



PAD Relocation Information Session

September 21, 2021

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm

who is joining us today?

Pat Hughes, *Community Facilitator*

Staff & Board Members, *Northwest Youth Services*

City Representatives, *City of Bellingham*

Ridgemont Neighbors

Community Advocates



We pause to acknowledge that we meet on the land stolen from the Swinomish, Samish, Sauk Suiattle, Upper Skagit, Lower Skagit, Lummi, Nooksack, Nuawhaha, and Stillaguamish tribes of the Coast Salish Indigenous Peoples.

I ask you to join me in honoring these communities, their elders both past and present, as well as future generations, whose culture and identity has been eroded for profit. I ask you to join me in understanding how each of us has knowingly or unknowingly benefited from the effects of the traumatic dilution of their languages, traditions, beliefs, and customs.

I ask that we all take a moment to recognize that more than 5,000 Indigenous women and girls go missing each year, and how the systemic ignorance to these tragedies continues to decimate the future of nations existing on this land since time and memorial. Today we acknowledge that ground we stand upon is sacred and we commit to continuing to learn how to be better stewards of the land we are privileged to inhabit.

**land
acknowledgement**



about us

Northwest Youth Services is a non-profit organization serving young people ages 13-24 experiencing or at-risk of homelessness.

We support youth in identifying goals and building the skills necessary to reach their own sense of stability.



service area

Whatcom, Skagit and
Island Counties



mission

At Northwest Youth Services we affirm youth experience and autonomy, as we work together to foster collective healing and justice, in order to dismantle the systems of oppression that perpetuate youth homelessness.



impact



In 2020, Northwest Youth Services assisted over 1,500 young people, ages 13 – 24, meet their goals in our communities.



The PAD has served over 500 youth, 13 – 17, over the last ten years.



Our philosophy of service is to meet young people where they are at. Each youth we meet has a different story and their own path forward.

we meet youth where they're at.



outreach



emergency
housing



housing



behavioral
health



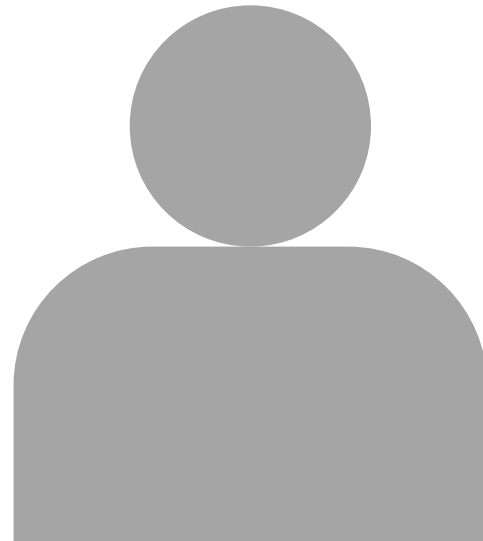
employment
& education



teen court



queer
youth project



As part of the Homeless Strategies Workgroup, NWYS formed a committee to discuss year-around sheltering needs for young adults, 18 – 24, in Whatcom County.

Staff and volunteers toured multiple locations near downtown Bellingham, all of which required significant renovations to use as a shelter, and great support to maintain a lease.

Brainstorming discussions led staff and volunteers to recognize the assets of current PAD facility to fill this need, and desire for a neighborhood centered home to better meet youth, 13 – 17, needs.

JAN
2021

FEB
2021

MAR
2021

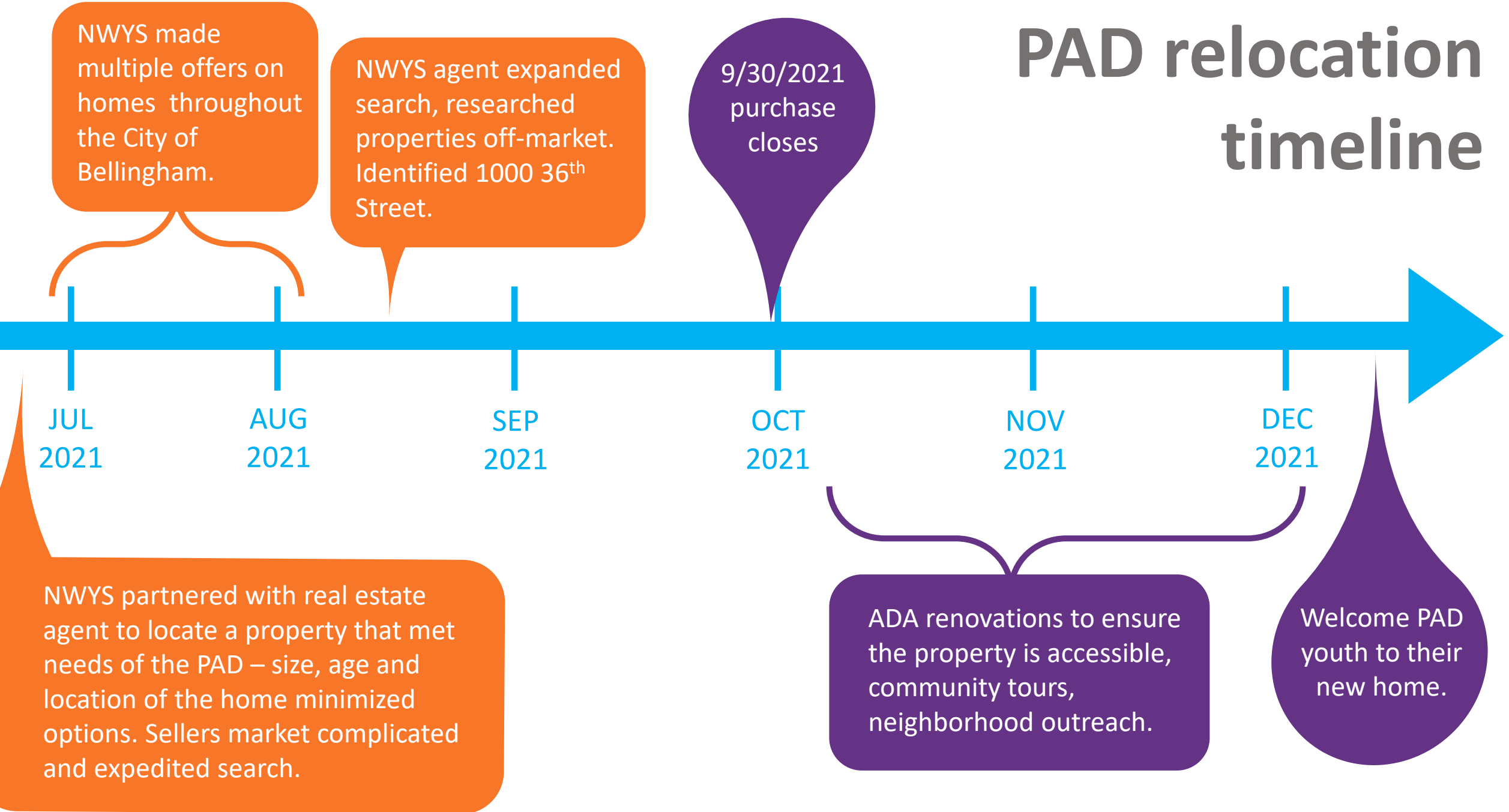
APR
2021

MAY
2021

JUN
2021

PAD relocation timeline

PAD relocation timeline



what is the PAD?



Provides housing and support for unaccompanied youth, ages 13 – 17, in a licensed home.



Most often, youth move to the PAD from foster care, or in emergencies when it's not safe in their home.



New home will be licensed for 12 youth. Per policy, the PAD maintains two staff on at all times.

what is the PAD?



PAD youth pass a background check, have parental/guardian consent, and be enrolled in school to move into the PAD.



Youth work with the PAD case manager and youth advocates to set goals for their stay, work with staff to meet those goals.



NWYS serves as each young person at the PAD's legal guardian, per state requirements.

what is the PAD?



On average, youth at the PAD live with us for 3 – 4 weeks. Some situations allow for longer stays.



The only people allowed in the PAD are PAD staff and youth under 18. All staff and youth pass background checks.



Staff and youth plan outings and holiday gatherings together, plan meals, do their homework. This is a home.



Thank You!

Questions – Jason McGill, Executive Director

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