A PROJECT FOR US:
THE HOUSE

WASHINGTON BLACK TRANS TASK FORCE
PROJECT CHARTER

EBO BARTON
THEY/THEM or HE/HIM
PROJECT MANAGER
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ABOUT US

The Washington Black Trans Task Force is the Lavender Rights Project.

Through direct representation and community programming, our by-and-for services aim to radically re-imagine the legal landscape for Black LGBTQ+ people while building community resilience, encouraging self-advocacy, and asserting the rights of marginalized populations. Our staff and volunteers aim to serve and empower our community through comprehensive support for people with disability, low-income economic status, or experience with incarceration and the legal system, and pursuing justice in the fight against xenophobia, transphobia and racism.

WHO WE ARE

The Black Trans Task Force (WA-BTTF) is an intersectional, multi-generational project of community building, research, and political action addressing the crisis of violence against Black Trans people. Our nine members are each part of the community they serve, plan and organize our projects.

WHAT WE DO

We provide resources for Black transgender and nonbinary people in the Seattle-Tacoma area, in collaboration with community partners, in order to broaden safeguards and open avenues for justice that are typically available for white transgender people.

OUR WORK

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

MENTAL AND PHYSICAL WELLNESS

ADVOCACY
OUR TEAM

The Black Trans Task Force (WA-BTTF) is an intersectional, multi-generational project of community building, research, and political action addressing the crisis of violence against Black Trans people.

JAELYNN SCOTT
Executive Director
She/Her

EBO BARTON
Housing Project Manager
They/Them or He/Him

SCARLETT D’GIACOMO
Program Manager
She/Her

RANDY FORD
Core Member
She/Her or They/Them

NICOLE LYNN PERRY
Core Member
She/Her

RENEE JARREAU
Core Member
She/Her or They/Them

ELLE JENNINGS
Core Member
She/Her

GANESH GOLDBUFFALO
Core Member
It/It’s

MAKAYLA WRIGHT
Communications & Grants Manager
They/Them
THE CONTEXT

“When trans people can’t access public bathrooms, we can’t go to school effectively, go to work effectively, access health-care facilities — it’s about us existing in public space, and those who oppose trans people having access to the facilities consistent with how we identify know that all the things they claim don’t actually happen. It’s really about us not existing — about erasing trans people.” – Laverne Cox

VIOLENCE & POVERTY ARE INTERCONNECTED

“Violence against trans people is intricately connected to poverty and housing circumstances, because like all social issues, the housing crisis is an intersectional problem.”
-Sydney George, Abundant Housing LA

42% of Black transgender people have experienced or are experiencing homelessness. As compared to 30% of the US trans population overall and 22% experienced homelessness because of being transgender.

49% of transgender women experience discrimination

Two-thirds of gender diverse people are misidentified in media. Which means the total number of people that have been lost to violence and murder is likely higher.

38% are living in poverty

The unemployment rate among Black respondents were four times higher than the unemployment rate in the U.S. population overall (5%) and twice the rate among Black people in the U.S. population (10%)

THE FACTS

“I don’t know who I am outside of someone who’s just trying to be free and find safety for myself and for others.” - Indya Moore

VIOLENCE

37

HAVE BEEN KILLED IN THE US IN 2020

2020 has the most US transgender murders in recorded history. Two-thirds of this number were Black trans women.

53%

HAVE BEEN SEXUALLY ASSAULTED AT SOME POINT IN THEIR LIFETIMES

As compared to the 47% of the USTS overall.

56%

HAVE EXPERIENCED INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

44% experienced physical violence from an intimate partner.

SAFETY

67%

THOSE THAT INTERACT WITH POLICE ARE MISTREATED

Those who interacted with police or law enforcement who thought or knew they were transgender, 61% experienced some form of mistreatment. This included being verbally harassed, repeatedly referred to as the wrong gender.

WE ARE NOT SAFE TO BE OURSELVES

Transgender/gender diverse individuals experience, mistreatment, harassment and violence due to their gender identity or expression in shelters. Transgender/gender diverse individuals avoid shelters and institutions or do not identify correctly on forms and surveys.

ARE UNCOMFORTABLE ASKING THE POLICE FOR HELP

As compared to 57% of respondents in the USTS sample overall.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Washington Black Trans Task Force (BTTF) seeks to eliminate the genocide on Black Trans Women, Femmes, Non-Binary and Transgender individuals by (1) providing immediate, emergency housing (short-term) and (2) more permanent housing for Black Trans Women, Femmes and Non-Binary individuals experiencing or are at risk of chronic homelessness. Within this housing facility, BTTF invests in the overall wellness of our community’s health (3), by providing services that serve physical and mental wellness, a meeting place for community that serves social wellness, and programming that serves spiritual wellness.

OUR PERSPECTIVE

“We have to give people the room to be who they are, the courage to change and alter and grow.” - Miss Major Griffin-Gracey

WA-BTTF focuses our research and action on the needs of our community. We use a participatory framework to identify and develop areas of focus together with people in need. Our nine members are each a part of the community they serve and meet regularly to plan and organize our projects.

OUR THEORY FOR CHANGE

HOW WE WILL DO IT

FUNDAMENTALS OF HUMAN NEEDS

BTTF utilizes 7 fundamentals to human needs: Subsistence, Understanding & Growth, Love & Connection, Contribution, Esteem & Identity, Self-Governance and Significance & Purpose to advance our mission to end the crisis of economic physical, and emotional violence against Black trans women and femmes.

WRAPAROUND SERVICES

- Mental Health Services
- Medical Care
- Fresh Food Access
- Employment Assistance
- Community-driven protection

BLACK TRANS RESIDENTS

BTTF will acquire emergency and affordable housing with wraparound services for 25 Black Transgender people in Washington to aid in addressing the safety, belonging, physiological, esteem, and self-actualization needs of the community.

HOUSING

- Single-Occupancy Rooms
- Authentic community reintegration
- Private bathrooms
- 24-hour staff
- Long-term stability
OUR HOME

“Prisons don’t keep us safe. We keep each other safe.” – Cece McDonald

We seek to provide housing, both short and long-term, for Black trans women and nonbinary individuals who are experiencing or are at risk of experiencing chronic homelessness, through the acquisition of a former hotel or nursing home property. Through this facility, the WA-BTTF aims to invest in the overall wellness and health of our community, by providing services for physical, mental and spiritual wellness, and offering a safe space for rest, work, and meeting.

PHYSICAL & MENTAL WELLNESS

Partnering with organizations and professionals to provide the best possible mental and physical wellness to our residents and provide them the tools and knowledge necessary to care about their health.

COMMUNITY-CENTERED PROGRAMMING

We believe in the overall wellness of our community and we are investing our efforts to provide services and programming that serve social and spiritual wellness of our residents.

HOUSING FACILITY

A housing facility for twenty-five Black transgender & non-binary individuals that provides shelter and dignity with indoor plumbing, private, single occupancy rooms in which community can visit to sustain the project’s viability and the safety of our residents.

THE GOAL

In our housing facility, we hope to provide food, water and shelter. Our single-occupancy, long-term stay, rooms with common areas and community-led safety teams, our residents find security and stability. The programming we offer in arts, education and job skills from community-based organizations, groups and community members provide our residents with an authentic sense of belonging and love. With all of this support, our residents will preserve their dignity and respect for themselves and others. Black transgender and non-binary people can see their own full potential in their lifetimes.
**LOGIC MODEL**

**INPUTS**

- Seven BTTF members with *lived* experience, wisdom and knowledge to advise and govern.
- Property to convert into a housing facility.
- Network of community-based organizations with culturally relevant, effective, evidence-based programming.
- Private & public donations.
- A House Mother, Social Worker Manager, Project Manager.

**OUTPUTS**

- A council that has a personal investment in the sustainability and success of the project, with authentic understanding of the actual needs of our residents.
- 25+ Black, trans and/or non-binary residents.
- Community-based support and authentic integration.
- Long term sustainability and meeting current needs.
- A support staff to uphold values, mission and to be accountable to the residents and their needs.

**OUTCOMES**

- Sustaining a housing project that is mutually collaborative between the most impacted and addressing the gaps in service and treatment for Black Transgender and Non-Binary individuals experiencing homelessness.
- Approximately 25 Black, Trans, Non-binary individuals will have psychological and basic needs met in order to realize their full potential as contributors to their community.
- Radically change “rehabilitate” and authentically include the voices of the most impacted and authentically integrate them into community.
- A healthy community of Black transgender and non-binary individuals that have access to healthcare, a network of holistic support and a home in King County.

**ASSUMPTIONS & RISKS**

- City, County and State Government want to collaborate with us and are well versed in Transgender and/or Gender Diverse identities.
- We have staff capacity to implement this project.
- We have the capacity to fundraise to sustain the project for at least 10 years.

**EXTERNAL FACTORS**

- “Compassion Fatigue” from our allies.
- COVID-19 impacts to the general public.
- Political interference.
- Property availability.
SUMMARY

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Washington Black Trans Task Force (BTTF) seeks to provide immediate, emergency housing (short-term) and more permanent housing for Black trans and non-binary individuals experiencing or are at risk of chronic homelessness. Within this housing facility, BTTF seeks to invest in the overall wellness of our community’s health by providing services that serve physical and mental wellness, a meeting place for community that serves social wellness, and programming that serves spiritual wellness.

PROJECT STAFF

01. House Mother – Residents main point of contact and facility manager.

02. Social Work Manager – directs, manages and supervises SW case worker interns.

03. Project Manager – to manage programming, sustain partnerships and maintain programming.
JOIN OUR
MOVEMENT
TO BUILD A HOME FOR
BLACK TRANS WOMEN

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