

November 3, 1998

To: Jerralynn Ness, Leon Laptook, Carren Woods, Evelyn Brzezinski and the
Community Resources Coordinators

From: Lowell Greathouse

Re: Religious Community Partnership Proposal

Please review the attached draft materials. I am very interested in hearing your comments and suggestions regarding this proposal. If this seems like a reasonable approach to developing our work within the religious community, I'd like to move forward and convene an initial meeting before the holidays get underway. Thanks for your help in this matter. Please feel free to be in touch with me personally or put your comments in my box.

Religious Community Partnership Proposal
1st Draft—October 1998

Goals

- To create an on-going partnership/network between CAO and religious communities throughout Washington County in order to:
 - Coordinate information and referral efforts
 - Communicate information and develop a deeper consciousness about issues of poverty, homelessness and social service resources available in Washington County
 - Create the capacity to raise issues, develop volunteer and educational opportunities, and coordinate efforts throughout the community related to low-income concerns and community partnerships.

Components of the Outreach Effort:

- Create a small planning team made up of clergy and laity in order to develop and evaluate the program.
- Distribute information and referral directories/diskettes and informational bulletins/educational resources related to poverty to local institutions.
- Create an annual funding resource among religious institutions to help support emergency services throughout Washington County.
- Establish a network of religiously-based groups and institutions that can advocate for the needs of low-income people.
- Expand the present service-based efforts that are already in place (e.g. Neighborshare and WESTCO).
- Develop a forum in which to address new needs that arise for low-income people as Washington County continues to grow and change.

Possible Bulletin Inserts Topics

January	Homelessness and Shelters
February	I Need Help!--Information and Referral System (IRIS)
March	How the religious community is responding to poverty in Washington County (Neighborshare, Sheltering the Homeless Coalition and WESTCO partnerships)
April	Headstart (Easter/Passover theme)
May	Emergency Services/Focus on Farmworker Issues
June	A Kid's Domain, ABC Soup, Even Start, Metro CCR and R
July	

August	
September	Statistics/Profile of Poverty in Washington County
October	Weatherization, Energy Assistance and Energy Conservation
November	Transitional Housing and Tenant Education
December	Opening Doors

Timeline

November

Discuss with CAO staff/gather input
Gather a Core Group from the religious community to explore/edit the proposal
Establish timeline for Iris development
Establish team approach for I and R directory and diskette

December

Develop bulletin inserts for 1999
Have Core Group review and evaluate

January

Distribute bulletin info materials throughout the county

March (Lent)

Religious community gathering related to community needs and issues around poverty
"What you do unto the least of these..." theme
1999 Community Resources Directory/and Diskette available (demonstration)

April

Begin developing traveling educational pieces related to display and speakers
Draft funding appeal for religious communities

September

Promote educational, speakers bureau
Get feedback and evaluate the program to date
Begin plans for the next year

October

Children's Sabbath Observance

November

Housing Sabbath Observance

Core Team Ideas

Lowell Greathouse, initial convener (CAO)

Wes Taylor, Tigard United Methodist Church and another member of Neighborshare

Barbara Chapman and another member of WESTCO

CAO Board member (?)

Someone from St. Anthony's in Tigard

Cliff Hildebrandt Christ United Methodist

Lori at Southminster Presbyterian Church

Mary from Care to Share

Randy from Bethany Baptist

Someone from Beaverton Foursquare

Someone from Congregation Neveh Shalom

Someone from Emanuel Lutheran Church in Cornelius

Someone from Hillsboro United Methodist Women

Someone from Sisters of Mary of Oregon

Someone from St. Vincent de Paul

Someone from St. Matthew's Lutheran Church in Beaverton

Someone from Valley Community Presbyterian in Beaverton

Someone from World Heart Ministry

Dick Harmon or other Portland Organizing Project person