



# bridgeways

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## **Bridgeways Awarded Federal Block Grant Funding for Unit 9 Program**

Bridgeways, a nonprofit organization located in Everett providing mental health services to individuals with chronic mental illness, has been awarded a Federal Block Grant by the North Sound Mental Health Administration in the amount of \$26,000. The funding will be used to sustain and enhance Unit 9 services as part of the high-intensity case management they provide.

Through the Unit 9 program, Bridgeways provides vital housing and case management services for vulnerable clients who have been released from Western State Hospital with very little money or resources and no place to go. Unit 9 allows each client to stay for up to 28 days where s/he receives intensive supports until Medicaid eligibility is established. Without the supports provided by Unit 9, at-risk clients would be forced to find room in shelters or sleep on the street and would be at extreme risk of decompensating and being put back into the hospital or jail.

Unit 9 is lauded as a model project and is receiving praise from the community. Chuck Davis, North Sound Mental Health Ombudsman praises: *“The use of Unit 9, along with Bridgeways’ high intensity case management services has helped [at-risk] clients transition into community housing to become true success stories. I am exceedingly grateful...to have a highly supportive program promoting real recovery and reintegration.”*

Bridgeways would like to acknowledge and thank Janelle Sgrignoli, North Sound Mental Health Association Planning Committee chair, along with the NSHMA Board of Directors for their support.