1991–92 ANNUAL REPORT



Head Start children plant a tree in Jackson Bottom Wetlands

27 Years of "People Helping People" 1965 - 1992



451 S. First Ave., Suite 700, Hillsboro, OR 97123 • 503-648-6646 • 503-648-0829 (TDD)

LETTER TO OUR FRIENDS

Dear Friends:

There are many reasons why people become involved in Community Action. Some of us are motivated to give something back to our community. Some of us believe that it is a way to make positive economic and social changes. Some of us believe deeply that we are our sisters' and brothers' keepers.

But all of us want to make a difference. And we feel passionate in our desire to make a difference in the lives of the least privileged among us. If better is possible, good isn't enough. Community Action becomes an effective vehicle for us to be the best that we can be in helping those who are struggling the most in our community.

Not only are we motivated by the need, but we are motivated by our values, which we have reaffirmed and committed to this past year. They are:

- To uphold the dignity of all people
- To uphold the right of all people to meet their basic needs
- To build self-reliance
- To act as advocates for people with inadequate resources
- To build an aware and informed community
- To maintain the highest standards of integrity, honest and professionalism
- To honor diversity in all forms

Next year we will be completing the fifth year of our strategic plan - a plan that refocused our efforts on strengthening families and building healthier communities. We are proud of our accomplishments and hope that as you read through this report you will feel proud of the ways in which you've supported us and made our successes possible.

One of the goals of our strategic plan is to "strengthen the organization's capacity to address priority goals". We came to realize that in order to strengthen our organization's capacity, we needed to be located in safe, accessible facilities that allowed us to deliver services in the most effective and efficient manner possible. We began to dream about one day having a Multi-Service Center.



Sherry a Robertson

Sherry Robinson Board Chair

We have moved forward rapidly this year to make our dream a reality. Next year we will see it take final shape and the following year, we will break ground on our new facility. Nearly half of the funds needed to build the Center have already been raised to date.

Beginning in 1993, we will be embarking on a Capital Campaign to raise the balance needed. We are excited about the prospect of building a service center that the community will feel proud of, and we will be reaching out to our friends and neighbors for support. We sincerely hope that you will join us, so that together we can achieve our dream.

Again, thank you for your ongoing support. For those that are still looking for ways to be more involved, please contact us. Your help is always needed, welcomed and valued.

With warm regards,



emalynn Nens

Jerralynn Ness Executive Director

"Society has a moral obligation to take the necessary steps to ensure that no one among us is hungry, homeless, unemployed or otherwise denied what is necessary to live with dignity."

> 1986 Pastoral Letter National Conference of Catholic Bishops

OUR MISSION

Washington County Community Action Organization (WCCAO) is a private, non-profit, community-based agency serving the economically disadvantaged in Washington County by providing for basic needs and promoting long term self-sufficiency.

OUR GOAL

WCCAO will assure, in a manner that promotes self-sufficiency, that all low-income residents of Washington County have access to services to meet human needs.

1991 - 92 OBJECTIVES

We will strive to increase our ability to promote self-sufficiency by:

- assuring that services are accessible to all eligible clients
- maintaining a comprehensive information and referral system
- operating a service delivery system that allows for comprehensive assessment of client needs
- establishing a family-oriented model of service delivery which promotes self-sufficiency
- promoting self-sufficiency as an approach in all programs

We will assure that the needs of low income people are met by:

- providing comprehensive information and referral, emergency and basic needs services
- increasing emergency shelter beds and providing homeless services
- increasing resources for and providing access to emergency and supplemental food, while improving food quality
- increasing resources for quality, affordable child care
- increasing access to and resources for quality, affordable housing
- providing energy conservation services
- providing early childhood development services
- providing education, skills training and self-help opportunities
- providing family self-sufficiency services

"With its reputation for growth, influx of high-technology industry, and acres of timberland, farmland, and vineyards, Washington County might, on the surface, appear to be a place of wealth and affluence, but there is a deeper picture.

It is a picture often unseen or unrecognized by the average person, but pervasive and increasingly serious nonetheless. It is a picture that includes children and the elderly, veterans, and the disabled. It is a picture that speaks of homelessness and hunger, poverty, and substance abuse."

The Deeper Picture, Washington County Health & Human Services Needs Assessment, September 1991

OUR PROGRAMS

* OUR PR

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Self Sufficiency Program

Energy Self Sufficiency: 24 low-income households, representing 93 individuals, were enrolled in a comprehensive case management program to reduce energy consumption. Services received included conservation education, financial assistance for energy bills, weatherization, budget counseling, energy audit, emergency and basic needs assistance.

Homeless Case Management: 250 homeless families representing 652 people, received case management services to help them achieve housing stability and increased self reliance.

Transitional Housing Case Management: 11 families representing 49 individuals, received comprehensive case management services to help them move from their transitional living arrangement into stabilized housing and achieve greater economic security.

Head Start Family Services: 269 Head Start families, representing 953 individuals, received comprehensive, family based needs assessments and individualized plans. 41 of these families, representing 145 individuals, received comprehensive case management services to help them become socially and economically self sufficient.

Next Steps/Pasos Siguientes: 54 low income and hispanic families, representing 151 individuals, enrolled in a demonstration project to promote economic and social self sufficiency through partnerships. Portland Community College and the University of Portland joined as partners in a culturally competent model of case management and family support services.

New Directions: In partnership with PCC, WCCAO provided support to assure that all students enrolled in PCC's displaced homemaker/single parent program received comprehensive, social services. 110 individuals received case management support to assure that their self sufficiency goals were achieved.

Mortgage Foreclosure Prevention: 22 low and moderate income families, representing 92 individuals, enrolled in a pilot project and received case management services to prevent the loss of their homes.

Emergency and Basic Needs Assistance

WCCAO responded to over 13,091 requests for assistance from low income families needing help by:

- providing information & referral to 13,091 callers in need
- providing intake, needs assessment, advocacy and direct assistance for 3,292 families experiencing multiple problems
- providing \$398,897 in energy assistance payments to help 2,253 low income households
- providing \$34,945 in rent assistance to prevent 191 families from becoming homeless
- providing \$1,505 in other emergency assistance to 199 families Services were provided through our Client Services Offices, located both in Hillsboro and in Tigard, at our Neighborshare Office.

Housing Services

Through coordination with The Housing Services Consortium and sub-contracts with six agencies, WCCAO has provided a variety of housing services to disadvantaged and disabled people in Washington County. Those services include:

- legal assistance for 2,063 people having housing related problems (provided by Oregon Legal Services)
- assistance to 261 disabled people in acquiring adequate housing (provided by Access Oregon)
- assistance to 35 chronically mentally ill or developmentally disabled people in meeting their housing needs (provided by Washington County Mental Health Dept.)
- mortgage default counseling for 149 households (provided by Housing Services of Oregon)
- counseling services to 307 people for home share matches (provided by Shared Housing)
- fair housing information to 2,394 low income households (provided by WCCAO)
- six fair housing community workshops (provided by WCCAO)

Housing Advocacy



Working in partnership with several organizations, WCCAO undertook major housing advocacy efforts in 1991-92, including:

- participation in the development of the Comprehensive Housing Affordability Strategies (both for the State and Washington County), including the organization of public comment on those Strategies
- implementation of the Housing Trust Fund in Washington County
- organization of tenant workshops to educate tenants about their rights and responsibilities
- development of a new state organization, Association of Community Development Corporations, to promote community based development of affordable housing
- interviews with 100 community groups to build support for addressing affordable housing problems in Washington County

In addition, WCCAO provided support to the Housing Development Corporation of Washington County to build 24 units of new farm worker housing in Cornelius. These new units will house approximately 120 people.

Parent Support Center

96 parents participated in eight Parent Support Center training sessions. Sessions were seven weeks in length. An additional Parent Support Group was held on a weekly basis for eight parents over the course of 40 weeks. Parent meetings and group educational activities involved another 140 parents. Subject matter for the training sessions, meetings and group activities included child development, appropriate discipline, developmentally appropriate care and general parenting skills.

OGRAMS * OUR PROGRAMS

Homeless Services

A total of 261 homeless families (701 individuals) in Washington County received assistance from WCCAO in the following ways.

- 125 families received 6,329 bed nights of shelter at WCCAO's Emergency Family Shelter in Hillsboro
- 13 families, that could not be housed at the Shelter, received emergency shelter vouchers, which were used for 326 bed nights in local motels
- The WCCAO Neighborshare Office in Tigard provided support services to the 112 families that received 2,978 bed nights of emergency shelter at the Tigard Christian Ministries Shelter
- 11 homeless families were moved into one of the four transitional housing units operated by WCCAO for a total of 7,241 bed nights
- support workshops were provided to 293 people staying at the Hillsboro Shelter
- all 261 homeless families received case
- management support, including goal setting and comprehensive social services
- 127 of the homeless children at the Hillsboro Shelter participated in a

children's program Over 5,000 homeless people could not be provided with shelter, but received information and referrals to other possible options or resources.

Three additional transitional housing units were secured for use during the 92-93 fiscal year, expanding the total to seven units.

Weatherization and Energy Conservation

112 low income households received comprehensive weatherization services, which included installing insulation, storm windows, weatherstripping and caulking.

An additional 140 households enrolled in WCCAO's Self-Help Weatherization Program and received instructions in the installation of low cost weatherization measures in their homes. Four energy conservation workshops were provided to community groups as well through this program.

Head Start



Comprehensive pre-school services were provided in six Centers around the county to 242 low income and/or disabled fouryear-old children and their families. This figure represents a 23% increase over the prior fiscal year and the addition of one Center for operation of the program. Services provided by the Program included:

- transportation to and from the Centers
- nutritious meals and snacks
- developmentally appropriate education
- comprehensive health services
- child abuse prevention education
- special educational programs for children with disabilities
- case management, including family needs assessments and comprehensive social services
- a literacy project, which included family selection of quality books (3 books for each child) distributed at special events held at each Head Start Center

Child Care

29 low income children and their families received child care services that included selection of a quality child care program and qualification for child care scholarships. 12 consultations were provided to 7 child care centers in Washington County that participated in this program, to provide technical assistance and monitor the child's development.

207 hours of on-site child care was provided to low income families attending activities sponsored by WCCAO, including parenting classes, meetings and training sessions.

Tualatin Valley Food Center (TVFC)

TVFC obtained 1,444,094 pounds of food this year from numerous food drives, local donors, Oregon Food Bank Network, Second Harvest and individuals. The food was distributed to some 50 local member agencies, which resulted in:

- 19,545 emergency food boxes (serving 69,095 individuals)
- 23,522 emergency hot meals
- 141,612 meals provided through supplemental food programs

TVFC also provided the member agencies with training and technical assistance and other types of support through on-site visits, quarterly meetings and mailings.

Brown Bag Program

4812 bags of surplus supplemental food were distributed to 592 low income families, representing 1,302 individuals. This self-help program, run by volunteers, gave the members an opportunity to volunteer at one of the five Brown Bag sites around the county. For a nominal fee, each member received a bag of supplemental food each month for a year and a monthly newsletter with information on nutrition, budgeting, free and low-cost workshops and job opportunities. The members also delivered food to shut-in and disabled people in their area.



Holiday Food Basket Program

3,800 Christmas Baskets were distributed to 13,270 persons through the work of agency staff and the Christmas Clearing Bureau (CCB) team of volunteers. The CCB program matched needy families with holiday basket sponsors from churches, civic groups, schools, businesses and individuals.

OUR BUDGET

FUNDING RESOURCES

Private Resources

Exxon Weatherization 6th Annual Mardi Gras Ball Northwest Area Foundation Northwest Natural Gas "Play It Again" Thrift Store Portland General Electric Private Donors: Individuals Churches Civic Groups Corporations Northwest Natural Gas Petroleum Violation Escrow Housing Development Corporation Fund Raising Events

Federal Resources

Federal Emergency Management Agency Low Income Energy Assistance Program Office of Community Services/ Demonstration Partnership Health and Human Services U. S. Housing and Urban Development U. S. Department of Agriculture U. S. Department of Energy Community Services Block Grant Emergency Shelter Grant Program

State Support

Oregon Department of Education Oregon Housing & Community Services Oregon Housing Trust Fund State Homeless Assistance Oregon Partners in Energy Great Start

Local Governments

Cities: Beaverton Cornelius Forest Grove Gaston Hillsboro King City Tigard Tualatin Washington County

United Way

United Way Federal Campaign United Way of Columbia Willamette

Program Income



MARDI GRAS 1992

The Valley Conference Center was the site of this year's gala fundraiser for WCCAO, held on February 22, 1992. Surrounded by balloons, glitter, and silhouettes of jazz trumpeters, revelers enjoyed the silent and oral auctions, delicious dinner (complete with complimentary wine from Oak Knoll), and music by Stumptown Jazz.

The event brought in almost \$23,000 to help support WCCAO Programs in 1991-92. Credit for this tremendous success goes to the dedicated Mardi Gras Team of volunteers that organized and carried out the event and to the event donors and attendees for their support. THANK YOU ONE AND ALL!

MARDI GRAS STEERING COMMITTEE

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Event Co-Chairs -	Lynda Tatum, Portland
	General Electric
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Derene Meurisse Lorna Miller Kara Taylor Alisa Corstorphine Stephen Smith Margie Kessler Bob Colfelt

FUNDING AMOUNTS



TOTAL REVENUE: \$4,047,000

PROGRAM ALLOCATION



MARDI GRAS 1993 IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 27, 1993!

CASH CONTRIBUTORS

SPONSORS (\$100 - \$249)

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GTE Northwest Manager Leroy Bentley presents keys to a donated van at the 1992 Mardi Gras Ball as Honorary Chair of the event, Tom Walsh, looks on.

Morton & Associates New York Bagel Boys Oak Knoll Winery Oroweat Portland Brewing Company Portland General Electric Rainbow Printery Resers Fine Foods Royal Neighbors of America Safeway, Inc. Sears Security Pacific Bank Sherwood United Methodist Church Snead's Rental Needs Stagg Foods Stumptown Jazz Summit Brokerage Sunset Jaycees Tektronix The Sign Company Triple "S" Sales Tualatin Library Tualatin Valley Mental Health Clinic Valley Conference Center Washington Co. Association for Retarded Citizens Washington County Fairplex

WCCAO 1991-92





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* Denotes Alternate

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CHILD DEVELOPMENT