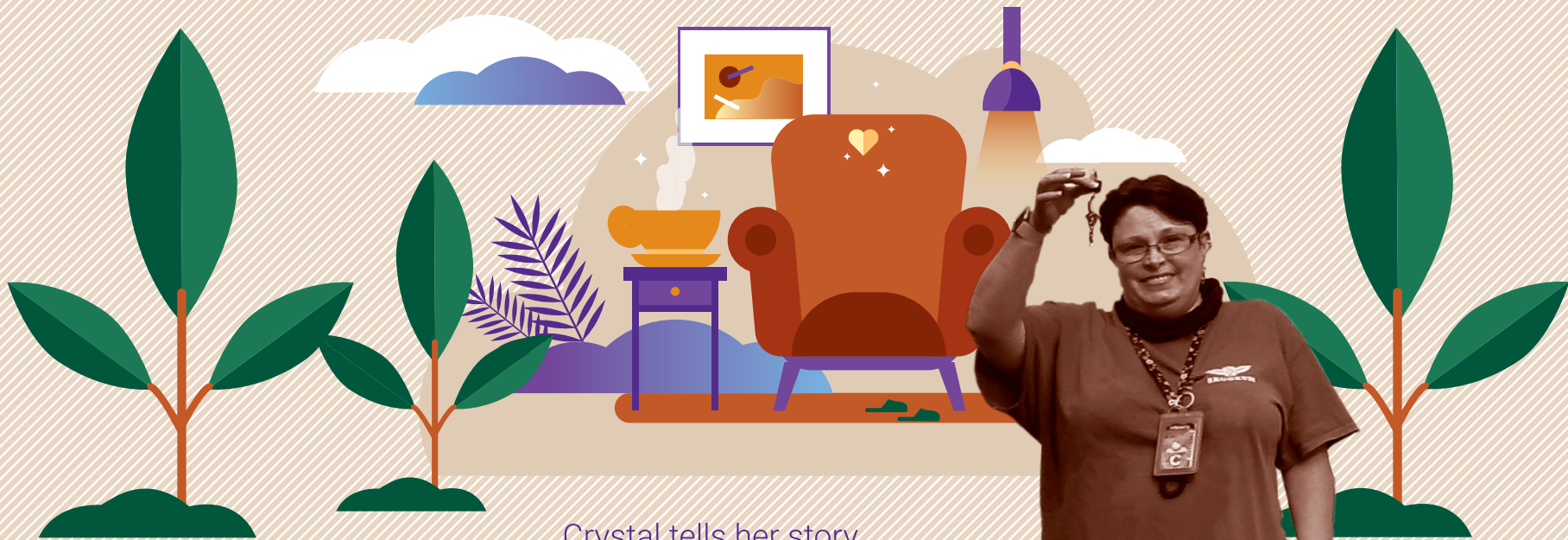


## Challenges of Affordable Housing

It is difficult, if not impossible, to rise above poverty when affordable housing is not available in a community. Affordable housing is considered 30% of personal income. With home and rent prices soaring in Kitsap County, our low-income neighbors often find their home on other's couches or even in the street.

Crystal found hope and independence with supportive housing and a compassionate employer.



### Crystal tells her story...

"A year ago, I found myself staying with friends. It was hard as I was also trying to help my mother. Life was feeling difficult. Then my housing situation changed and I had no place to call home. I had very low self-esteem and my life felt like a mess.

At my lowest point, I was fortunate to find employment with Skookum Contract Services doing a job with flexible hours that I really enjoy. Through a partnership with them and Kitsap Community Resources, I received supportive housing.

I now live in a stable home with my own room. I have my independence again. I highly recommend both KCR and Skookum. They planted a seed of confidence in me to work, have my own place, and help my family. I am a different person than I was a year ago. Thank you for believing in me....

...I have confidence now."



planting  
a seed  
for human  
kindness