

Chisom Housing Group's portfolio serves low-income households including seniors (as is the case in Bellingham), families, and/or persons with disabilities. Chisom is dedicated to preserving affordable housing and providing supportive services to our residents and low-income communities. Our outreach efforts focus on education, children's programs, workforce development, reducing food insecurities, and building community connections. As of March 2022, Chisom's portfolio includes over 1500 apartments in 21 affordable housing communities in 12 states. Chisom also provides third party services support to 7 properties in Ohio and Kansas.

We partnered with Integra in purchasing the Birchwood Manor and Catherine May Apartment communities in Bellingham. We have remodeled the properties, inside and out, to ensure that our residents' homes are up-to-date with flooring, appliances, safety, and modernized design. We are nearly done with our rehabilitation of the communities, with just a few finishing touches to complete, such as keyless entryways. We are happy to report that both communities recently passed their REAC (Real Estate Assessment Center) inspections with high scores! For those of you who may not know, this is the new health and safety inspection model for housing owned, insured, or subsidized by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

We are happy to work with Aging Well Whatcom, as we fit into the Blueprint in the housing focus area. We are committed to keeping the BM and CM Apartment communities as affordable housing for seniors and disabled persons in the area. Additionally, we have an offsite service coordinator that works closely with the onsite property management team. Already, this has been a fruitful experience for the residents and the property management as the Whatcom Transportation Authority issued free 6-ride passes for residents at both communities. Residents also receive support via site specific service binders, Whatcom Senior Resource Booklets, contact information of the service coordinator, as well as upcoming community presentations. As we finalize our finishing touches at both apartment communities, we look forward to beginning to connect more services with our residents and the community. For those interested in housing opportunities, the application process is free and applications are available on site at either location.

Contact:
Brook Kuhn, Service Coordinator
Chisom Housing Group
services@chisomhousing.org
(913) 240-3362
<https://chisomhousing.org/>