

Sheltering Tree is consumer controlled apartments for adults with developmental disabilities that has amenities that are attractive to them. And so adult, any adult age 19 or above that has a diagnosis of developmental disability can apply to live in a Sheltering Tree apartment. They are safe, affordable, community centered and consumer controlled. Well, what we do is provide the opportunity for housing. So all of our apartments are full market value. So in the apartment units, the tenant has a full kitchen, full living room, nice, large bedroom, a large bathroom. All of them are designed to age in place. So if any of our tenants should at any time need any kind of assisted devices, those can be easily accommodated in their apartment units. Our accommodations that we offer, or excuse me, not accommodations, our amenities that we offer are things such as an activities program where our adults can choose to participate in a variety of things from gardening to, you know, hitting golf balls to going to events and activities around town, concerts, sporting events. We have partnerships with other local organizations such as #Arts where local artists come in and work on a variety of different art related activities, painting, clay, floral design, dance, music, other things in that nature. Just a wide variety of activity opportunities. Sometimes they're things like Thirsty Thursdays, which allow for our tenants to have a reason to gather. And really that's really important. That's the main piece of our activities calendars. #es, the enrichment piece, but also the providing opportunities for connections and belonging. We know that loneliness can be as significant of a harm as smoking, heart disease. And so we want to make sure that our tenants have the opportunity to belong, to have a place where they find other folks they can connect with and have meaningful relationships. Well, & am a mother of an adult who is '(who has)own syndrome. And &%ve worked in the disability field for many, many years. And so & previously worked in an organi"ation that provided programming for adults with developmental disabilities. & did parent education and training, very involved with a lot of support groups as well. And so when the opportunity came up to e!pand what Sheltering True is doing, & was approached and we really, & really wanted to *ump in. Our founder is a visionary. She worked for +,) and her husband was a real estate attorney. So they had the knowledge in the background to come up with this concept of living independently, but not alone. And how do we make this something that it's affordable, that our tenants can actually have a life doing. And so they looked at the possibilities that they knew from their work and came up with a concept. So our first location was built about almost nine years ago in -ellevue. And we had 1. apartment units, we have 1. apartment units at that location. And the organi"ation started to e!pand to our second location, which is in -enson, that has '' units available for our tenants with developmental disabilities. All locations have TAs who function similar to a college dorm /A. They're there to help mitigate any type of maintenance reOuests between the property management and the tenants. They're there to make sure that the building is safe. They make sure that no one's coming into the building that doesn't have a purpose to be there. And then they also facilitate community activities, communication and connections as well within the community space. And so when the organi"ation started to grow and more families started to hear about this wonderful opportunity, and it's really something that a lot of folks are looking for, and that's because so many of our adults or people with developmental disabilities are now seen as people with potential. And so they're being educated to their full potential. They're e!iting the high schools with the ability to be deployed. And so they are also looking for opportunities to live independently. And so the organi"ation started to grow and it was at that time that it moved from a very grassroots effort to a more formal nonprofit organi"ation. And so at that point, & *ust looked at it as an area of need. We know across the country, there's a significant crisis in housing, affordable housing for adults with developmental disabilities. And so it really spoke to my passions. And so that's what drew me to Sheltering Tree. And since then we have, we're almost complete on construction on our third location in which we'll have 11 units available. And we have begun the process for our fourth location. They'll have an additional 11 units. #ou bet. So there's lots of things. & could speak to the

generosity of the maha Metro area and the philanthropic community who we couldn't do this without them. There's so many wonderful partner agencies that we're able to partner with, the families that help support. -ut the most rewarding part is seeing our tenants have, create and stay in and maintain those meaningful connections. The one thing we know is that when people with developmental disabilities e!it the school system, it's often referred to as falling off the cliff. And that's for several reasons. -ut one of the main things is, is they're very isolated at that point. And they tend to live a life that's very parent centric. And &%m sure you as being a young adult really love your parents dearly, but don't want to go everywhere with them, be with them constantly. And you really wanna e!pand your relationships and your connections to folks other than *ust your parents. And so most of our tenants have that desire. So the thing that is really the most rewarding is seeing our tenants thrive, seeing them rise to the level of e!pectation, seeing them e!plore other opportunities where they can be independent and gaining confidence and really *ust overall very happy with their lives. They have their own space, they have that autonomy, they have meaningful connections and relationships and really seeing them *ust very content and happy and fulfilled. #ou know, in our tech world, & would tell you to start off with our website. We've *ust updated it recently, so it's got some really great information. There, you can find an apartment tour. #ou can see one of our tenants providing a tour of her apartment so you can see what the units look like. &t does have a list of the amenities that we offer, shares a little bit more about the concept of living independently, but not alone. And you can get a lot of information, hopefully from our website. -ut we also offer open houses. So many people wanna be onsite and see things. And we try