Who We Are

Feet First works to ensure all communities across Washington are walkable. We help people take steps that create better places to live, learn, shop, work, and play—a world that cares about health, community and design.

We believe that we should be able to walk where we live, work, and play.
We believe that having affordable and equitable places to live starts with safe places to walk.
We believe that we will make friends walking, which helps keep our neighborhoods safer.
We believe that children in our communities should be able to safely walk to their school.
We believe that our grandparents should have safe, accessible, and inviting places to walk to.
We believe that walking supports our health.
We believe that walking supports economic vitality of local businesses.
We believe that walking is the key to creating socially vibrant communities.
We believe that walking needs a strong advocate.

How We Get There

Feet First works to improve walking and safety in our communities through advocacy, education, and outreach. Specifically by:

- Making sure that all children can safely walk to school. Since 2004, Feet First has worked with 63 schools and 31 school districts across the state to support safe routes to school, organize Walking School Buses, Walk to School celebrations, and other encouragement events.
- Recognizing and supporting cities and communities that have implemented projects and programs to improve walking and places for people to walk safely.
- Meeting with community members to discuss options for improving walking conditions in their neighborhoods.
- Leading neighborhood walks to get more people walking.
- Offering input on legislative issues, giving public testimony, and writing white papers to support our stance on issues.
- Promoting policies that put people first, and ensuring that places are designed for walking.
What We Did in 2014

Safe Routes To School

- **153 People were trained by Feet First from across the state to participate in Safe Route to School programs**
- **215 Partners were supported by Feet First in the statewide Safe Routes to School Action Network**
- **53 We worked with four Seattle schools to provide direct educational and encouragement programs**
- **Conducted one walking audit in NE Seattle (Wedgwood Elementary School)**

Neighborhood Walking Ambassador

- **156 Neighborhood Walking Ambassadors were trained and led at least two walks**
- **53 Neighborhood walks were offered in 2014**
- **We attracted over 1,800 people to participate in neighborhood walks**

Advocacy & Legislative Initiatives

- **19 Met with elected officials and appointed policy makers promoting policies to prioritize and fund walkable communities**

Signature Walk Events

- **x2 Conducted two “Walk & Talks” to discuss walking issues around new mixed-use development and transportation infrastructure projects**
- **16 Jane’s Walks were led as part of Feet First’s sponsorship of the international event. These walks celebrated the life and work of urbanist, Jane Jacobs.**
- **Attracted over 900 participants on 4 signature walks**
- **Organized the Annual Stairway Walks to celebrate urban stairways in Seattle, Burien, and Bellevue**

Walkable Washington Symposium & Awards

- **32 Case studies were developed for the Feet First Case Study Library of projects and programs creating walkable communities throughout Washington**
- **120 Leaders, planners, engineers, health professionals, educators, students, and advocates were in attendance at our 2014 Walkable Washington Symposium & Awards**
- **3 Projects were recognized through our Innovation Award program:**
  - Redmond Central Connector (Redmond, WA)
  - “Know Your Island” Walks (San Juan Island, WA)
  - Olympia Neighborhood Pathways (Olympia, WA)
Our Reach

+ 9,500 supporters
1,340 facebook followers
1,378 twitter followers
1,103 meetup group members
23,310 website hits

Our Team

12 board members
4 staff members
12 policy committee members
8 communications & development committee members
43 active volunteers

Our Support

3,635 volunteer hours
$124,332 grants received
$12,364 individual donations
business and event sponsor donations $15,976

FUNDS RAISED

- Grants Received 81%
- Individual Donations 11%
- Business and Event Sponsor Donations 8%
Where We are Going

People of all ages, economic levels, and abilities, in rural, suburban, and urban areas want to be able to walk. Giving people the invitation to walk is the foundation of a healthy transportation system. Walking is a critical part of this conversation. Feet First is leading this discussion.

We are taking even bigger steps in 2015 to ensure more places are walkable so that more people are given the basic right to walk. Here are some highlights:

Feet First co-wrote a piece of legislation promoting safe places for people walking. Communities should not be forever changed by the death of one of their community members. These are not accidents; these are preventable deaths and serious injuries. If passed, this bill would establish a Pedestrian Fatality and Injury Advisory Council to examine deaths and serious injuries, identify patterns, and recommend measures to be taken to prevent future tragedies.

We will expand our Walkable Washington Symposium & Awards by adding more case studies to our library. These efforts will support the design our cities, towns, and communities to be places for people that are healthy and can thrive for centuries.

We will get more kids walking to school by expanding our Safe Routes to School program by building on what we have learned over the last 10 years and applying these lessons on a regional approach.

Join us as we grow our Neighborhood Walking Ambassador program throughout the Puget Sound Region.

Look out for a Neighborhoods on Foot walking map we are creating for Columbia City and Rainier Beach.

We’ll continue to leverage Sound Transit Link Light Rail investments to support our Sound Access for All campaign. This includes securing additional funding necessary for the Pedestrian & Bicycle Bridge connecting North Seattle College to the Northgate light rail station.

At Feet First, we are inspired by our dedicated board members, committee members, volunteers, and the connections to like-minded organizations, companies and agencies. When we work together to create walkable communities we enjoy greater prosperity, health, and quality of life. This is why we believe WALKING MATTERS.