

# New Nest for NEST

## Campaign Summary

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We want to thank our generous donors to the campaign that enabled us to find a new and welcoming space for NEST.

### **Background**

In 2016, we were located in the Ravenna Methodist Church. This space was crowded and lacked accessibility. It was unsuitable for growing and supporting the community of NEST. We established that what we needed was:

- Ample parking
- Accessibility for people with limited mobility
- Private space for conversation and small groups
- An area for large gatherings

### **Feasibility of Finding a New and Welcoming Space**

We kicked off the New Nest for NEST campaign in August 2016. We started with a feasibility study that included several presentations and a widespread email campaign. We wanted to receive feedback from the NEST community on plans for finding a new location, get a clear sense of what we could afford,

and explore the feasibility of securing \$50,000 in pledges. While doing outreach, we continued to look at our options for new space.

Many of you communicated your support of a new Nest. In this initial phase, and over the next several months, we received almost 30 pledges for a total of \$67,300 in funds for a new space.

## Search for a New Nest

As we searched for new space, we explored 21 commercial spaces, 7 churches and 6 spaces on the Magnuson Park Campus. Although nothing was perfect, there was a lot of interest in Magnuson Park. Despite the appeal of Magnuson, we found that the space would not be available for another 18 months to 3 years, and it was also very expensive. With that in mind, we decided to find an accessible and affordable temporary space that required little upfront investment. This gave us time to continue to explore our options.

## New Home at Friends

We were fortunate to find available, temporary space that met all our criteria, and that was fully furnished, at the North Seattle Friends Church. In October 2016, we signed a lease and moved into our new, temporary home. Our original lease term was through April 2018. We recently extended the lease until December 31, 2018. There will be no extension of the lease beyond 2018 due to the purchase and demolition of the Friends property by the University Prep School.

Although the rent at Friends is considerably higher than the rent at Ravenna Methodist, we are enjoying the benefits of fully furnished offices, several meeting rooms, plenty of parking, a separate reception area, accessibility, and use of the Fellowship Hall for larger events. With permission of the New Nest donors we have used New Nest for NEST funds to cover the additional cost of rent. Because of your wonderful generosity, we have enough New Nest funds to supplement our rent through 2018.

39

Total donors

\$1,424

Average gift

\$10,000

Largest gift

40

Parking spaces

36

Months rent support  
at Friends

250

Groups and gatherings  
at Friends each year

## Benefits of the Space at Friends

We are thriving in our space at Friends. We hosted 250 groups and events in 2017. We have enough space to host a women's caregiver support group in one room and, at the same time, a men's discussion group in a nearby room. We are frequently buzzing with volunteers and student interns in the office, while exercise groups, poetry groups, or intimate meditation groups are also meeting. Our monthly potlucks in the Fellowship Hall offer a time to gather and visit.

A great benefit of our arrangement with Friends is the availability of furniture that meets our diverse needs. We have comfortable tables and chairs, access to conference space, portable tables and chairs for large events, and the use of a several kitchens, including one designed for large meal preparation. The rooms are comfortable, spacious and inviting.

Two parking lots create accessibility to the Fellowship Hall as well as the meeting areas in the NEST office.

*"We have the perfect conditions for our current needs - offices and a small space for small gatherings, and a large space for entire membership groups. The central location is also a plus." — Clare O'Regan, NEST Member*



## Status of the New Nest Account January 2018

<b>Total Amount Originally Pledged</b>	<b>\$ 67,300</b>
<b>Disposition of Funds Received to Date</b>	
Funds Expended to Support Our Move to Friends	\$ 2,140
Funds to Supplement Rent 2016, 2017, and 2018	\$ 22,500
Funds Remaining to Support a Move to a New Location	\$ 31,110
<b>Total Funds Received</b>	<b>\$ 55,750</b>
<b>Additional Funds Pledged but Not Yet Received</b>	<b>\$ 11,550</b>

## What's Next?

In January 2017 we revisited the possibility of renovating and renting space at Magnuson Park. We learned that the renovations would cost \$550,000, and the rent would be double the rent at Friends. The NEST Board of Directors did not support a capital investment of this size or a rent increase at this time.

Early in 2018, we reconvened the New Nest for NEST committee and began looking at options for a long-term home.

We are fortunate to have enough funds remaining in the space account to cover the costs of a move and to provide a continuing rent supplement in 2019.

## Thanks to our Generous Donors

You made this happen!

Anonymous (3)

Debbie Anderson & Mike McPhail

Gretchen & Basil Anex

Esther Barclay

Estell Berteig

Bob & Emily Bingham

Barbara Blair

Rosemary Blakemore

Ola Edwards

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Janet Wright

