

Toolkit for Organizing About the Toolkit



If you are reading this, we'd like to start by saying **Welcome!** We're so glad that this toolkit has found its way into your hands.

The Resident Action Project aims to form a statewide network of people who are ready to fight for policy change at the state level to address the housing affordability and homelessness crisis. We are following the leadership of people who are directly impacted by these issues in our organizing. We are working with several nonprofit partners to do outreach and organizing to grow in communities all around Washington.

This toolkit is for anyone who is interested in forming a RAP chapter in your community. Wherever you are in Washington, we value your leadership and knowledge of your community to expand the network around our state.

Here's how we are hoping you will read this organizing toolkit:

1. **Get a few folks together who are also interested in bringing about change and ask them if they will join you to read it.** Organizing is all about building relationships, and it's best to do it in community. **You don't need to read this toolkit cover-to-cover.** The first page of each section gives an overview. Glance at those overview pages, and pick one or two sections to work through together. You can always reach out to RAP staff to get an idea of where to start!

2. **As a group, think through the following questions:**

- What housing issues are important in your community?
- How might RAP help to address the issues in your community?
 - Where do you start? Are there groups of people interested in this?
 - What resources do you have access to?
- What tools might be the most helpful?

3. Reach out to a Resident Action Project staff member to talk about RAP and what support you may need. **We are a resource for you.** We can help you as you use the tools in the toolkit. We can help you to think through questions you have about organizing in your community. We're excited to hear from you!