging in Place clients are BIPOC



VETERAN STATUS

27% of Aging in Place clients are Veterans



thank you, funders!

Thank you to these organizations who have provided support to Tacoma/Pierce County Habitat for Humanity's Aging in Place program this year:

- Cambia Health Foundation
- City of Lakewood
- Gesa Credit Union
- Home Depot Foundation
- Kiwanis Club of Tacoma
- MultiCare Health System
- Our Savior Lutheran Church
- Pierce County
- Puyallup Tribe of Indians
- Rotary 8 of Tacoma
- Washington Trust Bank
- William Kilworth Foundation

questions

General information about Tacoma Habitat's Aging in Place program can be found on our website: <http://tpc-habitat.org/habitat-programs-repair>. You may also email aip@tpc-habitat.org or phone 253-627-5626 x 129 for additional assistance.