

 new horizons

HOPE

ON THE HORIZON

gala

2023 TABLE CAPTAIN TOOLKIT

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What does it mean to be a Table Captain?

Table Captains are ambassadors for New Horizons and the young people we serve. They are representatives that inform others about the work we are doing to end homelessness, one young person at a time. **We will be hosting an optional Zoom training Tuesday, September 19 at 6pm to answer questions.**

Who do I invite?

Start by thinking about your colleagues, friends, and family members who you believe care about New Horizons' mission to end youth homelessness.

How do I invite guests?

You can go about inviting guests in a variety of ways and depending on whether or not you have purchased your entire table. You can use these templates to invite guests in the way that is most natural for you: face-to-face, over the phone, or via email.

If you have purchased the table in advance:

Hey there <Name>,

On October 6th at 6pm, I am hosting a table at New Horizons' Annual Gala. I was wondering if you would like to join me as a guest! New Horizons is a shelter in King County serving young people ages 13-25 who are experiencing homelessness.

I am excited to be a part of their gala at The Seattle Aquarium and hope you can join me to learn about their services and hear about the impact they are making to end youth homelessness, one young person at a time. There will be a catered meal that looks delicious, as well as an open wine and beer bar, and a private cocktail hour to peruse the exhibits at the aquarium.

I have already purchased tickets, so if you would like to attend, you can reply directly to this email with your food selection, and I will add you to my table. Let me know if you have any questions!

Best,

<Your Name>

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

If you have NOT purchased the entire table:

Hey there <Name>,

On October 6th at 6pm, I am hosting a table at New Horizons' Annual Gala. I was wondering if you would like to join me as a guest! New Horizons is a shelter in King County serving young people ages 13-25 who are experiencing homelessness.

I am excited to be a part of their gala at The Seattle Aquarium and hope you can join me to learn about their services and hear about the impact they are making to end youth homelessness, one young person at a time. There will be a catered meal that looks delicious, as well as an open wine and beer bar, and a private cocktail hour to peruse the exhibits at the aquarium.

Tickets are \$125 and any donations will support youth and young adults experiencing homelessness in King County. You can purchase tickets [here](#). Make sure to select my name as your Table Captain at checkout. If you have any questions, I would love to hear from you!

*Best,
<Your Name>*

What to do when...

They say yes:

- Ask them to register at nhmin.org/gala.
- Let them know they will be receiving email communications from us.
 - Ask them if they know anyone else who might be interested in attending.

They say no or you already know they cannot attend:

- Ask them if they would consider donating to support youth and young adults experiencing homelessness in lieu of attendance. They can donate to the gala [here](#).

TIMELINE & CHECKLIST

Right now:

- **Recruit other Table Captains!** Do you know someone who loves New Horizons and would make a good Table Captain? Connect them with us by sending an email to jens@nhmin.org.
- **Create your guest lists and invite your guests!**
- **Promote New Horizons on social media.** Follow New Horizons on Facebook. Review the sample post (on the last page of the packet) that you can share with your friends about the event.

Two weeks before the event:

- **Make sure you have registered all your guests.** The earlier, the better!
- **Check in with your guests.** You can remind them to make their food selections before **September 28th**.
- **Attend the optional Zoom training Tuesday, September 19 at 6pm** if you have questions and want to meet fellow Table Captains prior to the event.

One week before the event:

- **Send a reminder** to your guests and let them know how excited you are for the event! We will also be sending out a reminder with any last minute updates.

Day of the event:

- **Answer questions.**
- **Arrive promptly at 6:30pm** to get situated before guests arrive.
- **Keep your guests excited and engaged!** They will look to you for engagement levels, so talk to them about donating as well.

After the event:

- **Say thank you!** Take time to thank your guests for their support!
- **Share your feedback.** We would love to hear what you thought of being a table captain as well as the overall event. Please take a moment to fill out the survey we will be sending your way after the event. You can also reach out to us directly at events@nhmin.org.

NEW HORIZONS' PURPOSE

New Horizons intentionally exists at the intersection of failed supportive youth systems and housing instability with the intention of disrupting this cycle and ending youth and young adult homelessness one young person at a time.

New Horizons unapologetically prioritizes the formation of healthy relationships, centering the young people we serve and creating individualized and developmentally appropriate support systems for the young people that engage.

New Horizons offers safety, shelter, intensive case management, integrated behavioral and mental health services, employment, mentoring, community and housing support to walk with young people towards stability.

Nearly 70% of all youth experiencing homelessness were exited to the streets from systems designed to provide support. According to data, 48% of all youth exiting behavioral health systems, 28% of youth exiting foster care, and 26% of youth exiting juvenile rehabilitation programs end up living unhoused on the streets.

The very systems designed to care for our community's highest acuity young people are often the pipelines that lead to their housing crisis. Of the clients that New Horizons serves, over 50% are BIPOC and greater than 40% identify as LGBTQIA+, displaying profound disproportionality among those experiencing homelessness, and requiring an approach that centers their unique support.

NEW HORIZONS' PURPOSE, CONT.

During developmentally significant years of their lives, youth and young adults experiencing homelessness experience profound family and community dislocation, limited access to health, behavioral and mental health care, employment barriers and lack access to stable housing, safe and caring adults, and meaningful opportunities to develop healthy identities.

This vulnerability, paired with extensive past and present trauma, minimal education, mental illness, and co-occurring substance use disorders, makes stability difficult to achieve.

To address these crises and barriers, New Horizons creates engagement opportunities through the offering of Engagement Services Programming Monday-Thursday 3:00-8:30PM, providing low-barrier space for youth, their pets, and their partners to access basic needs support, employment opportunities, behavioral health support groups, health care, mental health counseling, creative expression, safe relationships with caring adults, and opportunities to lead and develop their own identities.

These engagement services are the central access point for young people to start the process of engaging with staff at New Horizons. These services are designed to meet young people where they are and give them an intentionally safe place to explore their future stability, express themselves, make safe relational connections and experience unconditional positive regard.

SAMPLE FACEBOOK POST



Caption:

Join me for an evening of hope with New Horizons at the Seattle Aquarium!

They will be focusing on the life-changing difference one stable adult can make in the lives of the young people they serve. We'll have the opportunity to hear from their Executive Director, enjoy a meal together, and make an impact on ending homelessness, one young person at a time.

Message me if you'd like to join!

#newhorizonssea #endyouthhomelessness #hopeonthehorizongala