WCCAO ANNUAL REPORT

1981-82

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WCCAO'S MISSION

Washington County Community Action Organization, Inc. (WCCAO) is locally controlled by a Board of Directors with diverse socio-economic backgrounds. WCCAO's primary mission is to eliminate poverty in Washington County, Oregon. Until poverty is eliminated, WCCAO will provide programs and services that will attempt to lessen its adverse effects on economically disadvantaged persons.. To accomplish this mission, WCCAO will initiate programs and expend resources in the following areas:

- 1. *Liaison:* Serve as a liaison between the poverty community local, state, federal governmental units, and other agencies.
- 2. Community Services: Provide to economically disadvantaged residents human services that are not adequately available from governmental units, religious entities, or other agencies.
- 3. Community Self-Reliance: Organize and develop innovative anti-poverty programs that can be operated by community groups. Provide the necessary technical assistance in community organization, program development, grant writing, and management to ensure the survival of these programs.
- 4. Advocacy: Advocate on the individual, program, institutional, or societal level on behalf of economically disadvantaged persons.





STATUS REPORT

Fiscal Year 1982 was a time of transition and re-organization for WCCAO. It was a year of transitioning away from federal funding to State and local funding. In 1981, 55 percent of the Agency's funding came from the federal government, in 1983 only 26 percent of the budget will come from federal grants. It was a year of transition in response to budget cuts and increased demand for WCCAO programs. The number of people living below the poverty level, currently over 14,000, increased due to a rise in unemployment. While demand for WCCAO services increased, program revenues were cut by more than 20 percent in 1982.

In response to these dramatic changes WCCAO initiated a major re-organization effort aimed at maximizing its ability to provide cost-effective services through the 1980s. An independent audit was made of WCCAO's mission, goals, objectives, and organizational structure. This resulted in a more efficient staffing pattern that will enable WCCAO to maintain or increase services with fewer dollars. Some of the highlights of this re-organization include

A clearer, more precise mission statement.

The consolidation of four projects into a *Department of Community Self-Reliance* that will focus in making programs operate without federal or state funds.

The creation of a subsidiary corporation, *Washington County Energy Conservation, Inc.,* that will generate its own income by charging non low-income clients for services.

The streamlining of agency administration through consolidating necessary functions in fewer positions.

The development of a community awareness program regarding *WCCAO's* goals and objectives.

The development of a centralized client-intake and tracking system.

We strongly feel that the organizational steps we have taken will put WCCAO in a strong position to alleviate poverty in Washington County through the 1980s.

David A. Johnson (Rose) Executive Director

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Chairman of the Board

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COMMUNITY SELF-RELIANCE

As Washington County grows, so grows its low-income population. The 1970 Census listed 9,876 people living below the poverty level in Washington County. The recent 1980 Census revealed the County now has at least 14,757 people living in poverty, an increase of 50 percent.

Given declining resources WCCAO realizes it cannot meet all the needs of the County's growing low-income population. Consequently, one of WCCAOs major objectives is that of organizing anti-poverty programs that can be operated by community groups and won't be dependent on federal or state funds. This past year WCCAO has worked hard to make the following community organizations self-sufficient.

ORGANIZATION

Centro Cultural

Housing Development Corporation of Washington County

Tualatin Valley Food Center

Washington County Wood Coop.

Washington County Energy Coalition

Washington County Gleaners Inc.

NEED ADDRESSED

Needs of the Hispanic poor.

Decent, safe housing for Migrants Farmworkers.

Food for those who can't afford adequate nutrition.

Heating and cooking fuel for those who can't afford to buy it.

Protecting the rights of lowincome persons who can't afford to pay rising utility bills.

Food for those who can't afford adequate nutrition.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1981-82

CHAIRPERSON Larry Cole Beaverton City Council

VICE-CHAIRPERSON Al Young Young Brick & Concrete

TREASURER Sara Packer A Child's Place/Un Lugar Para Ninos

SECRETARY

Ray Hickam North Plains Senior Center

PRIVATE SECTOR REPS.

George Drumbor Intel Corporation

Jose Estrada Oregon Human Development Corp.

> Alternates Sylvia Barajas de Everson

> > Anita Moreno

Charles R. McClellan Portland General Electric

> Alternate Dale D. Halm

Jose Solano Migrant Education

Claire Weddle West Tualaty Child Care

Al Young Young Brick & Concrete

Honorable Les AuCoin Congressman Ex-Officio

> Alternates Mark Knudsen

Nancy Newman

PUBLIC SECTOR REPS.

L.A. "Larry" Chambreau Hillsboro City Council

> Alternate Dr. Joan Miller

Larry Cole Beaverton City Council

> Alternate Forrest Soth

Virginia Dagg County Commissioner

> Alternate Bruce Thomson

Jeannette Hamby State Representative

Alternate Denzil Schoeller

John E. Meek Cornelius City Council

Ora Faye Thogerson Forest Grove City Council

> Alternate John O'Kane

LOW-INCOME SECTOR REPS.

Charity Dasenbrock Head Start

> Alternate Karla Robles

Ray Hickam North Plains Senior Center

Donna Kintz Wash. Co. Energy Coalition

> Alternate Sam Cone

Marcia McKellips Gleaning, Inc.

Sara Packer A Child's Place/Un Lugar Para Ninos

> Alternate Linda Stiles

Pearl Sievert Hillsboro Senior Center

> Alternate John Haase

WCCAO ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT 1981-82

9,774 LOW-INCOME FAMILIES SERVED

OVER FOUR MILLION DOLLARS

CONTRIBUTED TO

WASHINGTON COUNTY'S

ECONOMY*

* MONEY SPENT IN WASHINGTON COUNTY'S ECONOMY HAS A MULTIPLYING EFECT. ECONOMISTS ESTIMATE THE MULTIPLIER TO BE BETWEEN THREE AND SEVEN, THE MOST CONSERVATIVE FIGURE, THREE, INDICATES THAT WCCAO CONTRIBUTED OVER \$4,612,107 TO THE COUNTY'S ECONOMY IN FISCAL YEAR 1981-82.

Community food & Nutrition Program

The Community Food & Nutrition Program provided technical assistance and organizational support to efforts that improve nutrition and reduce hunger among Washington County's poor. This past year, the program provided support to Washington County Gleaners, Inc. and the Tualatin Valley Food Center, in addition it assisted with the U.S.D.A. local cheese distribution.

Through a volunteer run crop gleaning project, people harvested fresh fruit and vegetables donated by local growers and distributed the produce to low-income families, seniors and the disabled.

The Tualatin Valley Food Center is a county-wide food distribution network which exists to co-ordinate the solicitation, storage, and distribution of donated food. Local emergency food closets receive the food and distribute to needy households.

- Washington County Gleaners, Inc. involved 330 households in the harvest of 98,974 pounds of fruits and vegetables, valued at \$49,487.00 and donated by 44 growers.
- Gleaners distributed 47,434 pounds of salvageable foods, valued at \$29,409.08, to gleaning members.
- 5,000 volunteer hours were donated to help assure that gleaning continues to exist in Washington County.
- 55,664 pounds of salvageable foods, valued at \$34,511.68 was distributed to 20 emergency food closets, senior centers, and shelter homes by Tualatin Valley Food Center (TVFC).
- Assisted TVFC in distributing 37,000 pounds of U.S.D.A. cheese to eligible low-income households, in raising \$7,330.00, and in their sponsorship of the Project Second Wind Food Drive during which 14,000 pounds of food was gathered.
- 3,500 volunteer hours donated to the operation of TFVC.
- Special project helped build statewide network of low-income people concerned with food and nutrition issues.



EMERGENCY SERVICES & SHELTER HOME



The *Emergency Shelter House* provides temporary housing for indigent persons without a place to stay. It is the only shelter facility in the Tri-county area that will provide shelter to an entire family. Assistance is provided to help residents find permanent housing and employment. The Emergency Services Program, housed in the WCCAO Shelter House, assist both resident and non-resident lowincome people having emergency needs related to food, clothing, housing, finances, utilities, transportation, medical problems, etc. If unable to help through small loans, food vouchers, food supplies, etc. a counselor will seek help through other resources. Information and support is also given to help people deal with and solve problems themselves.

- Provided emergency housing to 374 families representing 618 individuals.
- Provided emergency services i.e., food, loans, clothes, furniture to 2,037 families.
- Provided \$5,008.34 in emergency loans to 481 families.
- Maintained an active involvement with local groups concerned about the needs of low-income people.
- 10,080 hours of volunteer time were donated to these programs.



ENERGY PROGRAM

Low-income persons are provided energy related services through this program. Services provided include weatherization, home-repair, wood-gleaning, conservation information, and energy-education (self-help weatherization and weatherization training).

Beginning October 1, 1982 low-income energy related services will be provided by a new "Energy Program", a subsidiary corporation of WCCAO called Washington County Energy Conservation, Inc. This new program will endeavor to provide services at or above the level of the past and extend services into the private sector.

- Weatherized 140 low-income homes
- Monitored, maintained and repaired 17 low-income solar hot water systems.
- Maintained and repaired 5 lowincome solar greenhouses.
- Repaired or arranged for emergency repairs of 35 low-income homes.
- Cut 505 cords of fuelwood.
- Delivered 260 cords of fuelwood to 112 low-income families.
- 15 cords of fuelwood stockpiled.



HEAD START

Head Start involves four and five year old low-income children and their families in a learning experience that includes pre-school education, health care and social services. A major emphasis is placed on parental involvement through the program. Parents serve as aides in the classrooms, help to plan center curriculum and activities, and are responsible for administrative decision making. Children attend a center-based program three days per week with teachers and/or Family Advocates making monthly home visits.



- 149 low-income children were provided a Head Start education.
- 470 volunteers worked with Head Start children and families.
- 102 children received physical exams.
- 116 children received dental exams.
- 37 children received speech therapy.
- 92 families received social services through Head Start.
- Participated in Oregon Human Rights Coalition.

HOTLINE SERVICES

This program serves low-income persons who have questions, concerns, or complaints about Welfare, Food Stamps and Social Security. In addition, Hotline staff will represent low-income persons at welfare negotiations and hearings. Staff will also work with others interested in promoting changes in public policies that lead to greater self-sufficiency and dignity for low-income persons.

- Responded to 2298 requests from persons needing assistance with Social Security, Adult & Family services and Food Stamps.
- Conducted 42 workshops for agencies, low-income groups and civic groups on poverty and public assistance issues.
- Provided technical assistance to the Oregon Human Rights Coalition thereby giving lowincome persons a mechanism for influencing state and local policies that impact their lives.
- Set up a VISTA project which will work to improve training and job placement access for low-income persons.

RETIRED SENIOR CITIZEN VOLUNTEER PROGRAM

R.S.V.P.'s purpose is to create meaningful opportunities for persons of retirement age to participate in the life of their communities through volunteer service. The focus of the program is that of matching the interests of senior volunteers with community needs. Volunteers work at public and private non-profit agencies and organizations in Washington County.



- 480 volunteers donated 187,402 hours of volunteer time to Senior Centers, schools, hospitals, community corrections, Red Cross and other civic groups. Using the minimum wage, this translates into \$702,760 of service to Washington County.
- An insurance counseling program for Washington County was established in conjunction with the Oregon Insurance Division of the State of Oregon. This program provides all the seniors of Washington County with basic help on any questions pertaining to the insurance they now have. Nine volunteers work out of the Senior Centers and private homes.

Volunteers in Service to America (Vista)

Our VISTA Project placed 10 full time volunteers in projects serving the needs of low-income people in Washington County.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS:

- Helped establish a Wood Gleaning Cooperative that will provide wood to elderly, handicap and other low-income persons.
- Developed a Self-help Weatherization Program aimed to low-income renters
- Helped establish Washington County Gleaners Inc., a corporation consisting of low-income volunteers that harvest and distribute surplus crops to the needy.
- Supported the development of the Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc., which receives and distributes food for to those in need.
- Working to develop a housing referral system for large families and an informal system for resolving landlord and renter concerns.
- Working to improve the job training and placement services available to low-income families.

HEATING ASSISTANCE & ADVOCACY

The Heating Assistance and Advocacy Program has three primary goals:

- 1. To assist low-income households with the rising cost of home heating.
- 2. To empower low-income people by involving them in an organization in which they can develop their leadership skills as well as impact on energy issues that affect them; and
- 3. To provide information on conservation and self-help activities that will reduce their energy costs.

- 3717 low-income households in Washington County were provided with \$608,735 to to help pay their home heating bills through the federally funded Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP).
- More than 80 low-income households were involved in the Washington County Energy Coalition. The Coalition received a \$10,000 grant from the United Church Board for Homeland Ministries to work on gaining fair energy policies for the poor. Seven local churches and 21 other community-based organizations were involved with the Coalition this year.
- Information on conservation, self-help weatherization, the Wood-Co-op, and utility consumer rights was provided to all LIEAP clients. This information was also available in Spanish, Laotian, Cambodian, and Vietnamese languages.

WCCAO VOLUNTEERS FY 1981-82

In FT 1981-82 WCCAO held its first recognition of volunteers giving time to support program efforts. During this past year 1,472 volunteers helped WCCAO provide services. Volunteers received their awards at WCCAO's Annual Meeting, November 12, 1981.

There were two categories for volunteer recognition:

- 1. Program Volunteers
- 2. Volunteers contributing to the Agency as a whole.

The help that the following people provided to the Agency was invaluable

PROGRAM VOLUNTEER AWARDS



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WCCAO BUDGET SOURCE 1981-82

FEDERAL SOURCES		STATE SOURCES	-	LOCAL SOURCES		
Community Services Administration Dept. of Health & Human	\$232,033	Low-Income Energy Assistance	\$662,092	Local governments i.e. County and Cities	\$	28,444
Services	310,639	Low-Income Weatherization	168,746	United Way	8	41,506
Action	32,638			Donations from Churches		
Comprehensive Employment and Training Administration	42,097			and others sources		19,174
TOTAL	\$617,407		\$830,838		\$	89,124
	(40%)		(54%)	2		(6%)

GRAND TOTAL \$1,537,369

Un-Audited Figures



Actual program budgets were; Energy Crisis Assistance \$662,092, Energy Program \$207,785, Head Start \$311,136, Emergency Services/Shelter House \$69,954, Administration \$144,072, Sub Grants \$48,770, Migrant Farmworker Housing \$3,016. RSVP \$34,545, CF & NP \$16,788, Hotline \$24,423. Other programs \$14,792, In-Kind \$183,421. Un-Audited Figueres.