

1990 - 91 ANNUAL REPORT



26 Years of "People Helping People"
1965-1991

**WASHINGTON COUNTY
COMMUNITY
ACTION
ORGANIZATION**

451 South First Ave. • Hillsboro, Oregon 97123

Letters To Our Friends

Board Chair Message:



Cliff Clark, Board Chair

Twenty-five years into the War on Poverty, the battle has not been won. Here in the richest county in Oregon, the need to step up our efforts is evident all around us.

The coming year will be a critical one in WCCAO's history. Our reputation as an effective and caring provider of services has never been better. And yet, we find ourselves in a continual struggle for funding. Gathering greater community support will be our agency's greatest challenge.

As we look to the future, we can gather strength from the lessons learned in our first quarter century. We must not despair that we have not made poverty go away. What we have accomplished in our work is not the kind of thing that can be weighed or measured - and that is nearly always true in providing human services. But we have touched many lives, and many of those lives are different because of it.

WCCAO's work doesn't make headlines and it doesn't make the 6 o'clock news. But, day by day, whether the need is for food, emergency housing, child care, emergency assistance, or any of the other services we provide, it's the kind of work that makes the world a better place.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Cliff Clark".

Cliff Clark
Board Chair

"Although the economic wellbeing and prosperity of the United States have progressed to a level surpassing any achieved in world history, and although these benefits are widely shared throughout the nation, poverty continues to be the lot of a substantial number of our people... It is, therefore, the policy of the United States to eliminate the paradox of poverty in the midst of plenty in this nation, by opening to everyone the opportunity for education and training, the opportunity to work, and the opportunity to live in decency and dignity."

From the Preamble to the
Economic Opportunity Act, passed
into law on August 20, 1964

Executive Director's Message:



**Jerralynn Ness,
Executive Director**

1990-91 marked the completion of WCCAO's 25th year of service to Washington County. It was also the year that the visions of our long range planning transformed into working realities. With needed organizational changes in place, we strengthened our capacity to more effectively address the causes and conditions of poverty. Some of the highlights from 1990-91 were:

- Establishment of our Family Self-Sufficiency Program and the award of national demonstration funding to increase the capacity of low income and Hispanic families to move out of poverty.
- Establishment of child care assistance for low-income working families through Great Start funding.
- Establishment of a Comprehensive Information and Referral Service, coordinated with the Washington County Cooperative Library System and funded in part by United Way.
- Increased awareness of and concern for the need to have decent, affordable housing available to prevent homelessness, to support the work force required and to maintain a decent quality of life.
- Expansion of Head Start which allowed WCCAO to serve 11% more low-income children and their families.
- Implementation of a winter emergency response to the housing, hunger, health and employment needs of farmworker families through multiple funding partners.
- Establishment of a fully operational Transitional Housing Program to stabilize homeless families.
- Increased commitment to cross cultural work and understanding diversity in the workplace and community.

I am proud of our ability to continue to make the changes necessary to effectively address poverty in a rapidly changing environment. We continue to evolve as an organization that is dedicated to the economic and social self-sufficiency of all families. But I will always know that our success is only as great as the success of the families we serve and the support we receive from you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jerralynn Ness".

Jerralynn Ness
Executive Director

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 Objectives

- 1. To solve problems and remove obstacles which block the achievement of self-sufficiency by the economically disadvantaged.**
- 2. To promote greater participation of the economically disadvantaged in decisions and activities affecting them.**
- 3. To provide the leadership required to assure the active involvement of the public, private and non-profit sectors in addressing the problems of economically disadvantaged people.**
- 4. To address both the causes and symptoms of poverty by providing a range of services that help people to:**
 - secure meaningful employment**
 - attain needed education and training**
 - obtain adequate housing**
 - meet emergency basic needs**
 - counteract conditions of starvation and malnutrition**
 - make more effective use of other related services and programs**

Our Programs

- Family Self-Sufficiency**
- Head Start**
- Child Care**
- Parent Support Center**
- Tualatin Valley Food Center**
- Holiday Food Basket Program**
- Brown Bag Program**
- Emergency Assistance**
- Housing Services**
- Housing Advocacy Program**
- Housing Services Consortium**
- Weatherization and Energy Conservation**
- Homeless Services**
- Farmworker Family Support Project**

"If a free society cannot help the many who are poor, it cannot save the few who are rich"

PRESIDENT JOHN F. KENNEDY

" TWENTY-FIVE YEARS INTO THE WAR ON POVERTY, THE BATTLE HAS NOT BEEN WON. HERE IN THE RICHEST COUNTY IN OREGON, THE NEED TO STEP UP OUR EFFORT IS EVIDENT ALL AROUND US."

Cliff Clark, BOARD CHAIR



Family Self-Sufficiency -

WCCAO received a Demonstration Partnership Program grant from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office of Community Services, to help 45 low income women (at least 50% hispanic) to achieve economic and social self-sufficiency. This project, entitled "Next Steps" represents a partnership with The New Directions Program at Portland Community College.

In addition, intensive case management is provided to:

- Head Start families
- Families receiving Homeless Services
- Families enrolled in the Oregon Partners in Energy (OPIE) Program, designed to solve chronic arrearage problems in payment of utility bills

All case management is coordinated through the new Family Self-Sufficiency Program.



Holiday Food Basket Program

- 3,513 Christmas and Thanksgiving baskets were distributed to 10,311 people through the work of agency staff and the Christmas Clearing Bureau (CCB). The CCB team of volunteers matches needy households with sponsors from church and civic groups, schools, clubs and individuals.



Farmworker Family Support Project

During the winter of 90-91, the number of homeless farmworker families increased dramatically, due to the closure of camps and the lack of affordable housing. In response to the crisis, WCCAO raised \$65,200 from a variety of community resources, and pro-

vided shelter, health care, transportation, clothing, fuel, food and other emergency and basic needs to 38 low income farmworker families, while providing case management to plan for long term self-sufficiency.



Parent Support Center -

Eight week educational sessions were provided eight times throughout the year. An on-going support group was also conducted on a regular basis. 102 parents received training in:

- child development
- appropriate discipline
- developmentally appropriate care
- general parenting skills



(Above) A supporter participates in a State-wide rally for low-income housing. (Right) WCCAO Case Manager, Felipe Martinez, explains the Next Steps program to Eva Enciso, a program participant.



Tualatin Valley Food Center (TVFC)

1,112,699 pounds of food was distributed this year to the food bank network (50 member agencies) in Washington County, which provided:

- 27,889 emergency food boxes (73,296 people)
- 60,294 emergency hot meals

- 132,919 meals provided through supplemental food programs
- 1 USDA direct distribution to 662 households (1,992 individuals)



Head Start -

Comprehensive pre-school services were provided in five centers around the county to 197 four year old children and their families. This figure represents a 15% increase over the prior fiscal year. A total of 788 people benefitted from this program. Additional services were provided, including health and dental screening, nutrition counseling and special services to children with disabilities.



Child Care

Scholarships were provided to 39 children of low income families, which subsidized the cost of their care in 15 child care centers. Parents were given information to help them identify quality care centers, the centers received technical assistance and the children's development was monitored.



Brown Bag Program -

5,780 Brown Bags of supplemental food was distributed to the 481 members of the Brown Bag Program in four sites around Washington County. Households participating in this monthly self-help effort coordinate the distribution sites and deliver Brown Bags to homebound and handicapped individuals.

“ I AM PROUD OF OUR ABILITY TO CONTINUE TO MAKE THE CHANGES NECESSARY TO EFFECTIVELY ADDRESS POVERTY IN A RAPIDLY CHANGING ENVIRONMENT.”

JERRALYNN NESS, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Housing Services

5,659 low income people were assisted with information, referral, rent assistance, fair housing information, housing locator assistance and emergency assistance, in order to resolve housing related problems, address housing discrimination and prevent eviction and displacement. In collaboration with the Fair Housing Council of Oregon, over a dozen tests for housing discrimination were conducted and six Fair Housing Workshops were conducted.

- 13 families (66 individuals) received transitional housing services to ensure their long term self-sufficiency
- 125 children housed at the Shelter in Hillsboro participated in structured play and educational activities planned to alleviate fear and stress while enhancing self-esteem

- Housing Services of Oregon
- Shared Housing
- Oregon Legal Services
- ACCESS Oregon

These agencies served 3,097 disadvantaged and disabled people during 1990-91 with specialized services, including tenant advocacy, access to housing for the mentally and physically disabled, mortgage counseling and home sharing connections.



(Above) Groundbreaking ceremony for the Cornelius Park Apartments. (Right) A child care worker enjoys a quiet moment with some children in the homeless kids program.



Housing Advocacy

In partnership with Concerned Citizens for Affordable Housing and the Oregon Housing Now Coalition, WCCAO participated in the successful advocacy effort which created the \$25 million Oregon Housing Fund, a new statewide resource for construction and/or rehabilitation of low income housing. This Fund represents the first time the State of Oregon has invested general funds in affordable housing. In addition, WCCAO worked closely with the Housing Development Corporation of Washington County to obtain interim and permanent financing for the construction of 24 units of farm labor housing in Cornelius.



Weatherization and Energy Conservation -

Comprehensive weatherization services were provided to 120 low income households (360 individuals) during 90-91. These services included installing insulation, storm windows, weatherstripping and caulking.

WCCAO's Self-Help Weatherization Program helped an additional 89 households (252 individuals) with instruction in the installation of low cost weatherization measures in their homes. This Program also sponsored four community workshops on energy conservation issues.



Homeless Services

136 homeless families (453 people) received emergency shelter at the WCCAO Shelter in Hillsboro, while an additional 70 homeless families (243 people), that could not be housed at the Shelter, received emergency shelter vouchers for use in local motels. The WCCAO Neighborshare Office in Tigard provided technical assistance and support to 61 homeless families (99 individuals) temporarily housed in the Tigard Christian Ministries Shelter. Additional homeless services provided:

- 286 homeless families (1,131 individuals) received emergency food boxes
- 278 shelter residents participated in 68 workshops to assist them in becoming self-sufficient



Housing Services Consortium

In an effort to increase the options and services available in the area of quality affordable housing, WCCAO has coordinated and contracted with the following four agencies:



Emergency Assistance

Over 26,000 low income individuals received help to meet some of their basic needs through:

- information and referral (16,653)
- intake, needs assessment and advocacy (9,460)
- energy assistance (7,146)
- rent assistance (399) to prevent homelessness
- transportation (9,984 rides) for low income, disabled and senior citizens in Washington County provided by volunteer drivers

Services were provided through the Client Services Office in Hillsboro and through the Neighborshare Office in Tigard

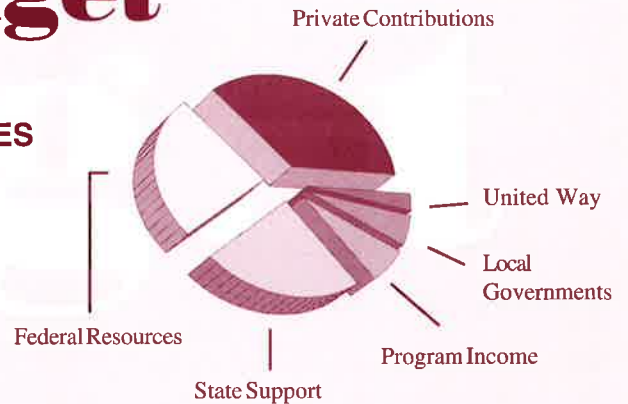
Our Budget

FUNDING RESOURCES

Federal Emergency Management Agency
 U.S. Departments of:
 Health and Human Services,
 Energy and Agriculture
 State of Oregon:
 Department of Education
 Community Services
 Exxon Weatherization
 Low Income Energy Assistance Program
 Community Development Block Grant
 Washington County
 United Way
 Oregon Food Bank
 Portland General Electric
 Northwest Natural Gas
 Tri Met
 5th Annual Mardi Gras Ball
 "Play It Again" Thrift Store
 Private Donors - Individuals, Churches,
 Civic Groups, Corporations
 Cities of Beaverton · Cornelius
 Hillsboro · Forest Grove
 King City · Tigard
 Tualatin

RESOURCE CATEGORIES

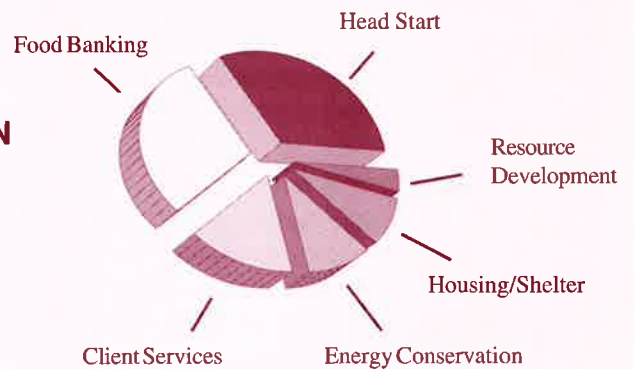
Private Contributions -	35%	\$1,181,349
Federal Resources -	25%	\$ 813,015
State Support -	24%	\$ 774,360
Program Income -	7%	\$ 222,279
Local Governments -	6%	\$ 182,637
United Way -	3%	\$ 98,900



A United Way Agency

PROGRAM ALLOCATION

Head Start -	33%	\$1,064,409
Food Banking -	29%	\$ 950,591
Client Services -	15%	\$ 488,044
Energy Conservation -	11%	\$ 344,625
Housing/Shelter -	9%	\$ 297,716
Resource Development -	3%	\$ 127,155



Mardi Gras 1991

WCCAO's 5th Annual Mardi Gras, held on February 9, 1991, at the Tanasbourne Mall, enveloped the crowd of over three hundred revelers in a New Orleans street scene. A delicious buffet, catered by the Cajun Cafe, spiced up the night, while people roamed through the silent auction and danced to "Johnny Limbo & The Lugnuts". A lively oral auction, featuring a trip to New Orleans, kept participants hopping and hoping they would be the successful bidders.

Close to \$25,000 in proceeds from the event helped support WCCAO Programs in 1990-91 and credit for this success goes to the loyal supporters, donors and volunteers that made the event possible.

MARDI GRAS STEERING COMMITTEE

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 Norm & Dolores Winningstad
Steering Committee Chair,
 Bob Casey
Co-chairs,
 Lynda Tatum, Auction Committee
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Promotions Committee Chair,
 Robert Brake
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Lorna Miller	Gwen Brake
Jack Rosenberg	Alisa Corstorphine
Kathy Lange	Lurene Lange
Beth Buck	Kent Thurber
Amie Thurber	Jerralynn Ness
Bob Colfelt	Howard Hubbard



A Mardi Gras couple reviews items in the silent auction.



Johnny Limbo & the Lugnuts really got the crowd going.

**MARDI GRAS 1992 SCHEDULED FOR
 FEBRUARY 22, 1992!!**

Act III Theaters
 Adult & Family Services
 Aloha Park Apartments (Tom
 Walsh Construction)
 American Airlines
 Americold
 Barber-Ellis Fine Papers
 Cajun Cafe & Bistro
 CASA of Oregon
 Christ United Methodist
 Church (Portland)
 Coast Vending
 Cornelius United Methodist
 Church
 Costco
 Earth Stove
 Epsom
 Eurobest
 First Interstate Bank
 Flavorland
 Food Connection
 Fred Meyer
 Hillsboro Presbyterian Church
 Intel
 K-2 Printing
 Kentucky Fried Chicken
 Kwik Copy Printing
 Lazer Quick Printing
 McKay Creek Stables

PRINCIPAL DONORS OF GOODS AND/OR SERVICES



Jerralynn Ness accepts a \$1,000 Donation for the Tualatin Valley Food Center, from Marianne Patton of the Epson Corporation.

Mervyns
 Migrant & Indian Coalition
 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 -
 Camp 8753
 Safeway, Inc.
 Sears
 Sherwood United Methodist
 Church
 Sneed's Rental Needs
 Stagg Foods
 Summit Brokerage
 Sunset Jaycees
 Tektronix
 The Sign Company
 Triple "S" Sales
 Tualatin Library
 Tualatin Valley mental Health
 Clinic
 Washington Co. Association
 for Retarded Citizens
 Washington County Fairplex

Cash Contributors

SPONSORS - \$100 - 249

PATRONS - \$250 +

American Legion Auxiliary
 Les AuCoin
 Bethany Presbyterian Church
 Bethany United Presbyterian
 Bryan Bickmore Dodge
 Michael & Katherine Booth
 Wayne & Linnea Brooks
 Columbia Trailer Co., Inc.
 Ray & Phyllis Davis
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 Hillsboro BPOE 1862
 Hillsboro Elks Lodge #1862
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 Interwest Applied Research
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Judith Miller
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 Poynter Junior High School
 Saint Andrews Lutheran
 Church
 Saint James Episcopal Church
 Margaret Spang
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 The Aloha Dermatology Center
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 Tigard First Baptist Church
 Tigard Lions Club
 Tigard Lions Club Activity
 Fund
 Tualatin Plains Presbyterian
 United Methodist Women of
 Hillsboro
 Urological Consultants
 Wendy & J. Michael Verm
 Vilas Young
 Wacker Siltronic Corporation
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 Bank
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AIREFCO Inc.
 All Phase Electric
 All Saints Episcopal Church
 Aloha Garbage Co., Inc.
 Beaverton Toyota
 Calvin Presbyterian Church
 Carr Enterprises
 Cedar Hills Baptist Church
 Christ United Methodist - Portland
 Christ the King Lutheran
 Community Church of Cedar
 Hills
 Epsom
 Estol Moore
 Fred Meyer
 Good Samaritan Ministries
 GTE Volunteer Network
 Hillsboro United Methodist
 Church
 Jim & Mary Jane Homolka
 City of King City
 Kiwanis Club - Cedar Hills
 Roy & Beth Lewallen
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 Ludeman's, Inc.
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 Metzger Methodist Church
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 St. Matthew's Lutheran Church
 St. Vincent De Paul/St. Pius
 J. Allen & Betty Stewart
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 Tigard Christian Ministries
 Shelter
 Tigard Church of God
 Tigard Covenant Church
 Tigard Friends Church
 Tigard United Methodist
 Church
 Tualatin Bible Church
 Tualatin United Methodist
 Church
 United Church of Christ
 U. S. West Foundation
 Wilsonville Community
 Sharing
 Norm & Dolores Winningstad
 Robert & Mary Anne Woodell
 Good Samaritan Ministries
 Christ the King Lutheran
 St. Anthony's Catholic Church
 St. Anthony's School
 Tualatin United Methodist

Church
 GTE Volunteer Network
 Wilsonville Community
 Sharing
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