

Washington
County
Community
Action
Organization



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A N N U A L

R E P O R T

WCCAO'S MISSION STATEMENT

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 and 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 in-

novative 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.

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WASHINGTON COUNTY COMMUNITY ACTION ORGANIZATION

245 SE Second, Hillsboro Oregon 97123

Letter to our friends

During 1983, a number of WCCAO projects were completed after years of work.

The Housing Development Corporation which was started by WCCAO two years ago broke ground on 50 units of farm labor housing in Forest Grove, culminating a four year planning and development effort. After two years of technical assistance from WCCAO, Centro Cultural opened their community center in Cornelius. Tuality Community Hospital in Hillsboro agreed to provide approximately \$400,000 of additional free or reduced cost hospital services to low-income patients qualified under the Hospitals Hill-Burton obligation in a negotiated settlement with Citizens for Equal Health Care, a group organized by WCCAO four years ago. The WCCAO Head Start program received new funding for an 18-child classroom in Sherwood, topping a three-year effort to expand Head Start services in South Eastern Washington County. Finally, all WCCAO programs built over the past 18 years of its existence continued to operate at the level of the previous year.

As well as enjoying the success of past projects coming to fruition, WCCAO also initiated a number of new activities.

Five volunteer programs which WCCAO either runs or provides assistance to are the basis of a further expansion with funding from the County's Community Development Block Grant. WCCAO will purchase and renovate a Volunteer Center which will provide 6,000 square feet of warehouse and office space to the Tualatin Valley Food Center, Crop Gleaners, Wood Gleaners, RSVP and Christmas Basket Clearing Bureau. In an effort to increase its already substantial contributions from community and national churches, WCCAO is attempting to have the churches who contribute encourage other churches and community organizations to contribute.

In spite of today's economic conditions which have been so hard on WCCAO client population and other non-profit corporations, WCCAO remains a healthy and stable institution ready to serve the needs of Washington County's low-income persons.

WCCAO is proud of its accomplishments and confident it is situating itself well to meet the current and future needs of economically disadvantaged persons. WCCAO also realizes that its accomplishments are due to the cooperation and support of hundreds of volunteers and many other organizations. On behalf of the Board our low-income clients, and the staff, WCCAO extends its thanks to all of you who have helped.

Central Office

245 S.E. 2nd
Hillsboro, OR 97123

- *Administration
648-6646
- *Head Start
648-6646
- *LIEAP Fuel Assistance
640-8951
- *Energy Coalition
640-8951

Weatherization

2575 N.E. Kathryn
#10 & #11
Hillsboro, OR 97123
640-8811

Emergency Shelter House

210 S.E. 12th
Hillsboro, OR 97123

- *Emergency Services & Shelter
648-0820 & 648-0829
- *Welfare Hotline
648-0514
- *Employment Access
648-0514

Washington County Volunteer Center

20515 S.W. Blanton
Aloha, OR 97007

- *Retired Senior Volunteer Program
- *Wood Co-op
- *Crop Gleaners, Inc.
- *Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc.

Larry Cole
Chairman

Gordon J. Molitor
Executive Director

WCCAO Board Of Directors 1982-83

CHAIRPERSON

Larry Cole
Beaverton City Council

VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Forrest Soth
Beaverton City Council

TREASURER

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

SECRETARY

Denzil Scheller
Building Contractor

LOW-INCOME SECTOR REPS.

Bill Buskirk
Tualatin Valley Food Center

Ray Hickam
North Plains Senior Center

Donna Kintz
Wash. Co. Energy Coalition
Alternate

Elizabeth Anderson

Marcia McKellips
Wash. Co. Gleaning, Inc.
Alternate

Marge Wells

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

Alternate

Linda Stiles

Yvette Saarinen
Tualatin Valley Food Center

Lorraine Santos
Head Start
Alternate
Glenna Crowthers

PUBLIC SECTOR REPS.

Larry Chambreau
Hillsboro City Council
Alternate
Justina Thomas

Larry Cole
Beaverton City Council
Alternate
Forrest Soth

John Meek
Wash. Co. board of Comm.
Alternate
Bruce Thomson

W.G. Paterson
Mayor, City of Forest Grove

Roy Seeborg
Forest Grove City Council
Alternates
John O'Kane

Ora Faye Thogerson

Al Young
State Representative
District #5
Alternate
Jan Young

Honorable Les AuCoin
Congressman
Ex-Officio
Alternates
Kevin Smith
Nancy Newman

PRIVATE SECTOR REPS.

Charles R. McClellan
Portland General Electric
Alternate
Dale D. Halm

Denzil Scheller
Building Contractor

John Sellers
Employment Develop. Spec.

Jose Solano
Migrant Education

Diana Stotz
Oregon Human Development
Alternate
Jose Estrada

Claire Weddle
West Tuality Child Care
Alternates
Elsie Rios
Debie Zuniga

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. **Head Start** involves children in a center-based program three days each week with Teachers and/or Family Advocates making monthly home visits. **Head Start** places a major emphasis on

parental involvement encouraging them to serve as aids in the classrooms, help plan curriculums and activities, and participate in program decision-making on the **Head Start** Policy Council.

During the 1982-83 school year additional funding was received to add a new classroom for eighteen children in South Eastern Washington County.



Rosa Garcia is a Family Advocate at the Cornelius Head Start Center.



Nash Araiza, is a teacher at the Cornelius Head Start Center.

Accomplishments:

- *159 low-income children were provided Head Start services.
- *476 volunteers worked with Head Start children and families.
- *147 children received physical exams.
- *135 children received dental exams.
- *33 children received speech therapy.
- *136 families received social services through Head Start.
- *38 handicapped children received a head start.

Energy Program

The **Energy Program** provides low-income home owners and renters with energy related services including weatherization, minor home repair and conservation information. During January through September, 1983, the **Energy Program** was

operated through a subsidiary corporation called Washington County Energy Conservation, Inc.

Accomplishments

- *213 homes weatherized.*
- *27 homes repaired.*
- *Arranged maintenance of previously installed solar water heaters and greenhouse systems.*



RSVP Volunteers Pearl Sievert (left), and Ruthe Potter (right) are shown here working at the Hillsboro Senior Center Gift Shop.

The **Retired Senior Volunteer Program** creates meaningful volunteer opportunities for persons of retirement age to participate in the life of their communities. **RSVP** matches the interests of senior volunteers with the needs of private non-profit and public agencies and organizations in Washington County.

Accomplishments

**335 volunteers donated 66,634 hours of volunteer time to Senior Centers, Community Corrections, Red Cross, Tuality Hospital, Nursing Homes, schools, craft stores, Youth Services. At the minimum wage,*

these donated hours equal \$223,224 of service.

**An Insurance Counseling program working in conjunction with the Oregon Insurance Division provides Seniors of Washington County with basic help on any questions pertaining to the insurance they now have.*

Retired Senior Volunteer Program

Community Self-Reliance



Two Wood Gleaners prepare to return to Wood Coop to share wood with those unable to cut for themselves.

The **Community Self Reliance Program** provides technical assistance and organizational support needed to create or strengthen volunteer efforts aimed at ameliorating poverty while enhancing community self-reliance in Washington County. During the fiscal year 1982-83 support was given to the Washington County Crop Gleaners, Inc., Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc., and the Washington County Wood Coop.

Washington County Crop Gleaners, Inc.

Through this volunteer-run

crop gleaning project, people harvest fresh fruit and vegetables donated by local growers and distribute the produce to low-income families, seniors and the disabled. The volunteer gleaners also distribute salvageable processed foods to their members.

**350 low-income households benefited from the harvest of 117,580 pounds of fruits and vegetables which were donated by 107 growers.*

**Volunteers distributed 72,351 pounds of salvageable foods to member households.*

**8,463 volunteer hours were donated.*

**\$2,943,00 were raised through local efforts.*

Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc.

T.V.F.C. is a county-wide food distribution network which exists to coordinate the solicitation, storage and distribution of donated food. Over 20 local



Some food stuffs available through the Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc.

emergency food services receive the food and distribute it to needy households.

**259,398 pounds of food were donated to T.V.F.C. to serve the emergency food needs of over 49,727 individuals.*

**4,813 volunteer hours and \$14,587.00 worth of program supplies were donated to support T.V.F.C. activities.*

**\$9,885.00 were raised through local fundraising efforts.*

Washington County Wood Co-op

Through this volunteer operated project, members cut donated wood and share it with elderly and disabled persons to help meet their wood heating

needs.

556 cords of wood were donated to the **Wood Co-op and cut and hauled by volunteers.*

**Over 4,705 volunteer hours were donated.*

**97 low-income elderly and disabled households received 226.5 cords of wood.*

**\$1,598.00 were raised through local fundraising efforts.*



New home of the Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc. 20515 Blanton, Aloha

Comprehensive Emergency Services

Emergency Shelter House

Temporary housing is provided to homeless families and individuals. Counselors provide guidance and support to residents, as well as assistance in locating permanent housing and employment.

**444 families, representing 695 individuals were provided emergency housing for a total number of 4,572 bed days.*

Emergency Services

Emergency Services counselors assist both resident and non-resident low income people having emergency needs related to food, clothing, housing, finances, utilities, transportation, medical problems and so on. If unable to help through small loans, food vouchers, food supplies, etc. a counselor will seek help through other resources. In order to engender self-sufficiency and self-worth, a

priority is placed on giving information and support that will help people deal with and solve problems themselves.

**2,935 families representing 8,538 individuals received assistance with 11,502 different emergency problems.*

**\$7,165.87 was given in emergency loans to 575 of the above families, helping 1,797 individuals. These families paid back \$8,077.76 in cash, volunteer time or donation of goods.*

**628 food boxes were provided during the evenings and over the weekends when other food closets were closed down.*



Becky Risner answering Hot Line

Hotline

Paralegal staff provide

technical assistance and representation for people who are having difficulties understanding, interpreting, or receiving assistance through Food Stamps, Welfare and Social Security programs. Staff may handle client problems through one simple phone contact or may represent the client in cases lasting a year.

During FY '82-83, the number of chronically mentally ill clients needing help protecting their Social Security disability benefits increased dramatically. **Hotline** staff responded to this need by receiving the required training to conduct Social Security disability hearings and by developing a cooperative relation with Washington County Mental Health in representing their clients.

**1,305 families representing 3,791 individuals were given paralegal assistance with problems related to Welfare, Food Stamps and/or Social Security.*

**13 families were represented at Social Security (SSI) disability hearings with 9 favorable decisions and four decisions pending.*

**13 families were represented at Adult & Family Services hearings with favorable decisions on at least half.*

Volunteers In Service To America

The Washington County **VISTA** Project placed 10 fulltime volunteers on 6 projects serving the needs of low-income people in Washington County. The **VISTA** volunteers provided the support needed for these overall accomplishments.

Accomplishments

Established a **Housing Referral System and an ability to continue promoting better housing opportunities for low-income families. Provided 387 low-income families and 91 social service providers with information on how to handle housing concerns and problems. Provided information to 48 landlords, realtors and other business persons on barriers that prevent low-income families access to equal housing opportunities.*

**Assessment of the employment and training needs of public assistance recipients and what training resources are available. Identified major barriers of the economically*



VISTA Volunteers (Back row left to right) Vicky Gridley, Becky Risner, Bill Donley, Delbert Gridley. (Front row left to right) Beverly Boyd, Sue Wendt, Val Bozied.

disadvantaged in obtaining and maintaining employment.

Expanded the **Self-Help Weatherization project to reach more low-income participants and a larger geographic area.*

****Emergency Meals.** Established an emergency on-site hot meal program that serves an average of 45 meals daily.*

**Improved the organizational structures, operations, and administrative abilities of:*

*•**Washington County Crop***

***Gleaners, Inc.**, a corporation consisting of low-income volunteers that harvest and distribute surplus crops to the needy.*

*•**Tualatin Valley Food Center, Inc.**, which receives, stores and distributes processed food to those in emergency need.*

*•**Washington County Wood Cooperative**, which utilizes volunteers to cut and donate wood for low-income, elderly and disabled persons' heating needs.*

Heating Assistance & Advocacy

The **Heating Assistance and Advocacy** Program's primary goal is to assist low-income households pay the rising cost of heating their homes. The program also empowers low-income people by involving them in the Washington County Energy Coalition as a means of developing their leadership skills and impacting on energy issues affecting them. The program also provides information on conservation and self-help activities that will reduce energy costs.

Accomplishments

**4,119 low-income households were provided with \$757,130 to help pay their home heating costs through the federally funded Low Income Energy Assistance Program (LIEAP).*

**196 low-income households received \$12,500 from the Gas Assistance Program (GAP) funded by Northwest Natural Gas.*

**More than 100 low-income households, churches and community groups were involved in the Washington County Energy Coalition. Concerned that high energy costs are forcing low-income people into a "heat or eat" situation, the Coalition provided training and technical assistance to a variety of church and community groups statewide to educate them about the need for fair energy policies.*

The Coalition also sponsored a legislative bill to amend and reform utility shutoff regulations, which was voted into law. The Coalition received a favorable ruling from the Public Utility Commission on its formal complaint against Portland General Electric's deposit policy. The Coalition had charged that low-income persons were unfairly charged large utility deposits. The Coalition was supported by a \$7,000 grant from the American Lutheran Church and a \$4,500 grant from the United Church of Christ.

**Information on conservation, self-help weatherization, the Wood Co-op, and utility consumer rights was provided to LIEAP & GAP clients. This information was available in Spanish, Laotian, Cambodian, and Vietnamese languages.*



Elizabeth Anderson President, Washington County Energy Coalition.

Funding Sources 1982-83¹

GRAND TOTAL \$2,022,705

FEDERAL SOURCES

Dept. of Health & Human Services	\$359,825
Action	\$39,847
U.S.D.A.	\$18,905

TOTAL \$418,217

STATE SOURCES

Low-Income Energy Assistance	\$827,782
Low-Income Weatherization	\$317,329
S.C.S.P. Block Grant	\$136,695
Emergency Food & Shelter	\$25,499

TOTAL \$1,307,305

LOCAL SOURCES²

Donations from Churches and other sources	\$204,575
United Way	\$48,100
Local Governments	\$44,508

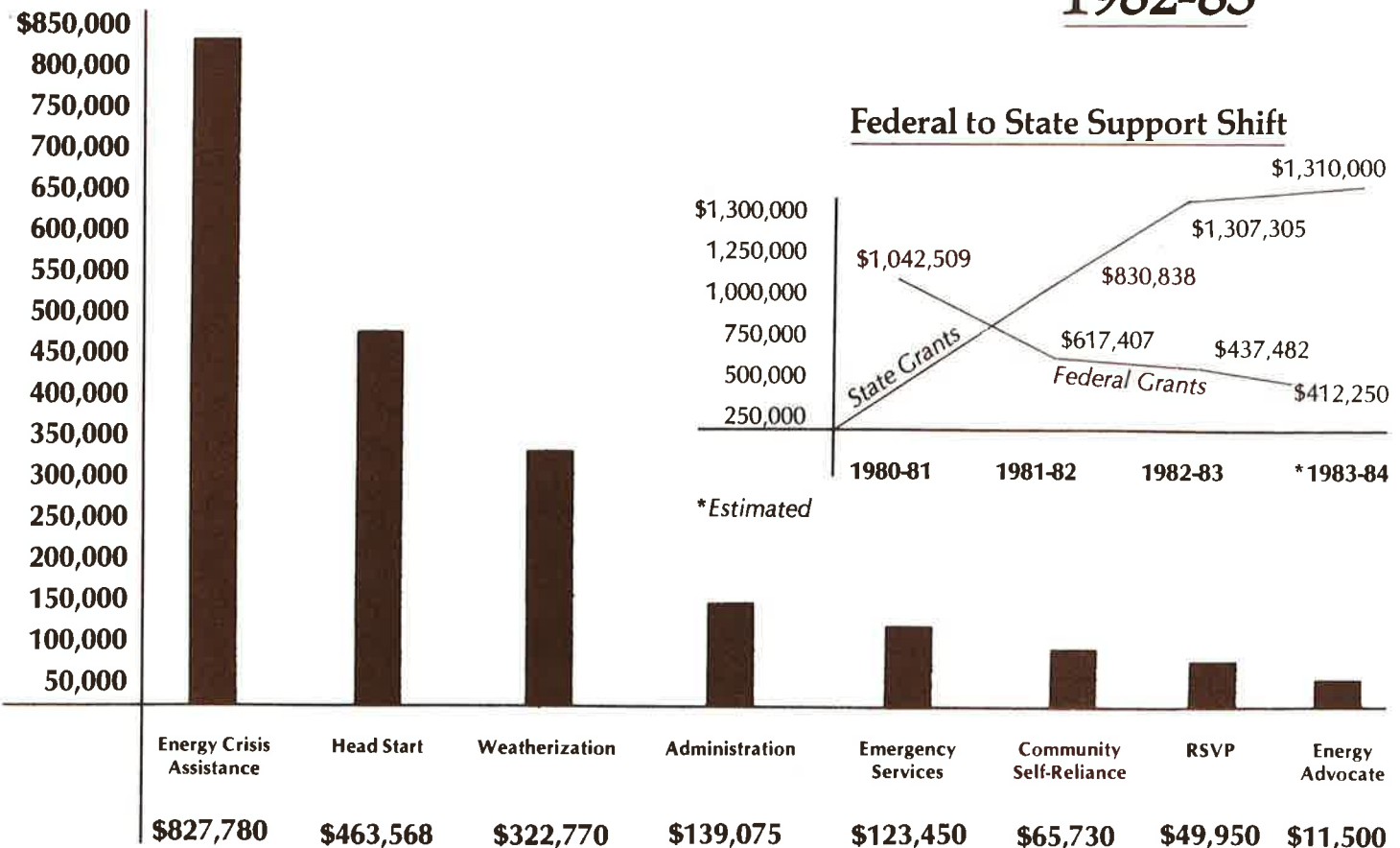
TOTAL \$297,183

1. Un-Audited

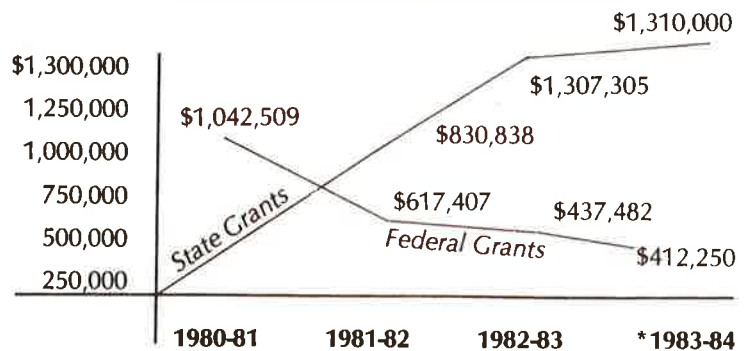
2. Does not include donated food, crops or clothes.

TOTAL \$2,022,705

Expenditures 1982-83



Federal to State Support Shift



*Estimated

WCCAO Distribution Of Duties

