



Temporary Worker Housing

December 2016

The Temporary Worker Housing (TWH) Program works to protect the health and safety of migrant farmworkers and their families by ensuring the living environments provided meet state health and safety standards.

The TWH program has brought about positive change in the condition and amount of migrant farmworker housing available throughout Washington. Since 2005, the number of licensed housing sites and their occupants has doubled to about 236 and 14,600 respectively, improving the living conditions of migrant farmworkers and their family members.

Services

The TWH program offers the following services to farmworkers, farmers, housing operators, developers:

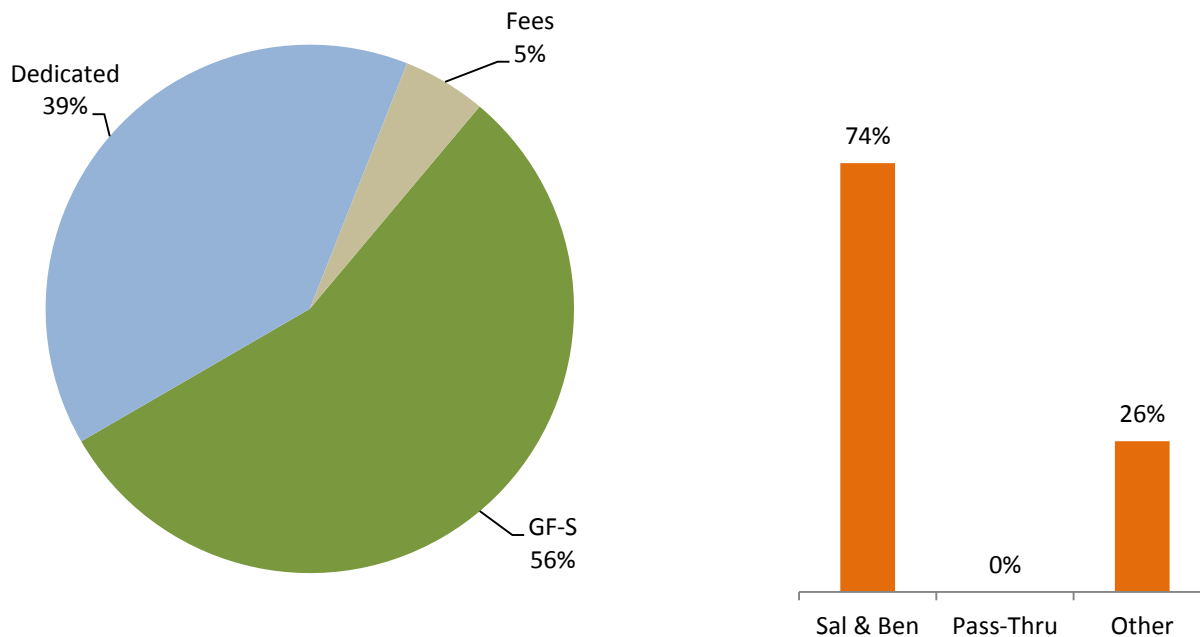
- Consultation to growers, other housing operators, and development organizations and agencies to encourage and assist with development of migrant farmworker housing
- Comprehensive building department services for an efficient, feasible construction process
- Licensing to assure housing meets state standards
- Inspection services to attain and maintain a system of compliance, assuring health and safety standards
- Investigation and enforcement to assure housing is safe for farmworkers and their families, and holding housing operators accountable
- Collaboration with local jurisdictions and community organizations representing growers, farmworkers, and developers to encourage development of safe housing
- Distribution of bilingual educational materials on flu, West Nile virus, and other information

Stakeholders

- Farmworker Advocacy Organizations, such as the Catholic Diocese and the Northwest Justice Project
- Growers, Housing Operators, and Grower Organizations, such as the WA Growers League
- Housing Development Organizations and Agencies, such as the Office of Rural and Farmworker Housing and the WA State Department of Commerce
- Regulatory Agencies, such as the WA State Labor and Industries, DOSH, the US Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, and Local Health and Zoning Jurisdictions

2015-17 Biennium

Temporary Worker Housing Fiscal Information



	GF-S	Federal	Dedicated	Fees	Total	Sal & Ben	Investments	Other
Total	432,640	0	306,696	39,787	779,123	575,042	0	204,081

Recent Funding History

2011-13 biennium:

- GF-S reduction of \$133,500 in the biennial budget and a one-time \$250,000 increase in the FY13 supplemental budget.

2013-2015 biennium:

- GF-S reduction of \$156,000.

In 2013, the legislature approved a \$250,000 GF-S supplemental for this program. The additional funding allowed the program to temporarily reduce fees to zero for FY 2013 and 2014. Fees were reinstated on July 1, 2014, with fee revenue of approximately \$95,000 per year.